



TULARE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020
5957 S MOONEY BLVD, VISALIA

Meeting Called to Order:	1:05 pm by Kim Gisler
---------------------------------	-----------------------

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: BJ Motko, Bridgette Davis, Damaris Menchaca, Donna Grigsby, Donna Sims, Ivy Ruiz, Kim Gisler, Laurie Eberle, Patrick Hamblin
--

ALTERNATES PRESENT:

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Amy Shuklian, Augie Gonzalez, Jamie London, Macy Wilfong, Mary Dieterle, Oma Mansfield
--

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE: Bonnie Heasley
--

GUESTS PRESENT: Mary Jungwirth, Cassie Heffington, Barb Grunwald

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGENDA / <input type="checkbox"/> DISCUSSION: Approve the minutes for December 12, 2019
--

Discussion: Jamie is out sick today.

Motion:	Approve the minutes of the Advisory Committee meeting of December 12, 2019
----------------	---

1st:	Patrick Hamblin	2nd :	Laurie Eberle
------------------------	-----------------	-------------------------	---------------

Vote	Yes:	Unanimous	No:	
-------------	-------------	-----------	------------	--

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barb from County Counsel is here. Marit is out today.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGENDA / <input type="checkbox"/> DISCUSSION ITEM: New Business
--

<p>Election of Parliamentarian: Laurie asked what the Parliamentarian does. Patrick described it. Laurie said she already reviews the minutes. Laurie asked if we can table this until next time. BJ asked if we actually need to have one? Patrick thinks it is in the bylaws. In case Marit is not able to make it to every meeting, they would have someone who would be able to address some of the things that come up. Will look at the bylaws, possibly amending them.</p> <p>Task Force: Patrick said Supervisor Shuklian was going to follow up. Would bring cities closer in establishing how things will move forward.</p>

<input type="checkbox"/> AGENDA / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISCUSSION ITEM: Update from Animal Services

<p>Cassie briefly mentioned some stats. December LRR 87%, January LRR 86%. Holding in mid to high 80s live release rates. In line with a lot of other well respected agencies in the area. We were asked to participate in a film project. HSSV used our shelter as an example. The sent a film crew down. SF SPCA did the following week on how we handled the distemper outbreak. Being recognized by a lot of the outside organizations. Participated in UC Davis' Koret Shelter Medicine Capacity for Care Boot Camp. We completely revamped our intake protocol after the distemper outbreak. Still see a little bit of kennel cough which is completely normal. Have not had distemper since then. Have minimal disease, have been keeping our population down and not euthanizing more. Capacity for care works. The less animals we have in the shelter the sooner we can get them out. We have been asked by SF SPCA to participate in the Shelter Pals Program. Based off of legal aid for humans. Pick 3 shelters to be guinea pig projects. Focus on cruelty cases and some intake management and dealing with feral cats. Had a meeting between their attorneys and our attorneys and they are working out the paperwork. When looking at the task force this will be good. Prosecute, gather evidence, how to document it, how to create that chain of evidence and will help drive a meeting of TCSO, DA and Animal Services. This will be a great opportunity and will help propel a task force being developed in Tulare County.</p>

Cassie mentioned a few more stats for last year.
--

TULARE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

impounded 7500 live animals
 responded to 8500 calls for service
 4800 square miles of distance

Hiring a new ACO and a Veterinary Technician. Increased dog play groups. Getting a donation for a dog play structure. Donor is committed to a \$200,000 donation. Would be for a modular building, 1400 square foot building retrofitted for a surgery suite and a veterinary clinic. County has to agree to staff and run it. Will require some extra funding. Energy needs. It is happening and Cassie need letters of support. Patrick said the goal is to go March 17th to the BOS to approve accepting the donation, request for staffing needs, approve a job description for a veterinarian (since we do not have one) and adding 4 staff members. Approve adding the job description and the positions. Approve the long term commitment to have these annual staff. Will have cost savings and contracts. Revenue from vaccination clinics. Being able to open up spay/neuter services for county residents, rescues and those doing community cats. On a timeline. Certain expenses we have to cover as a program this fiscal year. Fantastic that we are getting this donation. About \$100,000 in expenditures to do everything else.

BJ put a letter on her Facebook page. Patrick appreciates all the support we have received. Laurie asked about SJVC on vet techs. Cassie said they have a cert list. Internships is an excellent idea. Getting people from the community who are going to school. Karen, our Supervising Animal Care Specialist, has been a vet tech. Laurie said the vet they use uses vet techs from that program. Cassie has had some traction with a couple of organizations potentially being willing to entertain funding for public spay and neuter when we have the capacity for appointments. Once we solve the capacity issue that will open up a ton of doors. This is the next level we need to go to to ensure that we do not plateau in our successes. Address the root causes we see in the community. Transport, get waivers signed and bring the animals back. At Kings, they did an experiment in Kettleman City. Did a vaccination clinic and then picked up the animals the following week to spay and neuter them. People don't reclaim their dogs in the outlying communities. Cassie has a sample letter. Address the letters to the shelter and to Cassie's attention. Need them by Feb. 25th. Cassie will be in Sacramento for the 1st animal related budget. Laurie asked if they can repost them on their Facebook page. They know their constituents are in support. Donna G. mentioned using the page and people can sign their name and address. They have a clinic next week. Laurie asked if Cassie can email the form as a word document.

Patrick said the Advisory Committee is in support. Damaris asked if having people there will help. Would be great if we had some people go. Working together on how many people are there. Has to be under a quorum. Patrick is a voting member. Maybe 5 people present would be good. Laurie and Donna G asked what time the meeting starts. Patrick said 9 am. Patrick and Cassie will give a presentation that day. Donna S asked to find out which 5 people are going:

- Laurie can go
- Donna G
- Bridgette or Damaris
- Ivy
- BJ

AGENDA / **DISCUSSION ITEM AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Update from Ad-Hoc Committees**

Education and Outreach: Donna G asked Cassie if she had a brochure for Tulare County. Something specific to our area. How did we reach people about the PetSmart grant? We had over 900 applications. Getting information out in a brochure specific to our county and to put it out for people. Outreach coordinator would do that. Cassie asked if anyone knew a designer who can make this. Damaris knows a teacher. Patrick said they had a brochure at one time. Included artwork that hangs at the shelter. Things were changing too fast so they held off on updating them. We can look at them after we get

TULARE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

through this process and everything falls into place. Then we will be able to provide vaccinations. Donna G mentioned having info at the health fairs. Getting out in the public and having information. Cassie would love to have volunteers to do this. Laurie mentioned quarterly dates on the back of the brochures. Cassie mentioned having a volunteer core to do offsite adoption events. Everything gets blocked up at the spay/neuter part of it. The coordinator was working on mentorship program with Best Friends. Have to come up with a curriculum and a structure before recruiting volunteers. Laurie mentioned getting the schools on board. Cassie mentioned how to get more assistance in the shelter so we can get out into the community. Have 5 people on leave and 3 positions open. Patrick mentioned that people can start gathering things they think would be key to have in a brochure. Laurie asked Mary to get an updated list of ad hoc committees emailed. Donna G asked why phone numbers are not listed. Patrick said when the committee was first formed, the committee members at the time primarily liked emails. Emails are easier during the day. Can add phone numbers to list. It is entirely up to the committee how they would like to communicate. Mary will email all members to see if they want to add a cell or contact number to the list.

Volunteer: Damaris and Mary have not met yet. Mary had asked Cassie about volunteer opportunities. Cassie had given her a list.

Membership: Donna G talked to Jamie. Both talked about the need for someone with a real interest in the cat population. Had an application from Kathy Guinn. She does spay and neuter in the south county. She gets grants from Cat House on the Kings. Created Hope for Porterville Pets. BJ was going to suggest someone with the Feral Cat Coalition. Donna G mentioned spay and neuter for domesticated cats. Patrick encourages anyone and everyone to submit an application. The membership committee talks to them. The Board makes the final decision. BJ asked if the County has a grant writer. Patrick said it goes by agency or by department. Is usually an analyst or a specialist.

New Committees: None.

AGENDA / DISCUSSION ITEM AND POSSIBLE ACTION: **Approval of Committee Alternates**

Discussion: None.

AGENDA / DISCUSSION ITEM: **Announcements and Correspondence**

Discussion: Maureen had to step down due to her work schedule. This is a unique position – designated as a veterinarian. Patrick said they can even look at retired veterinarians.

AGENDA / DISCUSSION ITEM: **Additional Member Comments**

Discussion: BJ mentioned her Bark N Bid on April 25th. Has some fliers with her. Damaris attended a community meeting in Cutler/Orosi. Can someone from Tulare County Animal Services attend as a guest speaker? Monthly connect meeting the 2nd or 3rd Thursday of the month at 9 am. Cassie thinks she can make that happen. Are there any vaccination clinics coming up in the Cutler/Orosi area? Damaris talked to Pena's disposal. Deceased animals can not go in the trash. Cassie can dispose of companion animals. There is a \$20 fee for owned animals. Kim asked if anyone has heard of a new breed called the pocket bully (French bulldog x pit bull).

AGENDA / DISCUSSION ITEM: **Suggestions for Future Agenda Items**

Discussion: Amending bylaws regarding the Parliamentarian

AGENDA / DISCUSSION ITEM: **Adjourn meeting**

Motion: *Adjourn Meeting @ 2:18 pm*

1st:	Laurie Eberle	2nd :	Patrick Hamblin
------------------------	---------------	-------------------------	-----------------

Vote	Yes: Unanimous	No:	
-------------	-----------------------	------------	--