

## MEETING SUMMARY



### BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES



Monday June 22, 2009  
10:00 A.M.  
LOS ANGELES CITY HALL  
200 N. Spring St., Room 1060  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Tariq Khero, President  
Kathleen Riordan, Vice-President  
Irene Ponce  
Archie J. Quincey, Jr.  
Ruthanne Secunda

**mp3 Minutes available at [www.laanimalservices.com](http://www.laanimalservices.com)**

The meeting was called to order at 10:26 am. Commissioners Quincey, Khero, Riordan, and Ponce were present. Commissioners Secunda was absent.

### COMMISSION MEETING

#### **1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** (Item 5 heard out of order)

Bill Dyer, In Defense of Animals - He sought approval for mobile pet adoptions in each of the 15 Council districts on a rotating basis. S/N literature and vouchers would also be distributed.

Phyllis Daugherty – She distributed the humane checklist which officers may use when they go out on a humane investigation. Another training for the District Attorneys has been set up.

Jeff de la Rosa – Questioned why the June 8<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting was cancelled and not rescheduled.

#### **2. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. Oral Report from the City Attorney on status of Case: Jeffrey Peter De La Rosa v. Animal Control Board of the City of Los Angeles, et al.; Los Angeles Superior Court Case # BS104836; Court of Appeal, Case # B202071. **(Item 4A heard out of order)**

NO CLOSED SESSION – matter was heard by the Court of Appeals.

Board is waiting for the Court of Appeals decision. The Board lost its jurisdiction when the case entered litigation.

#### Public Comment

Jeff de la Rosa – Questioned with what authority did the Board have to make a settlement offer if the Board has no more authority in the case. He wants the Board to move to have the case dismissed and modify the contract with K9 Connection.

Carol Davis – She thanked Commissioner Quincey for breaking down the errors with the case and offered her assistance.

Pam Holt – Stated that Stu should not go to a sanctuary, but back to Jeff. She read a letter from Rory Freedman and Laurel Garrick Rhyme from Grand Rapids, MI.

Laura Beth Heisen – She thanked Commissioner Quincey. She stated that the Board can notify the Council about how the case should be settled and direct the City Attorney to file a supplemental pleading.

Phyllis Daugherty – She stated she is familiar with pit bull bites and Stu's bites do not look vicious. She gave her opinion on the case and felt Stu should not have been declared dangerous.

Tina Clark – She stated that the issue should be decided today and not at a future meeting.

Gregory Pollock – Urged the Commission to do what they can to remedy the situation,

Candice Modrel – Stated that Jeff is obviously a loving and responsible owner. The Board should make an emergency decision today.

Katherine Eisenhower – Stated that dogs involved in an attack in Northern CA were not pit bulls and that has nothing to do with the Stu case.

Motion will be on the next agenda.

### **3. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER** (Item 1 taken out of order)

AGM Barth presented the report on behalf of the General Manager.

### **4. COMMISSION BUSINESS** (Item 2 taken out of order)

#### **A. Approval of the Commission Meeting Minutes for March 9, March 23, April 14, and April 27, 2009**

Commissioner Quincey made a motion to approve the Commission Meeting Minutes for March 9, 2009 and Commissioner Ponce seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Ponce made a motion to approve the Commission Meeting Minutes for March 23, 2009 and Commissioner Quincey seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Ponce made a motion to approve the Commission Meeting Minutes for April 14, 2009 and Commissioner Quincey seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Ponce requested the tapes of the Commission Meeting Minutes for April 27, 2009 and made a motion to table the minutes. Commissioner Quincey seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

#### **B. Oral Report by the Commission on Meetings and Events attended.**

Commissioner Riordan met with officers from the SmART team and attended the New Hope Committee Meeting on June 17, 2009.

Commissioner Ponce negotiated a good deal on the inflatable dog balloon and banner used to promote the Harbor S/N Clinic Grand Opening.

Commissioners Quincey and Khero had nothing to report.

**5. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION** (Item 3 taken out of order)

**A. None**

**6. DISCUSSION ITEMS** (Item 4 taken out of order)

**A. Notification of Suspension or Termination of New Hope Partners (Item 4B taken out of order)**

Review of the notice procedures in place for suspension or termination of New Hope Partners.

Public Comment

Laura Beth Heisen – Seems too vague. Questioned who actually makes the decision and what is the appeal procedure?

Jeff de la Rosa – Stated that this was brought on by the Danielle Vigil case.

**B. Implementation of Administrative Citation Program (Item 4C taken out of order)**

Outline of the steps required to implement an Administrative Citation Program.

Public Comment

Phyllis Daugherty – She stated that these do not preclude civil or criminal action – it pays the Department for having the officers go out.

Gregory Pollack – Explained the difference between a fix-it ticket and an administrative citation. He stated that Angelinos are for this.

Jeff de la Rosa – Stated that the Board should set a goal to implement this as an ordinance in 180 days. The Board should send it over to the Public Safety analysts to research.

Commissioner Riordan requested a report back on the status of this program.

**C. Status of Monetary Donations for Fiscal 2008-2009 (Item 4D taken out of order)**

Department report on monetary donations during the current Fiscal Year.

Public Comment

Laura Beth Heisen – She stated that the Secret Santa adoption donations are not reflected in the report.

Commissioner Riordan requested an itemized list of donors, donation amounts and whether or not the donations were restricted and to what account.

**D. Oral report on the Orange Bone/The Puppy Store Collaboration (Held from May 23, 2009). (Item 4E taken out of order)**

Tabled for a future meeting

**E. Oral update on Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10. (Item 4F taken out of order)**

AGM Barth presented a report on the impact of the 26 day furloughs mandated by the City Council, if implemented. The Department has requested an exemption from the furloughs for the animal care staff: Veterinarians, Registered Veterinary Technicians, Animal Control Technicians, and Animal Control Officers.

Public Comment

Jeff de la Rosa – He asked the Board to send a letter to Schwarzenegger regarding the proposed repeal of the Hayden Act. He questioned how much money the Department is losing by not collecting licenses.

**7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Item 6 heard out of order)**

Commissioner Quincey made a request to agendize a motion that the Commission instructs the General Manager to institute a comprehensive licensing canvassing program in the City of LA to collect dog tags on all dogs over the age of 4 months.

Commissioner Khero requested an overview on canvassing – what it might entail, what are the benefits and what are the obstacles.

Commissioner Riordan requested a report on theft from the City's shelters and an update on the Mary O'Conner case.

Commissioner Ponce left the meeting at 12:55 pm.

Public Comment

Jeff de la Rosa – Stated that the Department needs money to devote officers to implement Commissioner Quincey's motion. Mentioned the Mary O'Conner case and requested that a report on the Administrative hearing and appeals process be agendized.

**8. ADJOURNMENT (Item 7 heard out of order)**

Commissioner Khero made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Quincey seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 – 0. The meeting ended at 12:57 pm.

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M., July 13, 2009, Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1060, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.