

Animal Welfare Committee Meeting
 February 23, 2023
Via Teleconferencing through Zoom
 7:30pm

Term Exp	Members	Present	Absent
Staff	Bob Ryan	X	
Staff	Rebecca Bailey	X	
6/30/2025	Suzie Bellamy	X	
6/30/2025	Marci Booth	X	
06/30/2024	Stephanie Butler	X	
06/30/2024	Eugene Chay	X	
06/30/2025	Matt Doyle	X	
06/30/2023	Lisa Ealley	X	
6/30/2024	Sharon O'Malley	X	
6/30/2024	Kathy Rodeffer		X
6/30/2023	Stephanie Stullich	X	
6/20/2024	Bonnie Swart		X
Honorary	Kennis Termini		X

Also present: Sheryl DeWalt, contract secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Ms. Ealley, Co-Chair.

1. The agenda was reviewed, and a motion was made by Ms. Bellamy to accept it. Ms. Booth seconded the motion. **Motion carries 8-0-0.**

2. The January 26, 2023, minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Ms. Bellamy to accept the minutes. Ms. Booth seconded the motion. **Motion carries 7-1-0.**

3. ACO Report
 - All cats at the Wichita house should now be TNR. There may be two additional cats that could be adoptable.
 - More fosters are needed, especially for the cats. Cats do not socialize well in a shelter setting.
 - Maryland Day is April 29 from 9:00am-4:00pm. Several volunteers from AWC would be helpful in 1-2 hour shifts. Ms. Ealley will send out a sign-up sheet. A new donation jar will be needed for the table. Ms. Bailey will create a poster board on AWC activities and potential animals for adoption.
 - Dr. Hepner stated that she is available on Sunday, April 16 for the microchip/rabies clinic. The committee would like to plan for a rain date. Ms. Bailey will speak to Dr. Hepner and the committee will be notified, via email, prior to the March AWC meeting.
 - There are currently two cats available for adoption.
 - Volunteers are needed to help care for the cats at Petco. Please coordinate with Stephanie Stullich.
 - Ms. Bailey will be adding additional verbiage to the March Municipal Scene article with regards to spring grass cutting and bunny nests.
 - The registration for the virtual portion of the Humane Pro Conference, April 2-6, is \$60.00 per person. Ms. Butler, Ms. O'Malley, and Ms. Stullich are interested in attending. If others are interested, please email Ms. Booth and Ms. Ealley. This will be re-reviewed at the March AWC meeting.
 - There has been a request made to have a sign up at the dog park stating that only spayed and neutered dogs can be in the park. The dog park is under the jurisdiction of Public Works and

not under the AWC. If the councilmember, who made the request, submits it to the AWX, the committee will take it under advisement.

4. There are no cats currently at Petco in Laurel from College Park, however, there are several fosters in the pipeline who could be ready for placement there soon. Ms. Stulich stated that a barrier to placing cats there is an insufficient number of volunteer caretakers; currently we have 5 of the 7 weekly shifts covered, all by volunteers from Beltsville Community Cats (BCC). Although College Park and BCC collaborate on this adoption program, most of the cats placed there in the past year have been College Park cats. Ms. Stulich encouraged AWC members to consider volunteering there and/or helping to recruit other College Park residents to assist.
5. Mr. Ryan stated that he is working on collecting data for the City Manager with regards to a new shelter for College Park. The suggestion had been made to have a modular building next to the dog park, but it would have to be contained within secure fencing, and access to water, sewers, cameras, and lights. Mr. Ryan also stated that the City Manager is looking to present the idea to Mayor and Council in May. There was also a brief discussion concerning the North County Shelter which is still in the budgeting process for Prince Georges County but keeps getting pushed back.
6. Municipal Scene Articles –
 - a. March – Toxic plants and Bunny nests - Mr. Doyle/Ms. Bailey
 - b. April – Benefits of vaccinations, including flu vaccine and microchips – Ms. Ealley
 - c. May – Safety of pets in car – Ms. Bellamy
 - d. June – Service pets vs mental health/comfort pets – what is the difference – Ms. O'Malley
7. The date of the next virtual meeting will be on March 23, 2023, at 7:30pm. Ms. Bellamy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Ealley. **Motion carries 8-0-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sheryl DeWalt, contract secretary.