

**SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF
ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE
Meeting Minutes July 16, 2020**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Nina Irani; Russell Tenofsky; Michael Angelo Torres; Annemarie Fortier; Bunny Rosenberg; John Skeel, SF ACC; Jane Tobin; Brian Van Horn, DVM

Absent: Lisa Wayne, SF RPD; Officer Joe Majeski, SFPD

2. General Public Comment:

- No members of the public made comments at this time. It was realized that the meeting had been locked in error, which restricted access. The meeting was reopened at 5:40PM.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from June 2020 Meeting

- Meeting minutes were approved.

4. Chairperson's and Commissioners' Reports

- A. Commissioner Tobin reported on the San Francisco Zoo reopening to the general public, and also covered the social distancing changes in place and how the animals at the Zoo have been impacted by the shelter-in-place order. Commissioner Tobin also provided an update on the mountain lion that was found roaming near Oracle Park.

5. New Business

A. Reporting from Animal Care & Control (Discussion/Action Item)

- Commissioner Torres presented a proposal to address concerns about transparency in which the Commission would receive updates and quarterly reports from the SF ACC concerning some of the issues involving the SF ACC that have been discussed as agenda items in the past and regularly come up during public comment periods. These issues include operation protocol changes, the euthanasia policy and the feral cat program.
- SF ACC Deputy Director Skeel discussed how the SF ACC would be able to provide the reports, as well as additional shelter information. A brief update on the feral cat program and shelter operations was also provided.
- Commissioners discussed the proposal and suggested other types of information they would like to receive from the SF ACC, to include receiving updates on the outcome of animals released to rescue partners, presentations from SF ACC staff in various departments, and celebratory types of news. Commissioners also discussed concerns as to whether the type of information being requested in the proposal would be helpful.
- Six members of the public called to comment on the proposal, as well as on the actions of the Commission concerning the feral cat program and last meeting's euthanasia notification vote.
- Commissioner Irani confirmed the proposal's quarterly reporting parameters to include information on the feral cat program (with additional reports during kitten season); the number of animals (including wildlife) brought in to SF ACC and their outcomes; and any SF ACC policy changes in which the Commission should be made aware.
- The Commission voted in favor of the proposal. Commissioners Fortier, Rosenberg, Tobin, Torres and Van Horn voted in support of the proposal. Commissioner Tenofsky abstained.

B. Good Food Purchasing Program (Discussion/Action Item)

- Commissioner Irani provided an overview of the proposed legislation requiring City departments to meet food purchasing goals by decreasing animal-based food purchases, and the reduction goals that some of the City departments had set.
- Virginia Gu, from Compassionate Bay, provided additional background on the program and discussed the program's purchasing minimum threshold.
- Seven members of the public called in support of the Good Food Purchasing Program.

- The Commission voted in favor of writing a letter to the Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee in support of the legislation and requesting that City departments be aligned with a 50% reduction goal. Commissioners Fortier, Rosenberg, Tenofsky, Tobin and Torres voted in support of the letter.

6. Old Business

A. Commission Governance (Discussion/Action Item)

- Commissioner Torres discussed Commission seats coming to term and provided status on when the Board of Supervisors' Rules Committee may be scheduling an appointment hearing.
- Commissioner Torres reported on a proposed Charter Amendment concerning term limits for commissions and advisory boards that may appear on the November ballot.
- Commissioner Irani discussed issues concerning the e-mail address that was set-up for receiving public comment in preparation for meeting remotely, and if it should be continued now that a public comment phone line is in place.
- Commissioner Irani discussed the quarterly reports for the Board of Supervisors and provided an update on the revised Commissioner Manual.
- One member of the public commented on attempts to contact the Commission during the shelter-in-place order.

7. General Public Comment

- Three members of the public commented concerning SF ACC accountability, the live animal market issue, and last meeting's euthanasia notification vote.

8. Items to be put on Calendar for Future Commission Meetings

- A. Commission Governance – Quarterly Reports and Commissioner Manual

9. Adjournment (approx. 8:05PM)