



Multnomah County Animal Services Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 11th, 2021

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Google Hangouts

CAC Members present: Paige Espana, Sally Wright, Tracy Chin, Jonathan Goodwin, Megan Turvey

Staff present: Wade Sadler, Jay LeVitre

6:30 pm **Welcome and Meeting Begins**

6:35 pm **CAC bylaws draft**

- **Discuss/decide on proposed facilitation model**
 - Chair / Vice Chair model
 - There is interest, but responsibilities need to be defined
 - Organizing agenda and helping to establish it
 - Communicating with members
 - Facilitating meetings
 - Term limits - 3 years tentatively
 - If approved, will adopt model at January 2022 meeting

7:00 pm **Shelter Updates**

- Update- Woofin Palooza case.
 - 95 animals were ruled as forfeited by the Multnomah County Circuit Court.
 - Affected animals may be adopted by foster homes, placed for adoption, or transferred to regional adoption partners and rescues.
- **Operating Hours Changes - Effective November 1, 2021**
 - Open 7 days a week.
 - Expanding hours on weekdays.
 - Call center hours will more closely match shelter hours.

Shelter Hours

- Sunday: 11-4:30
- Monday: 11-5:30
- Tuesday: 11-5:30
- Wednesday: 1-4:30
- Thursday: 11-5:30
- Friday: 11-5:30
- Saturday: 11-4:30

Call Center Hours

- Sunday: 9-4:30
- Monday: 11-5:30
- Tuesday: 11-5:30
- Wednesday: 1-4:30
- Thursday: 11-5:30
- Friday: 11-5:30
- Saturday: 9-4:30

- **Aligning Hold Times with Ordinance**

- Ordinance requires animals to be held for 72 hrs without ID, and 144 with ID.
- Hold times were expanded in 2016 to not include the day of intake, closed days, or holidays.
- Findings of analysis showed that expanded hold times were not necessary. The majority of animals are reclaimed well within the hold time frame.
- By extending the hold time, it was primarily a delay to place animals in a satisfactory outcome. Extra time can cause stress or illness.
- Hold times will be realigned in January 2022.
- MCAS will continue to monitor and evaluate the effects of the change.

7:30 pm

UW Collaboration Updates

- **Reviewing animals for disposition options due to extended lengths of stay**

- Will consider the goals we want to achieve, and measures will be tailored to accomplish those goals.
- *Not considering placing time limits on animals.*
- Will consider extra measures to help place animals at the shelter with extended stays.
 - Social media ad campaign to target demographics that would be interested and appropriate to adopt a specific animal and meet their needs.
 - Active households
 - Rural settings

- Experience with canine behavior & training
 - Will re-evaluate promoting pets on Adopt-a-Pet and Petfinder, and consider reconnecting with the platforms.
 - Services stopped during the launch of Adopets virtual adoption platform to centralize interested adopters and prevent confusion of adopters coming to the shelter.
- Will evaluate the potential reason why animals aren't being adopted. Considering their conditions and temperament and seeking alternatives.
- **Evaluation of operational changes in collaboration with University of Wisconsin, Multico Health Program Design and Evaluation Services, and Council of Territorial and State Epidemiologists**
- **Evaluation of enforcement and community support practices with University of Wisconsin, University of Denver's Institute for Human-Animal Connection, and the Pets for Life program with HSUS.**
 - Pets for Life and UW will be onsite at the end of October to evaluate programs- identifying gaps, and potential equity measures.
 - Conducting a multi-year study to identify needed changes to outward-facing services.
 - There will be sound evaluation processes to make informed decisions, as opposed to anecdotes and best guesses.

Questions from CAC Members

- **Support for domestic violence victims.**
 - We partner with DCHS for referrals, and can offer emergency boarding and services for pets in crisis. We have an MOU with Raphael House of Portland.
 - Pets in Crisis program is currently limited to two weeks of boarding.
 - For hospitals, social workers will contact us to help request and coordinate services.
 - Domestic Violence / Animal advocacy / programs from other parts of the country.
 - <https://nationallinkcoalition.org/>
 - <https://saftprogram.org>

8:00 pm Meeting Adjourns

Next meeting will be on January 10, 2022, at 6:30 pm