



Animal Shelter Advisory Committee 4/20/2023

Notice is hereby given of a regular meeting of the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee of the City of San Angelo to be held on April 20, 2023 at 12:00 PM at City Hall – East Mezzanine, 72 W. College Ave., San Angelo, Texas, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items.

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comment

Issues or concerns not on the Regular Agenda may be raised by the public at this time. Citizens should speak from the podium, address all comments to the committee, begin by stating their name and address or Single Member District number, and limit their remarks to less than three minutes.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Consider approving the October 21, 2022 Animal Shelter Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes (Morgan Chegwidden)

4. Regular Agenda

- a. Consider election of a chairperson and a vice-chairperson to terms ending January 2024 (Presentation made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwidden)
- b. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for February 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)
- c. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for March 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)
- d. Discussion and possible action related to community-supported sheltering model (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services Morgan Chegwidden)
- e. Discussion and possible action related to the enforcement and funding of spay-neuter of cats and dogs required for pets inside city limits (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services Morgan Chegwidden)

5. Follow Up and Administrative Issues

6. Adjournment

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall of the City of San Angelo, Texas, on the 14th day of April 2023, at 9:56 a.m.

Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director
Neighborhood & Family Services

All agenda items are subject to action. The Animal Shelter Advisory Committee reserves the right to consider business out of posted order.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of San Angelo will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending board or commission meetings. To better serve you, requests should be received 48 hours prior to the meetings. Please contact the Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services at 325-657-4225, or the ADA Coordinator at 325-657-4407 for request, or by completing a request form online at cosatx.us/ada.

Staff Report



Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: April 20, 2023

Item type: Consent Item

Caption:

Consider approving the October 21, 2022 Animal Shelter Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes (Morgan Chegwidden)

Summary/History:

Attached are the draft minutes for the committee's consideration.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Other Information/Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval.

Attachments:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | 3a 230216 ASAC October Minutes | 3a 230216 ASAC October Minutes.docx |
|----|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

Presentation:

None

Approvals/Reviews:

Morgan Chegwidden
Theresa James

Created/Initiated
Final Approval



**City of San Angelo, Texas
Animal Shelter Advisory Committee Minutes
October 20, 2022**

Present:

Dr. Victor Schulze, Mayoral Representative
Jen Murphy, SMD2
Sgt. Chris Carpenter, SMD3
Morgan Chegwidden, SMD6

1. Call to Order/Roll Call to Establish Quorum

With a quorum of the committee members present, Dr. Victor Schulze called the regular meeting Animal Shelter Advisory Committee to order at 12:00 p.m. on October 20, 2022 at City Hall – East Mezzanine, 72 W. College Ave. San Angelo, Texas.

2. Public Comment

Citizen Mary Roberts expressed concern regarding the care of animals sheltered and funding for spay/neuter assistance.

Citizen Jatón Giese encouraged funding for spay/neuter assistance and additional enforcement staff and asked committee members to visit the shelter regularly as required in the bylaws.

Wall Resident Sharon Halfmann expressed concern regarding the care of animals sheltered.

Committee member Schulze requested future discussion regarding funding spay/neuter assistance.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Consider approving the August 18, 2022 Animal Shelter Advisory Committee regular meeting minutes.

MOTION: Committee member Murphy made a motion, seconded by Committee member Carpenter, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays.

4. Regular Agenda

- a. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for August 2022.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwidden. No action was taken on this item.

- b. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for September 2022.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwidden. No action was taken on this item.

c. Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for fiscal year 2021-22.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwiddden. No action was taken on this item.

Citizen Mary Roberts asked for plan to decrease intake.

Wall Resident Sharon Halfmann asked for vaccination protocols and the reason for death from communicable disease and asked how many kittens were born in custody.

Citizen Jatón Giese asked if San Angelo Animal Services registers implanted microchips.

d. Discussion and possible action related to the enforcement of the local requirement to spay/neuter cats and dogs.

A presentation was made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwiddden. Committee member Schulze requested details on the breeders permit process be provided to committee members as changes may be proposed in a future agenda item.

Citizen Mary Roberts recommended a breeder permit fee increase and extra attention to social media posts.

Wall Resident Sharon Halfmann asked which staff members issue citations, asked for a different process to increase enforcement, asked how animal services would comply with the capacity mandate and requested fewer animals be born in the shelter.

5. Follow Up and Administrative Issues

a. Discussion and possible action related to the 2023 meeting dates.

MOTION: Committee member Carpenter made a motion, seconded by Committee member Murphy to approve item 5a as presented. The motion carried unanimously four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays.

6. Adjournment

MOTION: Committee member Murphy made a motion, seconded by Committee member Carpenter, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously four (4) ayes to zero (0) nays. The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Staff Report



Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: April 20, 2023

Item type: Regular Item

Caption:

Consider election of a chairperson and a vice-chairperson to terms ending January 2024 (Presentation made by Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Morgan Chegwidden)

Summary/History:

As required by city ordinance 2.07, the animal shelter advisory committee shall select a chairperson and a vice-chairperson at the first meeting of each calendar year. The previous chairperson and vice-chairperson were Caitlin Wylie and Bambi Aker respectively.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Other Information/Recommendation:

Staff recommends a chairperson and vicechairperson be elected at this meeting.

Attachments:

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | 4a 230420 ASAC Chairperson | 4a 230420 ASAC Chairperson.pptx |
|----|----------------------------|---------------------------------|

Presentation:

Yes

Approvals/Reviews:

Morgan Chegwidden

Theresa James

Created/Initiated

Final Approval



Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

April 20, 2023

Election of Chairperson & Vice-chairperson

Morgan Chegwidden

Election of chair/vice-chairperson

- Required by city ordinance
- Shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson
- Each January
- For a one-year term

Election of chair/vice-chairperson

Seat	Name	Term End
1	Caitlin Wylie	1/31/24
2	Jen Murphy	1/31/24
3	Sgt. Chris Carpenter	N/A
4	Vacant	
5	Bambi Aker	1/31/25
6	Morgan Chegwiddden	N/A
7	Dr. Victor Schulze	N/A

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Staff Report



Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: April 20, 2023

Item type: Regular Item

Caption:

Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for February 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)

Summary/History:

202 new animals arrived at the shelter during February. 70 were adopted, 44 were transferred, 76 were redeemed by their owner, 28 wildlife were released, 7 were deceased and 260 were in custody at month end - 181 onsite and the remainder in offsite quarantine, medical or at Concho Valley PAWS.

Our live release rate was 96.89%.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Other Information/Recommendation:

No action necessary at this time.

Attachments:

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | 4b 230420 ASAC February | 4b 230420 ASAC February.pptx |
|----|-------------------------|------------------------------|

Presentation:

Yes

Approvals/Reviews:

Morgan Chegwidden
Theresa James

Created/Initiated
Final Approval



Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

April 20, 2023

February 2023 Shelter Numbers

Morgan Chegvidden

February 2023

- 202 new arrivals
- 70 adopted
- 44 transferred
- 76 redeemed by owner
- 28 wildlife released
- 7 deceased
- 260 left in custody
- 96.89% released alive

February 2023

- 7 Deceased
 - 1 Cats
 - 4 Dogs
 - 2 Other

February 2023

- 7 Deceased
 - 3 Sick or injured
 - 4 Aggressive

February 2023

- FYTD Outcomes by Type
 - 29% Adoptions
 - 32% Return to owner
 - 9% Wildlife Released
 - 24% Transfers
 - 6% Deceased

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Staff Report



Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: April 20, 2023

Item type: Regular Item

Caption:

Discussion and possible action related to monthly shelter numbers for March 2023 (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services followed by Morgan Chegwidden)

Summary/History:

267 new animals arrived at the shelter during March. 57 were adopted, 72 were transferred, 72 were redeemed by their owner, 20 wildlife were released, 17 were deceased and 286 were in custody at month end - 190 onsite and the remainder in offsite quarantine, medical or at Concho Valley PAWS.

Our live release rate was 92.86%.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Other Information/Recommendation:

No action necessary at this time.

Attachments:

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | 4c 230420 ASAC March | 4c 230420 ASAC March.pptx |
|----|----------------------|---------------------------|

Presentation:

Yes

Approvals/Reviews:

Morgan Chegwidden
Theresa James

Created/Initiated
Final Approval



Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

April 20, 2023

March 2023 Shelter Numbers

Morgan Chegwidden

March 2023

- 267 new arrivals
- 57 adopted
- 72 transferred
- 72 redeemed by owner
- 20 wildlife released
- 17 deceased
- 286 left in custody
- 92.86% released alive

March 2023

- 17 Deceased
 - 3 Cats
 - 11 Dogs
 - 1 Other

March 2023

- 17 Deceased
 - 8 Sick or injured
 - 9 Aggressive

March 2023

- FYTD Outcomes by Type
 - 28% Adoptions
 - 32% Return to owner
 - 9% Wildlife Released
 - 25% Transfers
 - 6% Deceased

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Staff Report



Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: April 20, 2023

Item type: Regular Item

Caption:

Discussion and possible action related to community-supported sheltering model (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services Morgan Chegwidden)

Summary/History:

Animal Services aims to maximize lifesaving while housing no more than 180 canines and 120 felines at any given time. To accomplish this, we rely on open communication with our team, partners, and private citizens to facilitate owner redemption, adoption, foster, and rescue transfer to avoid the killing of adoptable pets. With support from our mentor organizations, we're developing infrastructure to facilitate community-supported sheltering.

Community-supported sheltering inspires and empowers the public to be involved with and support all aspects of animal welfare within the community, at the highest level of engagement possible. In practice, it's the intersection between animal shelters, the community, and government to mutually support and leverage each other's resources to protect and serve the most vulnerable pets and their people in a community.

Within this supportive environment, the public engages with animal welfare with a sense of ownership and responsibility. Public policy and its application respects and values the public, and inter-agency, public-private collaboration maximizes community resources. As such, no one program "is" community-supported sheltering, but community-supported sheltering is the cohesive integration of programs and strategies that support the community and other stakeholders as invested partners in the work of the shelter.

We'll discuss what community-supported sheltering means for animal shelters, animal control, government leaders, and community members.

Community-supported sheltering is a natural progression for shelters and communities. Over the past 150 years, shelters have evolved from viewing the public with suspicion and killing millions of dogs and cats to embracing community support and saving more lives.

The next evolution is for those pets to be saved not just in a brick & mortar building, but within the community itself, as a collaboration between shelters, governments, and their communities. It's a holistic approach to saving pets that engages the community with respect and upholds animal services and animal shelters as important and valued resources.

Financial Impact:

N/A

Other Information/Recommendation:

No action necessary at this time.

Attachments:

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | 4d 230420 ASAC Community Supported
Sheltering | 4d 230420 ASAC Community Supported
Sheltering.pptx |
|----|--|---|

Presentation:

Approvals/Reviews:

Morgan Chegwidden
Theresa James

Created/Initiated
Final Approval



Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

April 20, 2023

Community Supported Sheltering

Morgan Chegwidden

Community Supported Sheltering

- Inspires and empowers public involvement and support
- Highest level of engagement possible
- Intersection between animal shelters, community, and government
- Mutually support and leverage each other's resources
- Protect and serve most vulnerable pets and people

Community Supported Sheltering

- Public engages with sense of ownership and responsibility
- Public policy and enforcement respects and values the public
- Public-private collaboration maximizes community resources
- Cohesive integration of programs and strategies
- Supports community and other stakeholders as invested partners

Community Supported Sheltering

- Natural progression for shelters and communities
- Over 150 years
 - Evolved from viewing public with suspicion
 - And killing millions of dogs and cats
 - To embracing community support and saving more lives
- Next evolution, bigger than a brick & mortar building
 - Collaborative and holistic approach that engages community
 - Upholds animal services as important and valued resources

Community Supported Sheltering

- What does it mean for animal shelters?
- Still needed for vulnerable and dangerous animals
- Barrier free adoptions, fosters, volunteers
- Supported rehoming and Good Sam are provided resources, services
- Community cat support
- Focus on animals and areas of greatest need

Community Supported Sheltering

- What does it mean for animal control?
- Replace “dog catchers” with professional partners serving pet owners instead of punitive approach
- Proactive engagement returning pets to owner in field
- Provide services to keep pets safe and at home
- Use data to drive decision-making, create programs, allocate resources

Community Supported Sheltering

- What does it mean for governments?
- Pet-inclusive housing and insurance policies
- Recognize animal sheltering as essential social service and support proven, solution-oriented strategies
- Allocated budgets based on population size and program needs
- Maximize efficiencies with public-private partnerships and collaboration
- Pets in need usually means people in need, integrate with other social services

Community Supported Sheltering

- What does it mean for community members?
- Robust foster programs, temporary housing, keep pets out of stressful, high-risk shelter environments
- Expanded volunteer opportunities utilized at every level of animal welfare framework
- Programs and policies designed to be welcoming rather than exclusive
- Communications crafted to be thoughtful and reflective of diversity
- All are welcomed and included

Community Supported Sheltering

- Case study: Lifesaving is a community ethic
- Large shelter at capacity with increasing intake from severe, unusual weather
- Frequently at capacity but adopted no-kill mandate
- Pop-up crates in multipurpose rooms and hallways
- State veterinarian ordered killing to keep kennels empty
- New director invited media to share overcapacity and ask community to emergency foster

Community Supported Sheltering

- Case study (continued)
- Coverage was robust and transparent
- Every pet in temporary pop-up crates went to foster family and passed state veterinarian's inspection
- Although fearful of criticism, transparency necessary to adopt community-wide no-kill ethic
- Community will help if asked to take specific action
- Honesty eliminates the killing of adoptable, treatable pets

Community Supported Sheltering

- Case study: Community-supported sheltering transformation
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Animal Care & Control hosts monthly rabies vaccine and microchip clinic
- Owner reluctant to hand over chihuahua
- When asked to remove blanket, she apologized for the dog's condition
- A large mass on the dog's mammary gland was ulcerated and infected
- Previous protocol would send owner to private medical care or surrender the pet for euthanasia

Community Supported Sheltering

- Case study (continued)
- But recently, Charlotte-Mecklenburg expanded services to community including access to free veterinary care
- Dog owner agreed to accept help
- Thorough exam conducted including radiographs, medication, and surgery to remove the mass
- Chihuahua happily returned home to live a healthy life

Community Supported Sheltering

- Case study (continued)
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg also offers appropriate tethers, dog houses, minor fence/gate repair, self-rehoming site
- Specifics offered locally differs for each community
- Overcame challenge of state law prohibiting practicing medicine on owned animals, applied for/granted clinic license through state board
- Fundraising via donations and grants, reallocated cost savings from lower intake

Community Supported Sheltering

- Case study (continued)
- Set clear parameters for type of aid provided, clearly communicated
- Helped community see municipal animal welfare agency as a resource, rather than a threat or enforcement body
- While still enforcing the law, provides for public health and safety through education and collaboration rather than citation
- Adopted new and different metrics to define success
- Proactive intake mitigation so sheltered animals truly need to be there

Community Supported Sheltering

- Not one single program
- Collection of opportunities to maximize the help and support from citizens
- Build more capacity for serving the needs of animals and people in our community

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Staff Report



Requestor: Morgan Chegwidden, Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services, Neighborhood and Family Services, 325-657-4224

Meeting Date: April 20, 2023

Item type: Regular Item

Caption:

Discussion and possible action related to the enforcement and funding of spay-neuter of cats and dogs required for pets inside city limits (Presentation made by Assistant Director Neighborhood & Family Services Morgan Chegwidden)

Summary/History:

The city's animal services division recently advocated for change in the application of the spay/neuter ordinance 3.01.012 for San Angelo's pets.

Adopted in October 2015, San Angeloans are required to spay or neuter their pet cats and dogs over 4 months of age at their expense. As the ordinance was researched, developed, and presented to City Council, the intent was for passive or reactive enforcement only. Property rights and the expectation of privacy prohibit proactive enforcement such as cold calls, knocking on doors without probable cause, or accessing pet ownership records. Reactive enforcement generally occurs as we respond to a primary offense, such as loose dog, impounded cat, bite investigation, or other call for service. As we resolve the initial complaint, we also inform the citizen of the need to spay/neuter their pet or face citations. Other such ordinances enforced reactively are the requirements for rabies vaccine and microchip registration.

Our prior practice was to educate citizens on the requirement to spay/neuter and refer families to low-cost options, such as Concho Valley PAWS' SNIP voucher program. We'd prefer pet owners avoid court fees and instead invest in their pet. After a 10 days' grace period, we'd follow up with the citizen to collect proof of compliance and write a citation if no progress was made. With FY22's large influx of canines under 6 months of age entering the shelter, we had to make a change.

Starting August 16, 2022, citizens we've interacted with who've failed to prove compliance will receive citations for failure to spay/neuter. Instead of animal services officers calling and knocking on doors, we've been approved for a process where violations are issued via mail. Citizens must appear before municipal court like any other class C misdemeanor. There, they may plead guilty, not guilty or no contest and are assessed fines and court costs. Of course, all of this can be avoided by instead spaying/neutering their pet.

Although proactive enforcement as described above violates civil rights, we are diligent in our efforts by following up on information freely provided to us by citizens. For example, following up with participants in microchip clinics who state their pet is unaltered or notifying all members of a household, not just the animal we responded to.

Although there can be exceptions (the fragile health of the pet does not warrant undergoing surgery, etc.), most families must invest in their pet's long-term health or be subject to citations. We encourage citizens to take advantage of low-cost spay/neuter services offered in San Angelo. Pet owners may visit conchovalleypaws.org/snip today to avoid costly fines and invest in the long term health of your pet. City Council was asked to fund \$10,000 annually for spay/neuter assistance for families in need November 1, 2022 but no action was taken. With increased participation in such programs, we can continue lifesaving programming for San Angelo's pets.

Financial Impact:

Ask City Council to fund \$10,000 annually.

Other Information/Recommendation:

Staff recommends minuted action asking City Council to fund spay/neuter assistance for fiscal year 2023-24.

Attachments:

1. 4e 230420 ASAC Spay-Neuter Enf and Assist 4e 230420 ASAC Spay-Neuter Enf and Assist.pptx

Presentation:

Approvals/Reviews:

Morgan Chegwidden
Theresa James

Created/Initiated
Final Approval



Animal Shelter Advisory Committee

April 20, 2023

Spay-Neuter Enforcement and Assistance

Morgan Chegvidden

Spay-Neuter Enforcement and Assistance

- Owner's responsibility and expense
- Required to spay/neuter cats & dogs
- Exceptions are few
 - Under four months of age
 - Medically fragile
 - Etc.
- Most families must comply

Spay-Neuter Enforcement and Assistance

- Ordinance adopted October 2015
- Reactive enforcement
 - Similar to microchip and rabies vaccine
- Proactive enforcement problematic, citizens' rights

Spay-Neuter Enforcement and Assistance

- Prior practice
 - Educate families
 - Refer to low-cost programs
 - 10-day grace period
 - Avoid court fees
 - Invest in pet's health
 - Issue citation if not yet compliant

Spay-Neuter Enforcement and Assistance

- FY22 young canine intake increased 27%
- Changed practice
- Still want to work with families
- But filing complaints if fail to provide proof of spay/neuter
- Citizens appear before municipal court

Spay-Neuter Enforcement and Assistance

- Encourage citizens to take advantage
- Conchovalleypaws.com/snip
- Staff recommended Council fund \$10,000 annually in assistance, no action taken

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