



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, July 28, 2015
7:00 PM

SOUTH L.A. CHESTERFIELD SQUARE ANIMAL SHELTER
1850 WEST 60th STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90047

DAVID ZAFT
President

ALANA YAÑEZ
Vice-President

JENNIFER BRENT
LARRY GROSS
ROGER WOLFSON

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For information please call (213) 482-9597.

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de notificar a la oficina con 24 horas de anticipo.

FACILITY TOUR OF SOUTH L.A. CHESTERFIELD SQUARE ANIMAL SHELTER

Commission Tour of Chesterfield Square Shelter (starts at 6:15 p.m.). Public is welcome. The Commission meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

- 1. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** - (Comments from the public on items of public interest within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction that are not on the Agenda; two minutes per speaker).

Public Comments: The Brown Act prohibits the Board and staff from responding to the speakers' comments. Some of the matters raised in public comment may appear on a future agenda.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Election of Board Officers (Action item; public comment limited to one minute per speaker)

B. Board Recognition of LAASEE Award Recipients (Action Item; Public comment limited to one minute per speaker):

- a. Dr. Rolando Vasquez (Posthumous), Veterinarian, North Figueroa Animal Hospital
- b. Lori Weise, Executive Director, Downtown Dog Rescue

C. Approval of the Minutes for the Meeting of July 14, 2015 (Action Item; public comment limited to one minute per speaker)

3. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker)

4. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker)

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion re Commissioner Wolfson's Proposal for a Pilot Program to Allow Select Volunteers Access to a Shelter on Mondays (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker)

6. BOARD REPORTS

A. Board Report to Request Approval of Recommended Changes to the New Hope Program Policy (Action item tabled from July 14, 2015 meeting. Public comment limited to two minutes per speaker)

B. Board Report from Staff with Recommendation to Increase Spay / Neuter Voucher Amounts (Action item tabled from June 9, 2015 meeting. Public comment limited to two minutes per speaker)

7. ADJOURNMENT

Next Commission Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m., August 11, 2015, at Los Angeles City Hall, Room 1060, Los Angeles, California 90012.

AGENDAS - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month at 10:00 A.M. Regular Meetings are held at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, in Los Angeles, CA 90012. Evening Meetings are held in various locations throughout the City, from 7:00 to approximately 9:30 P.M. The agendas for Board meetings contain a brief general description of those items to be considered at the meetings. Board Agendas are available at the Department of Animal Services (Department), Administrative Division, 200 North Spring Street, 19th Floor,

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Los Angeles, CA 90012. Board Agendas may also be viewed on the 2nd floor Public Bulletin Board in City Hall East, 200 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Internet users may also access copies of present and prior agenda items, copies of the Board Calendar, MP-3 audio files of meetings as well as electronic copies of approved minutes on the Department's World Wide Web Home Page site at <http://www.laanimalservices.com/CommissionAgendas.htm>

Three (3) members of the Board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Some items on the Agenda may be approved without any discussion.

The Board Secretary will announce the items to be considered by the Board. The Board will hear the presentation on the topic and gather additional information from Department Staff. Once presentations have finished, the Board President will ask if any Board Member or member of the public wishes to speak on one or more of these items. Each speaker called before the Commission will have one (1) minute to express their comments and concerns on matters placed on the agenda. (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes.)

PUBLIC INPUT AT BOARD MEETINGS – Public Participation on Agenda Items. Members of the public will have an opportunity to address the Board on agenda items after the item is called and before the Board takes action on the item, unless the opportunity for public participation on the item was previously provided to all interested members of the public at a public meeting of a Committee of the Board and the item has not substantially changed since the Committee heard the item. When speaking to an agenda item other than during Public Comment (see Public Comment below), the speaker shall limit his or her comments to the specific item under consideration (California Government Code, Section 54954.3).

Public Comment. The Board will provide an opportunity for public comment at every regular meeting of the Board. Members of the public may address the Board on any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board as part of Public Comment.

Speaker Cards. Members of the public wishing to speak are to fill out one speaker card for each agenda item on which they wish to speak and present it to the Board secretary **before** the item is called.

Time Limit for Speakers. Speakers addressing the Board will be limited to one (1) minute of speaking time for each agenda item except during general public comment period which is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes each.). The Chairperson, with the approval of a majority of the Board, may for good cause extend any speaker's time by increments of up to one (1) minute.

Brown Act. These rules shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code Section § 54950 et seq.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT. Speakers are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from personal attacks or use of profanity or language that may incite violence.

All persons present at Board meetings are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from disrupting the meeting, interfering with the rights of others to address the Board and/or interfering with the conduct of business by the Board.

In the event that any speaker does not comply with the foregoing requirements, or if a speaker does not address the specific item under consideration, the speaker may be ruled out of order, their speaking time forfeited and the Chairperson may call upon the next speaker.

The Board, by majority vote, may order the removal from the meeting of any speaker or audience member continuing to behave in a disruptive manner after being warned by the Chairperson regarding their

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behavior. Section 403 of the California Penal Code states as follows: "Every person who, without authority of law, willfully disturbs or breaks up any assembly or meeting that is not unlawful in its character, other than an assembly or meeting referred to in Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

VOTING AND DISPOSITION OF ITEMS – Most items require a majority vote of the entire membership of the Board (3 members). When debate on an item is completed, the Board President will instruct the Secretary to "call the roll". Every member present must vote for or against each item; abstentions are not permitted unless there is a Conflict of Interest for which the Board member is obliged to abstain from voting. The Secretary will announce the votes on each item. Any member of the Board may move to "reconsider" any vote on any item on the agenda, except to adjourn, suspend the Rules, or where an intervening event has deprived the Board of jurisdiction, providing that said member originally voted on the prevailing side of the item. The motion to "reconsider" shall only be in order once during the meeting, and once during the next regular meeting. The member requesting reconsideration shall identify for all members present the Agenda number and subject matter previously voted upon. A motion to reconsider is not debatable and shall require an affirmative vote of three members of the Board.

When the Board has failed by sufficient votes to approve or reject an item, and has not lost jurisdiction over the matter, or has not caused it to be continued beyond the next regular meeting, the issue is again placed on the next agenda for the following meeting for the purpose of allowing the Board to again vote on the matter.

DAVID ZAFT
PRESIDENT

ALANA YAÑEZ
VICE PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONERS

JENNIFER BRENT

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GENERAL MANAGER

DANA H. BROWN
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

DR. JEREMY PRUPAS
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: July 28, 2015 **PREPARED BY:** Dana Brown

REPORT DATE: July 23, 2015

TITLE: Assistant General Manager

SUBJECT: INCREASE MONETARY VALUE OF SPAY/NEUTER VOUCHERS

BOARD ACTIONS RECOMMENDED:

1. INCREASE the Free Spay/Neuter Certificate Program voucher from \$70 to \$125.
2. APPROVE inclusion of rabbit sterilizations in the Free Spay/Neuter and Discounted Spay/Neuter Certificate Programs.

BACKGROUND:

At its meeting on June 9, 2015, the Board considered an item recommending an increase in low income spay/neuter vouchers from \$70 to \$125. During the meeting, there was a discussion related to whether or not the increase was substantial enough to cover veterinarian costs. Likewise, there was a request for a report back on the results of a survey conducted by the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association. The survey targeted SCVMA members to ascertain their current participation, or lack thereof, in our spay/neuter programs. The survey further sought to determine whether specific incentives such as increased voucher redemption amounts, advertisement on DAS websites, and signage would encourage participation. Unfortunately a discussion with the President of the SCVMA revealed that the parameters of the survey were too wide for the Department's needs and provided little information helpful toward expansion of the program.

SUMMARY:

Currently, there are there are 49 veterinary hospitals listed as participants in the Department's spay/neuter programs. Of those, 13 facilities do not accept the \$70 voucher. The free voucher program has maintained the same \$70 value over its 15 years in existence. Conversely, the medical costs associated with the procedures have risen. In some cases, participating veterinarians are continuing to perform surgeries and passing on the additional costs to the owners. Clearly it was not the Department's intent to have these low-income residents incur any

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of costs associated with the surgeries. As such it is recommended that the value of the vouchers be elevated to reflect the increase in costs to the veterinarian. In addition, the Department should ensure that all contractual agreements include language preventing up-selling additional costs to those residents using free spay/neuter certificates.

Since the June 9th Board meeting a community meeting was held to discuss issues related to rabbits. There is a rising number of responsible rabbit owners who would greatly benefit from the use of discounted and free sterilization vouchers. As a result, it is recommended that the Board authorize the use of these vouchers to include rabbits and make them available to Los Angeles City residents under the same guidelines used for cats and dogs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total amount of funds available for animal sterilization for the Department varies year to year. Approximately \$1.1M is allocated to the Animal Sterilization Trust Fund as a fixed amount each year with an additional, variable sum added based on donations and licensing surcharges. In FY 14-15, a totals of 3150 free spay/neuter vouchers were redeemed for a total of \$220,500. Using these numbers, the recommended increase would result in an increase of \$173,250 to the Animal Sterilization Trust Fund.

There is no data available to accurately calculate the fiscal impact of the inclusion of rabbits in the voucher programs.

Approved:

Brenda 7 Barnette

Brenda Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

_____ Passed	Disapproved _____
_____ Passed with noted modifications	Continued _____
_____ Tabled	New Date _____