

MEETING SUMMARY



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Tuesday, April 26, 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

Meeting called to order at 10:25 AM

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

1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Phyllis Daugherty: Voiced support of Assembly Bill (AB) 1117. Does not need Commission's approval for support of bills. Should be through the Mayor's office.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Presentation and discussion of Emergency Preparedness by Capt. Karen Knipscheer

Item put forward to future meeting due to staff unavailability.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of Commission Minutes for March 8 and 22, 2011

A motion to approval of the Commission Minutes for March 8, 2011 was put forward by Commissioner Ramsayer and seconded by Commissioner Khero. The motion was approved on a vote of 4-0.

A motion to approval of the Commission Minutes for March 22, 2011 was put forward by Commissioner Khero and seconded by Commissioner Ramsayer. The motion was approved on a vote of 4-0.

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

Commissioner Ramsayer: Attended an animal CPR class.

4. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION

- A. Support of Assembly Bill 917 (AB 917) with suggested amendments (to include flea markets and swap meets amongst the locations where animal sales are prohibited, and to specify a jail term of up to six months for illegal selling), which, if both the bill and amendments are approved, will ban the sale of live animals on streets, highways, public rights-of-way, parking lots, carnivals, boardwalks, flea markets and swap meets in California.

Public Comment:

Lejca Hadzimuratovic; Bunny World Foundation is in support of AB917. She believes that the law will prevent the sale of rabbits on streets and other public places. Does not believe the authorities pay enough attention to this problem.

Phyllis Daugherty: Commented that this is a Senate Bill rather than an Assembly Bill. Many organizations support the bill. It is time to include swap meetings and flea markets in the bill. Should be fast tracked because it is against a deadline.

Jim Bickhart: The Mayor's office generates an Official Legislative Program and transmitted to the City's representative in Sacramento. Agrees with previous speakers to add swap meetings and flea markets to bill.

Maria Kura: A shelter volunteer described some of the effects of rabbits arriving at shelters in poor conditions.

Commissioner Riordan commented on the current process for arrest, bail and outcome of the judicial process. Suggested that a minimum bail be increased.

Mr. Bickhart indicated that bail is set by a committee of the superior court. The City Attorney indicated that minimum bail could be set by legislative action. Commissioner Secunda asked who had the authority to arrest and ticket sales of dogs at the beach. It was indicated that LAPD has authority to enforce current statutes of the sale of animals at public venues.

Commissioner Riordan made a motion to approve the General Manager's recommendation as stated. Commissioner Secunda seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

The General Manager reported on the following items:

Attended Reserve Animal Control Officer Graduation on April 13, 2011 at the NE Mission Shelter.

Attended a workshop hosted by Friends of Los Angeles Animal Shelter on April 16th.

Invited to a brainstorming session by rescue groups to plan an appearance at the UCLA Law School on animal cruelty.

Received the Mayor's budget and preparation for the Department's appearance before the Budget and Finance Committee is underway.

E-mailed all Shelters about signage. East Valley and Northeast Valley have signs regarding persons who turn in animals.

Donations in March to Animal Welfare Trust Fund totaled \$1,791 and to date \$106,600.

Spay and neuters surgeries in March were 1,687.

Status of 19 impounded animals in evidence holding.

Mark calendar for May 21 and 22 for Best Friends events.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Riordan: Amendment to 53.30. More discussion on marketing the adoption of shelter animals to the public.

Commissioner Secunda: More focus on who is responsible for enforcing sales of animals on public streets. Chief Veterinarian presentation on disease control at the shelters. What is involved to receive a breeder's license?

7. MEETING ADJOURNED

Next Commission meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M., May 10, 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 1:12 P.M.

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