

**SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF
ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE
Meeting Minutes –January 18, 2017**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Annemarie Fortier; Julene Johnson; Russell Tenofsky; Jane Tobin; Bunny Rosenberg; Robin Hansen, DVM; Jane Tobin; Shari O’Neill, DVM; Officer Ryan Crockett

Absent: Davi Lang; Lisa Wayne; Virginia Donohue (SF ACC)

2. General Public Comment

No public comment

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the November 2016 meeting

Approved

4. Chairperson’s report and opening remarks

May take over editing of ACWC website from the City to the Commission which should make editing much faster/easier. According to the City, this should be implemented later this year.

5. Commissioner’s reports

Commissioner Tobin reported the Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee meeting approved San Francisco Animal Care and Control’s new shelter and recommended for full approval. The Board of Supervisors approved at the end of November. Construction should begin in 2018 contingent on MUNI who occupies the space finds a suitable location.

6. New Business

a. Introduction of Ordinance 161352, Health Code - Sale of Domestic Dogs and Cats

Supervisor Katy Tang has presented information on an ordinance banning the sale of non-rescue domestic dogs/cats in San Francisco. Commissioners asked a variety of questions including

b. Introduction of the new Vicious and Dangerous Dog Unit Officer. In December, Officer Ryan Crockett of SFPD was assigned to the Vicious and Dangerous Dog Unit of SF Police Department. Officer Crockett was stationed at Park Station in the Haight and has worked closely with the homeless population both in Golden Gate Park and Buena Vista. Officer Ryan has attended training sessions in preparation for the new role and is currently working to prepare cases for upcoming trials.

c. Appreciation of service for Sergeant Hicks - In December 2016, Sergeant Sherry Hicks left the Vicious and Dangerous Dog Unit of the SFPD. In her absence, the Commission recognized her commitment to the animals of San Francisco.

7. Old Business

A. Letter requesting the uniformity in partnership statistical data reporting between the SF SPCA/ SF ACC. Revised letter requesting statistical reporting uniformity was to be sent to ACC Director Virginia Donohue and SF SPCA co-Presidents Dr. Scarlet and Mr. Walthall on 10/25/2016. To date there has been no comment from either organization. Next steps - revise letter and send to Board of Supervisors as well as Cynthia Kopeck (SF/SPCA, Operations) and Vicki Guldbeck (SFACC, Operations). End of year is an opportunity to initiate changes. Also recommend more timely reporting. Current reports take six months. Another suggestion from included including Naomi Kelly, CAO. Make sure to include 2015 Partnership Statistics as well as Table 1 which represents totals of both organizations.

B. Update on GGNRA, General Management Plan, restricting the allowable space for dogs - In February of 2016, GGNRA announced proposed rules that would limit the areas in which dogs are allowed on and off leash. These guidelines are a result of a 15-year process during which GGNRA solicited feedback from park users and officials. The new rules are very restrictive. The Commission sent a letter of opposition to the plan in May 2016. In January 2017, the GGNRA announced they would move forward with the restrictions.

The Commission requested Sally Stephens, President of SF Dog to share what new developments have occurred. SF Dog and other advocacy groups opposed to the new GGNRA rules hired Morrison and Foerster, a local law firm to review document and emails related to GGNRA's proposed plan. Within the exchanges, information has been found showing GGNRA's bias toward dog guardians. As the emails were uncovered, the new GGNRA plan came to a halt pending further investigation.

Commissioners thanked Sally Stephens for her efforts and asked for next steps. Her recommendation is to wait until there is more information.

8. General Public Comment

Member of the public thanked the Commission for this effort.

9. Items to be put on the Calendar for Future Commission Meetings -Follow up on SF/SPCA & ACC partnership statistics letter.

11. Adjournment (approx 7:00 p.m.)