

Minuets

Multnomah County Animal Services Community Advisory Committee

April, 1st 2025
6:30-8:30 PM



Attendees:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gray Bouchat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> April Milan	<input type="checkbox"/> Tara MH Martin
<input type="checkbox"/> Leah Brookner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natalie Mesa-Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Lambruschi
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharon Methvin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denise Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/> Kelly Peterson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy Marie Yuill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Margaret Clement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Beckman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erin Grahek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taylor Steenblock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Thorne

1. Agenda	
1.1 Possible topics for future CAC	...
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Think, Write, Share exercise - topics posted around the room. Take time to think about these. Add your thoughts to a post-it note and post it on the corresponding sheet. Place a check mark on post-its that you agree with.• Review post-its for each topic. Members were given 4 sticky dots each to "vote" for their top topics for future CAC committee. (See attached photos)• Questions around time commitment going forward and suggestions around potential sub-committees
Decisions made:	N/A
Actions:	N/A

1.2 Membership Agreement	...
Notes	We didn't get to this. This will be homework.
Decisions made:	N/A
Actions:	<p>Homework sent to CAC Members:</p> <p>Please read the membership agreement and answer these two questions by responding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the current membership agreement complement or advance our values? 2. How should we enhance the agreement? <p>Values:</p> <p>Equitable - strive for a balance of consideration for human and animals, cultural respect</p> <p>Goal Focused</p> <p>Transparent</p> <p>Curious</p> <p>Empathetic</p> <p>Respectful</p>

Next Meeting [6/3/25, 6:30pm-8:30pm]

Provide feedback on how MCAS engages with community to reduce barriers and grow awareness of services.

A

2

Engagement often misses people who aren't online. How are we connecting reaching communities w/ digital access or stable housing?
Can we partner w/ clinics, libraries, mutual aid groups

Go to the people. Community events for all of the varying populations in our looking. Flexibility re: timing days/days of week.

Promotion @ thru vet clinic @ mens services, hand out magnets, brochures, T-shirt samples w/ mens info

Example demographics of who mens services who is for. Served, Target areas with least served population

Vaccine/MC clinics

Form an outreach team (staff volunteers, staff)
+ Schedule + attend multiple community events to do outreach
- e.g. Farmers markets, Clinics de Map, Food bank

Change enforcement officers into community resource officers - out of uniforms

a) Have a "welcome" idea that is not the shelter to engage with the public more than staff can
- almost like a concierge service to match them with the right service provider + to help them have a positive interaction w/ the shelter. Down

Volunteer Booths @ Local events
- farmers markets
- street fairs
- succinct informative handouts / QR codes w/ info

a) Have an inset for the public to provide feedback online + at the shelter

Ad Space @ Billboards w/ information (think Dove Lewis) for the public

Public awareness campaign in conjunction with new shelter construction - why? How? How will it help? What does MCAS already do?

Website redesign

Provide feedback on how MCAS maintains public safety

Community associates public safety w/
law enforcement. How can we reform
to include community support such as
behavior support to reduce abandonment/
safety risks, pilot a trauma informed
safety model w/ community partners ✓

Education on how
to report/deal with
lost animal/protection
wildlife

Vaccine clinics

Education on the difference
between police + animal control /
MCAS officers ✓

PDX local app w/
easy to report issues
w/ pets → also non-emergency
crimes
- aggressive/large/
unsafe dogs/cats

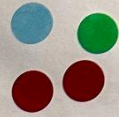
TJR ~~not~~ ?

Spray/neuter

• More community
education about
MCAS role when
there are dog attacks
• More info from edu
about how MCAS
supports pet owners
• Owners are unavailable
• Criminal, mandatory
• Outreach to handle
pet's behavior

Provide feedback on the reunification process for people + their pets.

C



4

✓ Public education on
how to deal with/report
a found animal - ✓
• make it easy

When Sound, Foster
first approach so
finder keeps dog @ home
probably closer

24-hour officer
support for dropped
off animals

Make an
app for that
(Nextdoor seems to be serving
this function for many)

Reunite people + pets

✓✓
Microchip clinics,
or low cost/free offering

- Fee forgiveness programs but alternatives
for folks w/ lack of transportation
- Find a feasible way to relay this info
to folks w/o digital access, language barriers
etc.

✓ With Partners + Vets,
Increase promoting micro
chipping, ways to keep owner
info up to date, low cost/no cost
chipping, "must" chip when
reunited ✓

✓ Increase Public Awareness, for example:
On the spot advertising/postering!
social media Posting when a
lost pet is picked up by officers ✓

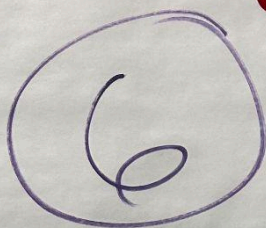
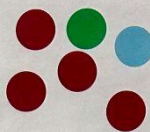
Eliminate Stigma ✓
of Return to home (RTH)
to houseless folks

Allow volunteers to
drive pets home

Have officers or staff
Drive pet to owner

Provide feedback on the adoptions process. Or adoption support

2



List pre select dogs
on web site with
"available on..."

- this could be in conjunction
w/ animal welfare nonprofits
- would make the support more
accessible across the country

Don't call it an
"adoption application"
- you're not applying to
adopt, you will adopt!

* Ask Questions/Application
@ life + situation 1st.
* Have staff doing show spend
10 minutes reviewing + discussing
B4 show.
* Eliminate bad matches B4 the
show

✓ 1st) Call / email adopted:
→ feedback on visit
→ how it's going
→ resource referral for
food, vet services, training/behavior
Dewie

Ponder Resource guide ★
links for new adopters &
related issues @
→ low cost training
→ low cost vet care
→ low cost food sources
→ low cost chipping

✓ Behaviour hotline for
support @ real time
response ✓

More support in first 72 hrs
check
new adopter handbook
new adopter mentor
check in calls after 24 hours

Foster to Adopt
program to try it out

Provide feedback on the licensing program. ^E

3

Licensing

Confusion about
vet cert ≠ license

(I've heard several anecdotes of people
leaving the tubes intact, not buying the license,
and not knowing what to do next)

Improve the user
experience of the
online portal ✓

Licensing- online
option is helpful,
as is reminder in
mail. Hard to always
access rates compared
to upload.
Would help if from
vet clinics can
not in license
access when you
get vaccine

Reframe ^{licensing} as a
pet safety strategy (as a
punishment)

I don't know a lot about
licensing, but if you're on an
assisted program, you get free
licensing for all pets

Make a QR code ✓
that can be sent
immediately after RV @
DVM office w/ link to
page!

Show where the
licensing money goes
"Here's where for you..."

Provide feedback on volunteer opportunities + the volunteer program.

F

2

Bring back
volunteer opportunities
for youth
Barriers for volunteering
can be the time
commitment.
Is there a monthly
option or only
weekly?

Partner w/ high school
volunteer programs.
Develop rubrics for volunteers

"Foster Sign up" Not application
+ allow folks to sign up +
Foster same day

As part of the adoption process have
a box people can check for
"contact me about possible volunteer
opportunities" volunteers from one
member could help with the outreach.
Devin

enlist/inquire about
Vet techs in
training/school

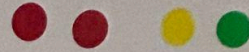
Have an info table
at local street + neighborhood
fairs + events.
Devin

Post bilingual volunteer announcements
in underrepresented neighborhoods.
Offer volunteer pathways for youth,
elders and folks of disabilities

Reach out via schools, community orgs,
justice programs to represent a
more diverse community.

Provide feedback on making pet ownership more accessible.

G



Hold classes on ^{online} pet owner preparation

- basic
- basics, supplies, training, veterinary care
- multi-pet households - include the free/honest

Provide free behavioral specialist phone/zoom consultations & interpret PRN

Build a new shelter + design accessible spaces to meet animals + internet & staff (in portland)

4

Feedback

Hub of community resources for pet care support - financial/supplies/behavior care/ pet housing/pet sitting

Offer pet training classes ✓

Starting a rapport w/ housing ^{agencies} to promote/recommend their building in exchange for pet friendly housing

Outreach events in underserved communities

Make houses or rental (landlords) more pet friendly

- build a network of pet friendly housing
- connect with local landlords and agents

Resources for training pet supplies what to expect when adopting a pet what to expect when adopting a pet

Foster as an alternative to adoption

1) - example (b) - by the more proactive with matching pet to adopter to pet's optimum fit based on lifestyle, desired characteristics of pet, because they may be

Ensure Every pet is spayed/neutered, fully vaccinated, had existing medical conditions addressed prior to walking out door

Make it housing partners and legal aid to support owners of pet, pet sitting, dog care, etc.

Provide feedback on improving access to basic community + MCAS Vet care. + Spay/Neuter

3 ● ● ●

Research how other
muni shelters + rescues
neuter + spay ✓

h)
Further to have occasional
basic vet + microchip services
at the shelter + various
neighborhood locations.
(we used to have
a service at the
shelter in the past
pre-COVID) Debra

Basic veterinary care
Partnering with other
local orgs/clinics ✓
✓ (OHS??)

Vet Students

Neuter clinic
2x a month

More advertising to
community about
what resources
are available
through the county.
✓ ✓ ✓

Pre Scheduled Spay/Neuter
appts with 3-4 vets.
Slot new adopters in
B4 they leave shelter ✓

Education on COSTS
of this care 4f adoption ✓

I
Provide feedback on navigating animal-
related conflict. ●

Community education
about what the code of
ethics is ✓
Community ethics
education helps reduce
misinformation - encourage
Tide

Body language
education - social
media, published materials,
videos on website, adaptive
resources

①

Reason approach is relation
education for both parties after incident

Provide feedback on public visibility & J Clarity around services.

• Don't send letters
• Provide
• Inform of available
• Personalized letter
• Add program about
• Info about services
• Table at community
• meetings
• Neighborhood
• Association meetings

Engagement/promotion:
Flyers, radio ad, tabling,
stickers

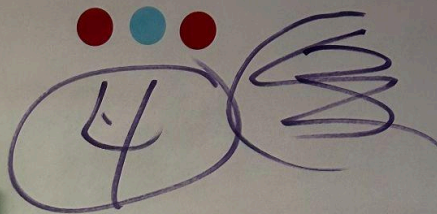
• Get EAC for volunteer staff a
• 2) Make table at events to
• provide info material about
• the shelter + seek feedback
• - Create
• → neighborhood bars
• → focus
• → anything related to
• City services
• Decide

Engage w/ communities
Where services are needed
(How someone + this is their right
to help w/ transportation?
for services?

• "Know your services" campaign
in French, Spanish, growing areas etc

1

Help provide community education on the ^k
 Role of MCAS + improve access + awareness.
 (less feed back, more action)



~ seems super important as
 plans for new shelter
 develop.

- the current price tag will
 likely be a stumbling block
 for some residents.
- what opportunities currently
 exist, how do we build on
 them and create new ones

✓

• Increase social media
 presence.

- Table at community
 events
- Neighborhood
 Association meetings
- Other community
 organizations, such as
 churches, schools (etc)

K)

Identify key policy/laws that
 the Public Inquiry shows they
 don't understand + have a P&A
 power to address them - example
 topics: licensing; health laws,
 bike quarantine, microchipped

Denise

D) Have a series of "did you know"
 video shorts + blogs that cat members
 + other shelter advocates could
 post on social media, next door,
 school sites.

✓

Denise

Develop Spokespeople
 like champions

MCAS - make
 the ways - make the spaces

Identify competent and knowledgeable informal
 education around pet loss, moving, +
 resources.