



**STANISLAUS COUNTY ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**JANAURY 4, 2008**

Regular Session

Called to order at 12:15 p.m. by Dave Cerutti

**Board Members Present**

Dave Cerutti

Nancy Smith

Warner Soelling

Marlene Wilson

Patricia Hitch

Catalina Elsasser

August Farley

Frankie Bonifacio, DVM

**Board Members Absent**

None

**Staff**

Dave Young – Animal Services/Interim Director

Mavis Williamson – Animal Services

Andy Fiskum – Animal Services

Mary Whetstone - ASA

Tim Fedorchak – CEO/Capitol Projects

Monica Nino-Reid – CEO’s Office

Deirdre McGrath/County Counsel

**Guests**

Crisi Matthews – Citizen

Dave Bauer – Citizen

Monika Hachiya – County Resident

**I. Presentations**

None scheduled and none given

**II. Public Comment Period**

None given

### III. Board Consent and Action Calendar

**1. Action - Minutes for December 7, 2007 meeting:**

Warner Soelling moved to approve the minutes with the following corrections made. Seconded by Nancy Smith. Minutes were approved.

**Corrections Changes are below:**

**Under Public Comment**, Karen Mosser of Alley Cat Guardians ~~suggested~~ **supported Mary Whetstone's version** that a smaller shelter should be built for Animal Services in the range of \$5 million rather than \$10 to \$13 million.

Mary Whetstone of ASA ~~supports~~ **appreciates** Karen's **support of the** smaller version with \$300,000 put into spay/neuter surgeries. **She stated that** currently the economy doesn't look good, which could make funding an issue.

**Item 4 - Public Facilities Fees – Augusta Catalina – held over for January meeting**

**Item 5 - Spay Day USA – Marlene Wilson**

Marlene says Spay Day USA is the last Tuesday in February every year. Program began in ~~1995~~ **2006** ~~with~~ **when** the Doris Day Animal League ~~then~~ **combined with** to HSUS ~~then~~ to **become** Spay Day USA. This is the only day in the calendar year that promotes the action of spay/neuter. Veterinarians, their technicians and volunteers come together to spay or neuter as many animals as possible. There is information out there to assist in fund raising and educational components. **The Reference Desk at the library can pull up on the Internet information on Spay Day USA.** A ~~holds a~~ Spay Day USA Event Planning Guide a 30 page how to guide **can be located on [www.hsus.org](http://www.hsus.org) by typing in "spay day action kit" in the web-site's search field.** A coordinator would be needed to take charge of the fund raising to make appointments for those that are qualified.

**2. Nominate and elect Animal Advisory Board Officers for calendar year 2008:**

Catalina Elsasser nominates Dave Cerutti for Chair, Patricia Hitch seconds. All in favor and no opposed. Dave Cerutti elected Chair. Catalina Elsasser nominates Nancy Smith for Co-Chair, Dave Cerutti seconds. All in favor and no opposed. Nancy Smith elected Co-Chair.

**3. Presentation on Public Facilities Fees and the fees relationship to the proposed shelter by Keith Boggs and Dean Wright – Catalina Elsasser**

Dean Wright from County Counsel provided a historical background and basis for public facility fees. State law in 1987 provided a compromise for schools vs. the development community. Construction costs vs. needs. Uniform statutes were developed-Mitigation Nexus 6600 statute provided a uniform methodology for calculating fees.

Stanislaus County uses the services of MuniFinancial in San Francisco to provide estimates of service level (which includes compliance reports). Per Tim Fedorchak an estimate for Animal Services would be approximately \$200.00 per sq. ft. Taking into additional consideration such as whether it is applicable for non-residential areas to contribute to the cost of the shelter in the community?

The calculations are then taken to the stake holders such as engineering (Mid Valley), Legal firms and all interested parties to meet with MuniFinancial and negotiations occur working together to arrive at a resolution that is politically correct. The County imposed fee will be based on level of service vs. population.

A public hearing to establish fees.

- Purpose of Fee (must be specific)
- Use of Fee (What facility-determine reasonable relationship need and type)
- How to apply Fee (Commercial)
- Mitigation Nexus 6600 sub code B. Specific amount of Fee is appropriate and justifiable

A 10 to 12 million-dollar takes time to collect public fees amount relative to growth (can only pay for new facilities)

Keith Boggs distributed *Public Facilities Fees An Overview*, calling attention Animal Services was added in 2003. Keith stated that new community could not be legally asked to correct old ills.

Catalina asked if they looked at acreage as potential homes. 100 acres equates to 500 homes thus what amount of potential revenue? Keith stated they look at growth trends not specific parcels of land, Horizontal Growth vs. Vertical Growth.

Keith went on to say higher density, operation costs Sphere fees are collected, and maintenance costs create an increase in challenges.

#### **4. Update on the New Animal Shelter – Dave Cerutti**

Per Dave, running on schedule and to be presented to the Board of Supervisor's the first week of March.

January 10th the Facilities team will tour new and old facilities in the area. January 16th the team will focus on two selected plans.

Capital Projects has provided *good work* per Dave Cerutti.

The CEO office is also working on a new adoption center. The current adoption center is in terrible condition. The adoption center could be replaced with a new modular building, which would house the same amount of animals. A new modular could be in place within one to two months at an approximate cost of \$100K.

**5. Discussion and Action on the Community Report newsletter – Approval of what is currently completed – Nancy Smith**

Nancy stated after working with Patricia Hitch the past month, the Community Letter has been placed on hold until the spring. Allowing the AAB to provide focus on the new center. Per Nancy, she has not been provided very much input. She will be distributing new packets, which only requires 15 to 20 minutes of review.

**6. Discussion and Action on Public Comment Time Limits – Augusta Farley**

Per Augusta, still in committee.

**7. Discussion and Action on format of Animal Advisory Board Minutes – Augusta Farley**

Per Augusta, still in committee.

**8. Monthly Animal Shelter Statistics – Mavis Williamson**

Adoptions remained flat from last year. ASA and S.O.C.K. took dogs to Petsmart. All animals were adopted. Kat Country's 12 Strays of Christmas was very successful. December recorded one of our busiest adoption weekends on record, 42 adoptions with no returns. Families were coming to the shelter. Two puppies tested positive for Parvo. The families were willing to bring the animals back to health.

Euthanasia counts were slightly down from 286 last year to 244 this year for cats, the same for kittens. Rates are still higher from last year for dogs and puppies have improved slightly

**9. Old Business**

Monica welcomes back Dave Young as Interim. There is a full recruitment for the Directors position.

Nancy Smith asked to have a copy of the letter sent to the Rescues. Per Andy Fiskum, the letter and policy are currently in draft form and currently being reviewed by Doris Foster/CEO department.

**10. New Business**

Augusta Farley requested a Business Plan or Goals for Animal Services. Should this be an Agenda item?

**IV. Adjourn Meeting** – Nancy Smith made a motion to adjourn, Catalina Elsasser seconded, all in favor, meeting adjourned.