

Sustainable Animal Control Review Committee

January 7th, 2015

Members: Francis Roberts, William Hutt, Sherry Bess, Casey Moss, Dorothy Sherwood

Representation by the City of Homer: Melissa Jacobson

1. Call to order – 5:15
2. Agenda Approved by Sherry, seconded by Dots
3. Public Comments – N/A
4. Reconsideration – N/A
5. Approval of Synopsis – Sherry moved to approve, seconded by Will
6. Visitors – N/A
7. Public Hearing - None
8. New Business
 - A. Volunteerism – Sherry presented a copy of her “suggested procedures for cat volunteers.” Almost finished the dog procedures will provide them next meeting. Diagram of cage layout will be added to the single cat cage section.
 - B. Shelter OSHA Compliance Standards – Sherry reviewed all the sides. Working through safety data sheets. Updating safety kit, adding eye wash. Labeling spray bottles.
Will – Looking further into OSHA consultation?
Dots – Working with Sherry to update things around shelter. Best to postpone OSHA check until known things are updated.
 - C. Storage of Shelter Items – Memorandum: not feasible to bring in building, will continue to rent storage unit
Sherry – 1/3 less in unit, will continue to work on clearing it out
This can be removed from agenda
 - D. Grant Possibilities – Hasn’t been looked into further, working with Sherry on options.
 - E. Shelter Advisory Committee – Sherry would like the group to meet quarterly starting in April. Would include 2 members of Homer Animal Friends, 2 from

shelter, 1-3 vets, any members of the city if they want to, and a Homer Police Department rep (Will agreed to do it).

Dots – Any way to get recommendations to city?

Francie – Contractor initiated committee reports to city council

Dots – Possible locations? Library, shelter, conference room

9. New Business

A. Homer City Code Chapter 20, Animals

- i. Last update of this section of the code was in 1988. Everything should be looked over and updated
- ii. Talked to Sgt. Shealy about Dog vs. Dog attacks being more than a ticket
- iii. Dots would like more on animal cruelty
- iv. License year starts on January 1st of even years
- v. Add a one-time city license fee?
- vi. Dots would like something in code regarding tethering in the backs of vehicles cross reference with traffic code. Has seen lots of dogs come through the vet clinic that have fallen out of the back of vehicles.
- vii. 20.08.050
 1. Sherry would like to increase length of time for boarding up to 3 weeks as 7 days is very short.
 2. Casey commented that that is a very long time to be boarded. When family had boarding business they tried very hard to not keep animals that long as it is very stressful on animals, recommended house or pet sitters.
- viii. 20.12.010 – ½ price license fee in odd years
- ix. 20.20 – Need better definitions for dangerous vs. vicious, vicious has more than one definition
- x. 20.08.120
 1. Will - who sets adoption criteria?
 2. Sherry – Every shelter has its own criteria. Some people do get denied. Contract says it's at her discretion.
 3. Francie – Code says only stipulation for not adopting is to a known violator of animal control ordinances or animal abuser.
- xi. 20.32 – Penalty provisions need to be increased.

B. Parameters of Boarding Animals at the Shelter

Covered while discussing the code. Will update the boarding agreement.

10. Informational Items – N/A

11. Comments of the Audience

A. Cindy Nelson – Advisory Committee who heads it?

Code Revisions – Update 20.32.020 and 20.32.030, Maybe a well exam for 20.28.010, Need written rules, less personal opinion for 20.08.120.

B. Judy Price – Founder and rescue coordinator of Clear Creek Cat Rescue. Have suggestions for change in 5 areas. Believe every rescue and shelter can be improved.

i. Adoption Fees – Standard adoption fees clearly posted so people know before they attempt to adopt

ii. Volunteers – Realize they take time but are essential in making things run smoothly

iii. Rescue – Would like agreements between fosters/rescues and shelter so they become partners and can offer options after an animal has been in the shelter for long periods of time.

iv. Return of Animals to Owners – Create a found animal book or posting to a website so owners can locate and get their animals back faster.

v. Adoptions – Open to more adopters which would allow relief of pressure at shelter and more revenue and more forever homes.

C. Brian Smith – We have an amazing shelter. Thought we had a good working relationship with Clear Creek. We go for placement over euthanasia. Can't paint this shelter with the same brush as other shelters. Cindy has her own issues. I will be glad when this witch-hunt is over.

12. Comments of City Staff – Sounds like we are done with OSHA and we will start working on the memorandum next meeting.

13. Comments of Task Force –

A. Casey – Would like to add website to next agenda. Thank you everyone.

B. Will – Working on website. Thanks to everyone for comments.

C. Sherry – Good reasons for adopting how we do

D. Dots – Committee is doing good things for the animals of Homer

E. Francie -

14. Adjournment, next meeting January 21, 2016 at 5:15 pm.