

ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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| Date and Time: | Wednesday, June 26, 2024 *4:30PM |
| Location: | Saginaw County Animal Care & Control Resource Center 5615 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48604 |
| Council Members Present: | Laureen Lutenski, Tom McIntyre, Kelli Scorsone, Alycia Norton, Cynthia Winiecke, Jonna Scharf, Randy Howard, Michele Fleming, Emilie Lyday |
| Council Members Absent: | Dr. Mielke, Tracey Slodowski |
| Others in Attendance: | Jaime Ceja, Rachel Horton, Diane Niederstadt, Pam Goodeyne, Christine Madrigal-Sawyer |

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
Vice Chair Scorsone called the meeting to order at 4:31PM
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Member McIntyre made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 15, 2024. Member Lyday supported. Motion passed (9-0).
- III. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
 1. **Shelter Stats** - Director Horton reported there are 97 cats and 118 dogs in the shelter with 9 FIV+ cats and 7 HW+ dogs. Surgeries for injures, dentals and spay and neuter are desperately needed. SCACC is working with 6 external County vets and All About Animals to get the surgeries/dentals completed. Recently 2 pregnant dogs went to rescues as puppies do not do well in a shelter environment. Programs that help get animals out of the shelter include Freedom Friday's and Take a Walk which allows animals out of the shelter for the day or a weekend which allows ACO's to have a bit of extra space during the weekends should it be needed.
 2. **Merchandise** – There is a shelf in the lobby that has items for sale. These items were donated by a rescue Director Horton has worked with in the past. The sales will help to boost the donor base and can also travel to events. We need help organizing donations in the garage, if anyone wants to help, please reach out.
 3. **Surgical Center** – Researching the requirements for the oxygen tanks has revealed that one 300 cu ft tank must be chained to a wall so we could essentially start using the surgical center now to do in house surgeries and see how it goes. Working with Dr. Kline and Dr. Mielke to see what additional equipment is needed to get the room up and running.
 4. **Budget** – FY2025 was presented to the Board of Commissioners by the County Administrator, and we are looking to get that passed in August at the Board Session meeting, it will become effective October 1. Additional staff was added for the surgical center including a vet and vet techs. Looking at a January opening with a large community open house for local vet offices, rescue partners and those who have helped make the center possible. SCACC is also in negotiations with the SCACC Vet of Record, Dr. Kline. We do have another vet interested in this position.
 5. **Staffing** – Looking to hire 2 additional aids to fill the schedule. Starting the Kennel aids at 7am instead of 8. Since they do meet and greets it will be beneficial for them to get time with the animals and starting earlier will allow them to walk the dogs and

make notes about personality, this will help when they meet with adopters. Member Norton asked if this was also happening with the cat population. Rachel stated that we get 5 aids a day and while it is not currently taking place with the cats, they are looking at workflow and how to best maximize everyone's time. Also looking to hire a 3rd receptionist who will work in the surgical center eventually but will need to start out in the office because we have 1 receptionist going on maternity leave.

6. **Training** – Director Horton and Kennel Manager Alicia will be heading to Florida in July for the Best Friends Conference. At the conference they will be using data from SCACC. These two spots were given on a scholarship basis. There will be training in August with Michigan Humane on animal law, welfare and vet standards. Kennel aids and kennel techs will be attending. In conjunction with MSU extension there was a training event that focused on large animals and farm animals.
7. **Events** – SCACC is doing adoption events almost every weekend, including Bissell Empty the Shelters, Magoos, and local business Paws and Beyond. In August SCACC will be at the Loons game on the lawn with adoptable pets and money from every single ticket will come back to SCACC. Member McIntyre stated that he is seeing positive media attention and its great to see.

IV. **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

1. **Fundraising** – Member Fleming - There was a meeting last month and today before this meeting. Going forward meetings will be at 3:30PM each month before this Council meets. We are actively forming a 501(c)3 with the mission to support the shelter. The name is Paws for Pals of Saginaw County. Member Scharf asked what about the previous 501(c)3 and if we had reached out to them. Member Fleming stated that the committee believes it best to start fresh, with a new mission, goals, and members.
2. **Training Room** – Member Lutenski– At the last meeting Kelli and Tracy were going to check with Chairman Boyd to see if a contract was existing. Kelli stated that she spoke to Bill Smith, Count Civil Counsel and he advised there was not but to stay away from the word leasing as it denotes ownership. He also stated that requesting a donation for the room rental fees would be a better idea, with a suggested amount.

V. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Surgical Center** – Director Horton covered this in the Director's report but added that separate account lines in the current budget have been combined to create one surgical center budget. Member Howard asked how much a spay/neuter would cost. Director Horton stated that we are quite a way out from having specific numbers but she would guesstimate \$80-\$100 for dogs and \$20-\$40 for cats.
2. **Supplemental Support Programming** – Member Norton stated that she was just in San Francisco where she volunteered at a shelter and they ran a program called Vets in Vans. Local vets donated their time to do a quarterly mobile clinic. It would be great to have something like that here. This would create a great public perception.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Hours of Operation** – Vice-Chair Scorsone stated that this was brought up at the last meeting in public comment and believes it to be an operational issue that needs to be addressed directly with Director Horton.
2. **On Call ACO's** – Vice Chair Scorsone stated that this was also brought up at the last meeting in public comment and it is also an operational issue that would need to be addressed with Director Horton. Director Horton asked if there are any questions about On Call ACO's, further stating that this past weekend there were 55 weekend

calls for service. Member Fleming stated that this number is more than police receive in a weekend.

3. **Community Manager Position** – Member Norton stated that she wanted to think of long-term priorities and believes a Community Manager Position is vital to work with volunteers, communicate with media, the public, and manage social media. This would free up staff and the Director to do the day to day business.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. None

VIII. NEXT MEETING

1. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, August 21, 2024.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

1. Member Fleming made a motion to adjourn, motion was supported by Member Howard. Meeting adjourned at 5:04PM.