



Multnomah County Animal Services Community Advisory Committee Planned Agenda Items

October 10, 2022

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via WebEx

[Streaming for the Public Available on Youtube](#)

Attendees: Sally Wright, Johnathan Goodwin, Christine Getman, Megan Turvey, Erin Grahek (staff), Jay LeVitre (staff)

- 5:35 pm - Welcome and introductions

- 6:42 pm - Updates on volunteer outreach and recruitment and hiring
 - Veterinary hiring challenges and Certified Veterinary Technician shortage, hiring efforts. Medical Director position interviews are ongoing. CVT is still open.
 - Attrition in the industry, considering benefits and recruitment strategies.
 - Shelter Manager is hired - Marian Cannell starts October 31, 2022.
 - Client Services has filled several vacancies.
 - One Animal Control Officer position is open.
 - Volunteer roles resuming - Lost & Found Pets Team is posting found animals to social media. Laundry, cleaning, dog walkers, cat socialization.
 - In-person adoption support is going to resume. Experienced volunteers training in the computer systems, and supporting adoption pickups.

- 6:59 pm - Brainstorm ideas for increasing membership
 - CAC has been in flux with change in directors and other leadership.
 - Outreach to gather different perspectives- geographically, diverse ethnicity and lived experiences.
 - Changing from Robert's Rules of Order to a consensus model of functioning.
 - Soliciting feedback about policies and procedures on an ongoing basis, not just quarterly.
 - **Feedback:**
 - Bi-directional feedback- accept feedback and then demonstrate how it was implemented.
 - Retention- members need to feel that they serve a function and are being utilized.
 - Rebuild CAC to involve the community, solicit input and participation, and integrate.
 - Fewer reports and presentations, and more depth.

- There is a desire to help and contribute, but members of the committee don't feel like they have an avenue.
 - In-person or hybrid meetings would be more engaging.
 - Keep bylaws in mind - <https://www.multcopets.org/community-advisory-committee-cac-bylaws>
 - For effectual change, there needs to be consistent engagement and ongoing structural change.
 - Recruit CAC members prior to next quarterly meeting.
 - Feedback from previous members - there were times where they felt valued and engaged, and others where they weren't utilized.
 - Efficacy of the group is top-down.
 - Desire from CAC members for empowerment.
 - Open to rebuilding the bylaws, and operating guidelines.
 - With new recruitment, survey the most convenient time and locations for future meetings.
- 7: 28 pm - Veterinary Services Voucher contract pilot program
 - Creative ways to build veterinary capacity - short term support to meet the needs of animals in our care.
 - Increase pathways to transfer and adoption ASAP.
 - Length of stay has a direct impact on wellbeing of animals. It is better for an animal to be placed in a new home as soon as possible rather than waiting for spay & neuter surgery prior to adoption in instances where it would cause significant delay.
 - Dr. Romney is full time, and six on-call vets pickup a shift a month.
 - Challenges to provide follow-up care and surgeries.
 - Ordinance does not require alteration prior to adoption, and we are able to consider other avenues to adoption.
 - MCAS will provide vouchers to provide spay & neuter services and rabies vaccinations at multiple contracted veterinary providers as needed on a short-term basis.
 - Prioritizing transfer candidates, rabbits, and kittens for surgery, or considering capacity issues.
 - **Feedback:**
 - Provide a comparison of cost provided by MCAS in spay & neuter services vs out-of-pocket costs for contracted vets.
 - Johnathan remembers voucher program at OHS, and they used it.

- 7:39 pm - Wildlife pick up contract
 - Picking up deceased wildlife has been a service that MCAS has provided over the years. Squirrels in the road. Field Services Officers were dispatched to pickup the deceased animal.
 - We've seen increases in reports of animal neglect and cruelty, and officers have been challenged in their capacity to pickup deceased wildlife.
 - We have procured a two-year limited contract to address the community need for deceased wildlife pickup services, and officers can prioritize urgent calls.
 - Currently, MCAS is providing instruction on ways for community members to handle and dispose of deceased wildlife. This is intended as a bridge until a contract is in place.

- Current work with U of Wisconsin (*postponed until next meeting*)

- 7: 50 pm - Outdoor Cat Information trifold flyer review
 - Language access- plan to make it accessible in other languages.
 - Similar flyer on website to print and use- accessibility for those using screen readers. Suggest a non-trifold version for order (trifold reads backwards for a screen reader).
 - Office of Diversity and Equity can review from an accessibility standpoint.

Follow-up items- survey of time and place, recruitment, and updating the structure and bylaws.

Next meeting - TBD