

MEETING SUMMARY



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Tuesday, April 12, 2011
10:00 AM



**Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Room 1060
Los Angeles, California 90012**

Melanie Ramsayer, President
Ruthanne Secunda, Vice-President
Tariq Khero
Terri Macellaro
Kathleen Riordan

mp3 Minutes are available at www.laanimalservices.com

Commissioners Ramsayer, Secunda, and Riordan were in attendance. Commissioners Khero and Macellaro were absent.

Meeting started at 10:22 AM.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL HEARING

A. Barking Dog Revocation Case Number: BR 10391 EV

Appellant: Juan Pena

Complaining Witness: Ms. Melodie Knight

Field Operations Supervisor, East Valley Shelter, Lt. Troy Boswell

Hearing Coordinator, Department of Animal Services, Ross Pool, Management Analyst II

Commissioner Ramsayer made a motion to uphold the Terms and Conditions, with modifications to include additional training, bark collars, boarding of dogs when out of town, maintain dogs in the residence. Commissioner Secunda seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Phyllis Daugherty: Interesting that the dogs are relegated to the laundry room.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion regarding posting of informational signs throughout the Shelters and other public areas

General Manager Barnette commented that groups including representatives from Councilman's Koretz office have been working on signage that will be funded by Found Animal Foundation. Jim Bickhart of the mayor's office indicated that banners for lampposts will be ready by summer. Banners will

be hung on lampposts leading up to the shelters. Some banners will be hung around DMV offices to encourage drivers to purchase “pet lovers license plates”. Signs in Santee alley and other high traffic areas, warning shoppers about purchasing animals on the street and shelter signage regarding turning in pets were also discussed. Funding sources for signage and the cost of posting the signs was also discussed. It was indicated by Mr. Bickhart that a funding discussion was before the City Council.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of Commission Minutes for March 8, 2011

Approval of the Commission Minutes for March 8, 2011 was put forward to the next meeting pending inclusion of recommended changes by Commissioners.

B. Oral Report by the Commissioners on Meetings and Events Attended

Commissioner Ramsayer: Attended the Lu Parker Project event at Sony Studios on April 2. Attended a mobile, south Los Angeles adoption on April 9

Commissioner Secunda: Visited Much Love Animal Adoption on April 9, 2011.

Commissioner Riordan: Webinar on marketing plan by Stephen Latham.

4. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Assembly Bill 564 Personal Income Tax Deduction for Municipal Shelter Spay-Neuter Fund (Continued from the meeting of March 8, 2011)

Commissioner Riordan commented that the three layers of processing that the bill goes through, each agency assesses an administrative fee. She recommended that a cap for administrative actions be placed in the motion. It was commented that in the three years the deduction was in place, no administrative costs were assessed against the fund.

Public Comment:

None

Commissioner Riordan made a motion to approve the General Manager’s recommendation as stated. Commissioner Secunda seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

The General Manager reported on the following items:

Reasons pets surrendered: Handout

Fines and Penalties \$100, \$250, \$500 to be held at \$250, \$500 and \$1000.

Omnibus ordinance

Administrative Citations

Personnel Consolidations

Several Unions are voting on settlement that would end furloughs for our ACTs and officers

96 Cats from the possible cruelty case have gone to a cat rescue taking our population at NE Mission back to around 50 which is what it usually is.

NE Mission Shelter scheduled to close at the end of the fiscal year. I am hopeful that a private group will be allowed to operate the shelter as an adoption agency and we will continue to provide all field services to that district.

South LA Shelter Update:

Linda Gordon, Allan Kawaguchi and I attended the regular meeting of the Administrative Oversight Committee for Bond F. The Committee is Chaired by the CAO's Office and includes representative from the Mayor's Office, Fire Department, Chief Legislative Analyst and Police Department. Allan Kawaguchi, BOE is staff to that Committee and reported on the changes to the new South LA animal shelter that have been requested by Commission President Ramsayer and Commission Vice President Secunda.

The Oversight Committee authorized BOE to move forward on any changes that

- 1.) make minimal changes in the approved project budget, and
- 2.) will not delay the completion of the project.

Also, I attended a meeting with City Attorney Pete Echeverria, Deborah Weintraub, Mandana Khatibshahidi, Ramon Soto, Allan Kawaguchi, Linda Gordon and CM Parks Chief of Staff, Mike Hernandez. The purpose of that meeting was to discuss whether or not the land across the street from the shelter can be purchased and developed with Prop F money for the proposed annex for dog exercise and socialization. No decision was reached. Mr. Echeverria does not feel that it is appropriate under the current proposal. Deborah Weintraub has some ideas for a way to study the project and compare it to the other shelter facilities to determine if it meets or exceeds

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space usage for dog exercise at other facilities based on size of entire project/number of dog runs. There will be subsequent meetings on this topic.

Lu Parker – Project homeless dogs sleep better

Sat, April 2 SONY Studios, Culver City

Madeline Bernstein LA SPCA

March 25

Carolyn Hennesy

March 29

Met with Brenda Valley Wildlife

March 29

**LAAS has new pet spot on CBS 7:30 AM Fri morning thanks to
Melanie Poser, Bark Avenue**

Victoria is thrilled to be doing the spot

Met with Hannah Lieberman, The Sam Simon Foundation

April 6

Julie Butcher

April 8

Meeting w/Bill Crowe, Pet Care Foundation

April 11

Announce: RACO Graduation

Wed, April 13, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

NE Mission Shelter

Public Comment:

Phyllis Daugherty: Shelters ask for ID from everyone. Can not refuse to adopt to anyone as it is a public shelter.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Riordan: Follow-up on Actors and Others Request. Amendment to LAMC 53.30. Follow-up report on Administrative Citations.

Commissioner Ramsayer: Follow-up on Commission request to simplify participating vet contracts.

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7. MEETING ADJOURNED

Next Commission meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M., April 26, 2011, Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1060, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

Commissioner Ramsayer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Riordan seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0

The meeting ended at 12:55 P.M.