

**FINAL / Minutes of the Animal Welfare Committee
City Hall, City of College Park
January 23, 2014**

| <u>Members</u> | <u>Present</u> | <u>Absent</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Taimi Anderson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suzie Bellamy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Patti Brothers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Vivian Cooper | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Harleigh Ealley | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Harriet McNamee | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Christine Nagle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dave Turley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Christiane Williams | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Cindy Vernasco | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Co-Chairperson McNamee called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

I. Approval of the Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the November 21, 2013 Animal Welfare Committee meeting minutes.

Moved: Ms. Bellamy
Aye: Unanimous

Second: Ms. Brothers
Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

II. ACO Report

The AWC currently has a balance of \$7,561; vet expenditures to date total \$2,819 of the budgeted vet expenditures of \$3,000; animal control cost recovery has a balance of \$3,669, including adoption fees, etc.

III. Shelter/Adoption Report

Adoptions (11/21/13 to 1/23/14): Aztec, Cookie, Fitzgerald, Flynn, Gilbert, Kitty Paws, Micah, Niblet, Sinbad, Skittles, Winter

Animals in Foster: Buddy, Charm, Dot & Dash, Zucko

Currently in Petco: Fox, Shugie

Transfer (11/21/13 to 1/23/14): Boonie

Recent losses: Sullivan (cardiomyopathy), Sing Ha (feline leukemia)

End of Year Statistics (CY2013)

Cat Intake: 86

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| - Still in program | 2 |
| - Adoptions | 48 |
| - Transfers | 8 |
| - Redemption | 1 |
| - Escaped from shelter | 2 |
| - Deceased (natural) | 3 |
| - Euthanasias | <u>22</u> |
| | 86 |

Dog intake: 24

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| - Adoptions | 5 |
| - Transfers | 10 |
| - Redemptions | <u>9</u> |
| | 24 |

Other intake: 3

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| - Adoption | 1 |
| - Transfers | <u>2</u> |
| | 3 |

Ms. Bellamy will continue to be in charge of shelter scheduling:

- Chairperson McNamee and Mr. Turley (Sunday)
- Chairperson McNamee and Ms. Nagle (Sunday)
- Ms. Anderson (all Fridays)

Ms. Anderson has agreed to resume conducting follow-up calls regarding adoptions.

IV. Materials for Adopters

Ms. Brothers stated that Petco adopters are not provided with any written information about the care of their pet, but do receive a booklet with coupons. She talks each adopter about the care of their adopted kitten/cat. In addition, she may go shopping with the adopters, and she also provides them with a bag of goodies which includes food, a bungle ball, and a donut bed.

Ms. Brothers suggested that adopters be provided with a 1-page handout regarding the care of their kitten/cat. Chairperson McNamee agreed to put together some information for the handout for Ms. Brothers to review. Ms. Nagle agreed that a similar handout for first-time puppy/dog owners would also be helpful, and she agreed to put together some information on the care of puppies/dogs. Ms. Brothers stated that ACO Cooper ensures that the entire file of each animal is placed in the habitat (including rabies sheet, summary sheet, etc.), which is very helpful.

V. Behnke's Craft Show

Ms. Anderson reported that the AWC has been invited to participate in the next Behnke's Craft Show scheduled for March 2014. She will contact Behnke's by the end of February to find out the date and other details.

VI. Dog Intakes

Mr. Ryan, Director, Department of Public Services, would like the All Dogs Club to take all of the dog intakes from impoundment to adoption, transfer, etc., but not for long-term fostering. If the animal is not claimed by the 3- to 5-day term, Cindy Vernasco, Director of Roxies Fund, would automatically assume ownership of the animal. An owner surrender dog would immediately become the property of Roxie's Fund. ACO Cooper and Mr. Ryan will schedule a meeting with Ms. Vernasco to discuss this as well as the issue of compensation since she has not charged anything in the past and has no plans to charge in the future. Ms. Nagle suggested AWC input on the agreement with Ms. Vernasco. Mr. Ryan will advise the City Attorney and has agreed to include input by the AWC in the upcoming discussion, as follows:

- Formally notify the AWC about terms discussed before any final decisions are made.
- Request that Ms. Vernasco make isolation rooms available for the City (there is currently an open play area for groups; three suites; and a large cage used in the grooming room for animals that are not vaccinated, spayed, or neutered).
- Determine what method of assessment is utilized by Ms. Vernasco when deciding if dogs will go to the county.

VII. Four Cities Meeting

A Four Cities meeting (Berwyn Heights, College Park, Greenbelt, New Carrollton) hosted by the Town of College Park will be held on January 30, 2014, to discuss the possibility of a regional animal shelter in northern Prince George's County. Chairperson McNamee suggested that AWC members attend the meeting although they will not have an opportunity to speak. Chairperson McNamee will contact the City Clerk for the meeting agenda and will inform AWC members.

VIII. Other Business

- A Thank You card was passed around for Ms. Lachman who recently resigned as AWC Chairperson.
- Chairperson McNamee is working on the annual AWC Report to the Mayor and City Council for 2013 which will include the following topics:

- Animal care education
 - Shelter coverage
 - Petco partnership
 - Fundraising and other volunteer service
 - Thank you to AWC member Linda Lachman
 - Thank you to City Council regarding water at the shelter
 - Thank you's from city residents regarding adoptions
- Chairperson McNamee is requesting volunteers to update the AWC Facebook page; she will ask Ms. Ealley if she is willing continue that task.
 - There was no “alternative” Holiday Party (see November 2013 minutes) due to the passing of Mr. Turley’s mother.
 - Ms. Nagle suggested including the focus/purpose for the AWC on next month’s agenda.

IX. Adjournment

The AWC meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. The next AWC meeting is scheduled for January 23 at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall.

Minutes prepared by Debra Pinkett