



**Animal Shelter Advisory Committee
Minutes for February 28, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Cummings
Lily Yap
Marsha Patykiewicz
Maston Sillin
Lisa Turner
Ann Macino
Karen Tesmer
Virgina Stinchfield
Madeline Monroe

MEMBERS ABSENT

Diana Rosales
Debbie Barclay
Geneve Dundas

STAFF

Jasmine Beckum, Executive Assistant

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Turner, in the Conference Room at Prairie Paws Adoption Center at 6:33 p.m. with a quorum present.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review December 13, 2018 Minutes

Karen Tesmer moved to approve the minutes, Lisa Turner seconded. **Motion passed.**

B. Shelter Tour

Lily Yap took most of the committee members on a tour of the expanded areas and explained how we plan to utilize the space once released from construction.

C. Shelter Expansion

Jim explained that we are nearing the end of construction and that the construction staff are currently working on the last items on the punch list.

D. Dogs Playing for Life

Lily Yap discussed Dogs Playing for Life, a national organization that has streamlined the use of “playgroups” in animal shelters as a tool to promote increased life-saving capacity. In early February, the organization sent out two representatives to train staff to safely orchestrate playgroups in order to increase animal enrichment, assessment, and adoptability. Additionally, local DFW shelters were invited to learn and follow up for support in the future. Prairie Paws staff is working now to incorporate playgroups into the regular routine.

E. Quarterly Report

Lily Yap discussed the quarterly report, including statistics and upcoming events. Because work with the Grand Prairie community will be a crucial element of Prairie Paws’ initiatives moving forward, the report was reformatted to include these items. Committee member Maston Sillin, inquired why the number of cat adoptions in December was noticeable higher than the previous month in January. Jim Cummings and Lily Yap explained that there could be a combination of factors affecting this, including the use of successful specials and cat population trends.

F. Upcoming Events

Lily Yap discussed the Waggin Wagon and shelter events for the upcoming months. The Wagon is scheduled to be at the North Texas Irish Festival in the first week of March. In April, Waggin’ Wagon will also be attending the main street fair. It was advised to have someone walking the bigger dogs around the festival for more visibility and a chance for adoption.

E. Public Comments

Jean Melton inquired about the plan for the shelter hours after the “grand re-opening”. Lily Yap verified that Prairie Paws is still working towards opening Monday through Saturday; shelter will remain closed on Sundays. This has been facilitated with the hire of front desk staff member Kristen Clancy.

Jean Melton also mentioned that the shelter hasn’t worked with Spay and Neuter Network and hasn’t really offered any outreach to the citizens for low income citizens of Grand Prairie. Lily explained that SNN still uses Prairie Paws as a meet-up for community spay/neuter services, but does not currently have plans to collaborate directly with the shelter. Lily also explained that she is in the process of working with the SPCA of Texas on pilot project, providing low cost services and information to the Grand Prairie community.

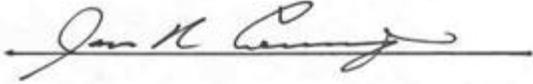
Lisa Turner requested for follow up information during the next quarterly meeting about the Pilot program with the SPCA of Texas.

Jean Melton would like the shelter to do more collaboration with SNN and T-CAP to offer more services to the low-income community.

III. ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further business to discuss, Jim Cummings made a motion to adjourn, Lisa Turner seconded, all members in favor, meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the lobby at Prairie Paws Adoption Center.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Cummings", written over a horizontal line.

James R. Cummings,
Environmental Services Director