

MEETING SUMMARY



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Monday September 14, 2009
10:00 A.M.



**LOS ANGELES CITY HALL 200 N. Spring St.
Room 1060
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

Tariq Khero, President
Kathleen Riordan, Vice-President
Irene Ponce
Ruthanne Secunda

mp3 Minutes available at www.laanimalservices.com

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

COMMISSION MEETING

1. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL HEARINGS (Item 5 taken out of order)

A. Barking Dog Case Number: BD 09342 WL (Item 5B taken out of order)

Appellant: Robert and Marianne McKim

Complaining Witness: Daniel Elperin

Field Operations Supervisor, West Los Angeles Animal Care Center, Lt. Jesse Castillo Hearing Coordinator, Department of Animal Services, Ross Pool, Management Analyst II

Commissioner Khero made a motion to modify the Terms and Conditions to remove conditions 2 and 3 and maintain conditions 1 and 4. Commissioner Riordan seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

B. Dangerous Animal Case Number: DA 09340 WL (Item 5A taken out of order)

Appellant: Richard Medina and Nicole Renaud

Complaining Witness: Tina Madden

Field Operations Supervisor, West Los Angeles Animal Care Center, Lt. Jesse Castillo

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

Commissioner Riordan made a statement to acknowledge that she knows the lawyer representing the appellant.

Officer Daniel Gonzalez spoke on behalf of the Department.

Commissioner Riordan requested a tape recording of the hearing to review and copies of the letter of support.

Case held over until Commission Meeting on October 13, 2009.

2. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER (Item 1 taken out of order)

- Our Spay Day Event on Saturday, August 29, was another great success. The Jason Debus Heigl Foundation and The Amanda Foundation partnered with us to accomplish 141 sterilization surgeries. Councilman Cardenas hosted the press conference and Mrs. Nancy Heigl attended. All pets also received a free microchip, through a donation by The Amanda Foundation. Our next Spay Day is set for September 26 at SLA. The Heigl Foundation is providing funding for this event as well.
- The Station Fire swept through the boundaries of our City and once again, we were called into action. We rescued or received a total of 27 dogs, 19 cats, 3 birds, 2 pygmy goats, 1 mouse and 1 tortoise. Almost all of the animals were retrieved by their owners within 2 days.
- On Tuesday, September 8, we hosted Scooby-Do and Cesar Millan's 40th Birthday Party at EV. It was a great celebration with approximately 60 kids. The children were treated seeing Scooby-do himself, the Mystery Van, the actors for the upcoming movie, as well as birthday cake. Councilman Cardenas hosted the event – and a very good time was had by all. The Millan Foundation is graciously funding 40 adoptions of a second dog, approximately a \$4,500 donation.
- Our Foster Program has been increasing in strength. In the past year, we doubled the number of Volunteer Foster Parents, moving from 121 in 2008 to 277 active volunteers in 2009. Just since January 2009, those volunteers have fostered 1,404 dogs and cats, compared to 980 during the same time period last year.
- August was a very good month for the Department. Compared to last August, we saw a decrease of 475 dogs and cats coming in, an increase of 128 adoptions (more than 2,000 adoptions) and a decrease in euthanasia of 455. This is the second month of decreasing intakes and we are certainly hoping it's the beginning of a trend.
- We've now begun a program to recognize our Volunteers for their efforts in facilitating adoptions. For the month of August, volunteers were credited with 110 adoptions: SLA had the most with 52, followed by WLA with 45.

Commissioner Riordan requested a report on reasons for impounds. She expressed concern that Owner Surrenders are being turned in as Strays since the Owner Surrender fees were increased.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS (Item 2 taken out of order)

A. Approval of the Commission Meeting Minutes for August 10 and 24, 2009

Commissioner Ponce made a motion to approve the minutes for August 10 and 24, 2009. Commissioner Khoro seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

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

Nothing to Report

4. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION

None

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

6. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL HEARINGS (Items 5C and 5D taken out of order)

C. Barking Dog Case Number: BD 08378 WL

Appellant: Patrick, Chris, and Edith Urner

Complaining Witness: Bruce Thu

Field Operations Supervisor, West Los Angeles Animal Care Center, Lt. Jesse Castillo

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

Commissioner Khoro made a motion to modify the Terms and Conditions to include conditions 1,3,4,5, and 6. Commissioner Ponce seconded the motion, Motion passed 3-0.

D. Barking Dog Case Number: 09368 NC

Appellant: Richard Kachanon

Complaining Witness: John McGraham

Field Operations Supervisor, North Central Animal Shelter, Acting Lt. Frank Frias

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

Commissioner Khoro made a motion to modify the Terms and Conditions to include provision of proof of sterilization or proof of compliance with one of the exemptions to the Spay Neuter Ordinance to the Field Supervisor on a yearly basis. Commissioner Ponce seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (Item 6 taken out of order)

None

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Item 7 taken out of order)

A. Requests from Commissioners for future Agenda Items.

Commissioner Riordan requested a list of Federal laws that could be adopted as Municipal Codes that are pertinent to Santee Alley. She will send a list to Mr. Lesel for review.

9. ADJOURNMENT (Item 8 taken out of order)

Commissioner Riordan made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Khero seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 12:46 pm.

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 A.M., September 28, 2009, Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1060, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012