

Memphis Animal Services Advisory Board

Work Session, May 14 2014

Present: Dr. Stephen Tower, Chairman; Jim Adams, member; Jeanne Chancellor, Secretary; James Rogers, Shelter Administrator

Due to a lack of a quorum the work session was held informally.

Mr. Rogers presented the Shelter statistics which will be posted on the web separately from the minutes.

The issue of the pictures being taken of the stray animals was discussed briefly. Mr. Rogers explained that all the shelter animals are posted on Petharbor.com. The City currently has a link to the site with the pictures which is easier to navigate than logging in individually from the web. The public does have access to the strays that are housed at Memphis Animal Services. Further discussion of this topic will be pursued at the next meeting with all members present .

Mr. Rogers reported that the Pets for Life Grant currently has eight veterinarians signed up to perform the grant surgeries. The vets are signed up to work on Sundays from 8am -1 pm. The Pets for Life program has vaccinated 150 animals for rabies, and there have been 129 animals signed up for spay/neuter surgery. The clients are receiving follow up telephone calls to remind of the surgery date. Surgeries for the Orange Mound area are scheduled up until mid-June. Fewer pets are showing up for their surgery appointments than hoped. Mr. Rogers stated that there would be more follow up calls with the clients to help boost the compliance numbers.

Mr. Rogers stated that he would be attending the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) Expo in Florida soon. He will be attending on a \$1200.00 scholarship provided by the HSUS. Dr. Towers asked that he research the pre-sedation drug options for euthanasia at the Expo as there will be many drug companies represented. Mr. Rogers agreed he would share the information at the next Board meeting.

Dr. Tower asked about the monitoring and record keeping for the euthanasia room. Mr. Rogers reported that the logs are being kept correctly and current. Dr. Tower asked if more frequent unannounced visits needed to be made by the supervisory staff to the room. Mr. Rogers stated that the Euthanasia Room is visited by a supervisor at the start of the shift, the off and on during the day at unannounced times by a veterinarian or someone of the supervisory staff such as Ms. Tunstall. Mr. Rogers feels there is adequate coverage on checking on the Euthanasia Room. Dr. Tower asked the staff make sure the logs in this room and other shelter rooms are kept current and signed as assigned. The signing of these logs is a good way to keep up with monitoring the everyday activity at the Shelter.

Jeanne Chancellor asked about the progress on the behavior assessments for animals being put up for adoption. Mr. Rogers reported that Ms. Anne Marie Eason would be starting training the staff in the next few weeks. This training will make sure the Shelter is offering as sound an animal as possible to

potential adopters. Ms. Chancellor offered she was happy this important part of sheltering was finally being addressed.

Due to time and lack of new business the meeting was closed.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Chancellor, Secretary

animal evaluation would be implemented. This evaluation will be in place by the next Board meeting in March. Jeanne Chancellor expressed concern that the Shelter employees do not have enough time and experience to correctly execute the Safer Testing. Even with training classes there is a substantial amount of paperwork involved with each dog tested, and a dedicated room with cameras is necessary to complete the testing.

Mr. Rogers stated that all the employees are mandated to report behavioral issues they find with the animals housed at Memphis Animal Services.

Mr. Rogers announced that next week the staff would receive additional training on feeding and cleaning protocol through a webinar.

Mr. Rogers reported that there are currently 55 employees at Memphis Animal Services. He has daily meetings with the staff.

Dr. Towers stated that he liked the pictures of the animals that are in the lobby. Jill Madajczyk asked if there might be students at the College of Art that could help with photos of the animals at the shelter. Students might use the Shelter as an internship opportunity.

Jim Adams asked about advertising for the Pets for Life event in Orange Mound. Mr. Rogers reported that there would be information available in the Memphis Flyer.

Doctor Tower asked how the spay/neuter surgeries for the grant would be performed. Mr. Rogers reported that the surgeries would be done at Memphis Animal Services. The Shelter is hosting an event on April 10th to recruit veterinarians to help with the surgeries. The event is being held in conjunction with Merial and Midwest Veterinary Supply.

Mr. Rogers reported that he is working with MidSouth Spay Neuter for help with the spay/neuter surgeries included in the Pets for Life Grant.

Dr. Tower asked about using a voucher system where private veterinarians could be used with reimbursement coming from the grant money. Mr. Rogers stated that was not being considered at this time.

Mr. Rogers stated that veterinarians would be working at Memphis Animal Services on Sundays from 8 am until 2 pm. There would be two veterinarians working at each time slot. Each would perform 10 surgeries. The pay for the veterinarians would be three to four hundred dollars for each session worked. There would be volunteer vet tech who would not be paid. Jeanne Chancellor expressed concern that the vet tech would receive no pay while paying the veterinarians. Dr. Tower expressed the same concern. Mr. Rogers stated that the Veterinarians could pay the technicians out of their pay. There is \$30,000.00 in the Pets for Life Grant allocated to spay/neuter surgeries.

Mr. Rogers announced that on March 17th bus shelter posters would be on the bus stops advertising Memphis Animal Services. There will be 10 throughout the City. Mid April billboards will go up also advertising Memphis Animal Services. One will be on I40 approaching the Shelter and another will be on

the South leg of the interstate approaching Getwell. Jeanne Chancellor asked about funding for this project, and Mr. Rogers announced that Clear Channel is donating this advertisement. Jeanne Chancellor commented that everyone should write and thank Clear Channel for this gift.

Jim Adams made a motion that the meeting be adjourned; the motion was seconded by Jill Madajczyk. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Chancellor, Secretary.