

Commission Members Present: Betsy Culp, Ernest Galos, Rebecca Kaiser, Barbara Leavell Lynne LoSecco

Citizen Members Present:

Council Members Present: None

City Staff Present: Jen Gobel, SBACC; Stephanie Steele, Assistant City Attorney; Randy Wilkerson, Code Enforcement, Dani Campbell, Commission Attorney

Agenda: Meeting called to Order at 6:11 p.m. Ernest Galos indicates minutes from last month's meeting are not yet ready. Jen Gobel reports intake similar compared to last year due to explosion of wildlife. Large increase in adoptions due to special on cats waiving fee. Rescues: difficult to find placement due to hurricane animals. 9 dogs and 40 cats in 2017 v. 40 dogs and 59 cats in 2016. Return to Owner: 23 dog in 2017 v. 21 in 2016, 1 cat in 2017 v. 3 in 2016. Euthanasia: 26 dogs, 27 cats, 38 wildlife in September, 2017 v. 46 dogs, 64 cats, 5 wildlife in September, 2016. At least 30 raccoons this month due to distemper. Word getting out that Shelter offers service of euthanizing pets v. costs of veterinarians. Year to date: Intake higher: 906 dogs in 2017 to 862 in 2016, 784 cats v. 754. 177 wildlife in 2017 v. 91 in 2016. Adoption 203 v. 143 dogs and 107 v. 61 cats. To rescue; 232 in 2017 v. 237 dogs in 2016, 420 cats in 2017 v. 272 in 2016. Euthanasia: 199 dogs and 217 cats in 2017 v. 259 dogs and 371 cats in 2016. Total cats and dogs taken in 2016 was 1616 with 39% euthanasia rate and 1690 in 2017 with euthanasia rate of 25%. Goal is 90% live release rate.

Ernest Galos asked about cat special. Due to necessity. On average 5 or 6 cats adopted a month. Asked if policy change. Ms. Gobel said cats and dogs different with cats not as dangerous to people so special was more appropriate. Ms. LoSecco asked how of adoption fees went into budget. Asked why not waive fee completely. Ms. Gobel indicates Shelter has significant amount of money in a dog. Cats easier and cheaper to house. Shelter is cheapest place to get an animal \$85.00 for a dog. On particular dogs, there has been half price when in shelter a long period. Cats were free but had to meet adoption guidelines. Higher rate of return on dog adoptions v. cats when free. Mr. Galos pointed out that adoption fees not a large part of budget. Ms. Gobel agreed indicating cost of animal exceeds fee. Ms. Kaiser indicated shelter will probably never bring in from fees and fines the cost City spends on shelter.

Ernest Galos asked whether budget has been presented to council. Mr. Wilkerson indicated it had. Mr. Galos pointed out Ordinance Sec. 5-90(c)(11) provides that proposed budget will be presented to Commission prior to submission to Council.

Mr. Galos expressed concern that Commission not able to comment on budget. He also asked about new trucks Mr. Wilkerson indicated he would be getting last year. Mr. Wilkerson indicated new vehicles will be coming

The next meeting date shall be November 2, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Culp moved for adjournment, Ms. Kaiser seconded and the motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.