

**SAN FRANCISCO COMMISSION OF
ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE
Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2016**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Annemarie Fortier; Julene Johnson; Russell Tenofsky; Jane Tobin; Davi Lang; Nanci Haines; Shari O'Neill, DVM

Absent: Lisa Wayne; Sergeant Sherry Hicks; Virginia Donohue (SF ACC)

2. General Public Comment

Sally Stephens informed the commission the Board of Supervisors voted to support Assembly bill 1825, sponsored by State Assemblymembers Rich Gordon and Brian Maienschien. The legislation gives dogs that have been seized in connection with criminal dog fighting rings a second chance at life. Under current law, all dogs seized in connection with animal fighting cases are automatically labeled "vicious," and usually euthanized. Seized dogs often include dogs directly involved in training and fighting, breeding dogs, puppies, "bait dogs," and stolen pets. AB 1825 would ensure that professionals individually evaluate these dogs to determine whether they can be rehabilitated and safely re-enter society.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes from the 2016 - January and February Meeting Minutes

Approved

4. Chairperson's report and opening remarks

Apologies for the late start of the meeting as another meeting was using the ACWC space for overflow on another issue.

5. Commissioner's reports

Commissioner Tobin reported on Joint Zoo Commission meeting. Mexican Grey Wolf exhibit opens this summer. Zoo Commission reviewed initial designs for insect exhibit expansion in Mother's Building.

6. New Business

Commissioner Fortier reviewed the letter of support by ACWC for ACC's new shelter. Supervisor's Tang and Wiener have proposed legislation to amend the 10 year capital plan to allow funding for the shelter to come from Certificates of Participation after the project was removed from the June, General Obligation bond.

Commissioners Lang and Johnson, had minor suggestions on language improvements to emphasizing the need for the Board to consider safety and the impact of displaced animals and people. Additional minor editing tips.

Letter with suggested improvements was approved and will be sent by Chairperson Fortier.

Chairperson Fortier provided second half of year report from for 2015. Commissioner Johnson suggested to add public comments to quarterly reports.

Website cleanup - Commissioner Tobin and Johnson agreed to review the ACWC website and determine accuracy and relevancy of the information. This will be an ongoing process.

Letter to oppose GGNRA proposed General Management Plan. The Board of Supervisors has openly opposed the new proposal. The Commission considered since the job of the commission is to advise the Board of Supervisors and the Board of Supervisors has already issued a statement in opposition of the plan, would a letter from the ACWC be necessary. The Commission decided against sending a letter. After Public Comment by Sally Stephens, former Chairperson and SF Dog President, on this issue that decision was reversed. Commissioner Tobin will draft a letter for review at the April meeting. The letter will state The Commission's support the resolution of the Board of Supervisors to oppose proposed General Management plan and state The Commission's opposition to the proposal as well.

Partnership Statistics - Commission has been given shelter statistics data to review for the April meeting. Dr. Scarlett of the SF/SPCA and Virginia Donohue, Director of SF ACC will be there to report. Commissioners discussed the importance of understanding the statistics, consistent reporting metrics and how the data compares with other US open admission shelters.

7. General Public Comment

No public comment.

Items to be put on the Calendar for Future Commission Meetings Commissioner Julene Johnson - will ACC and SPCA and confirm attendance and audio/visual needs for the April meeting

8. Closing Review of Task Allotments and Next Steps

Chairperson Fortier and Commissioner Johnson will send letter to Board regarding ACC new shelter funding. Commissioner Tobin will provide draft of letter of opposition to GGNRA proposed legislation. Commissioners Tobin and Johnson will provide any website updates.

9. Adjournment (approx 6:30 p.m.)