

San Jose Animal Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes—May 1, 2008

Attendees: Loree Levy Schwartz
Janet Alexander Thompson
Trish Watson
Ann Wondolowski
Absent: Marthina McClay
Staff: Jon Cicirelli
Julie St. Gregory
Ann Joly
Guest: Janice Frazier (PAWS)
Public: Liz Odom
Mark Abinonte

1. Public Comments: Two members of the public attended, asking the Committee to listen to their concerns with a citation that they had received from Animal Control. Liz Odom was cited for having too many cats, and she wanted to ask the Committee for ideas on ways that she can address the citation. Various options were explored, including working with the PAWS spay/neuter program, as well as working with various cat rescue groups.
2. Approval of minutes: minutes for March meeting approved, minutes for October meeting still pending (Janet to distribute, will be approved at next meeting)
3. Discussion of Microchipping: several questions and concerns were discussed, to get clarification from Ann Joly on how the SJ Animal Care Center reads the microchips, and about whether some older microchips are not readable. The conclusion was that all microchips are readable, the shelter personnel typically will read several times (typically 2-3) before they give up on an animal not having a microchip. The challenge is that most microchips will migrate around the animal, and occasionally just will not read when scanned. The other challenge is to get the animal owners to keep the information updated with the microchip database. Finally, it was clarified that the microchip companies that are offering subscription services to pet owners still keep the basic owner information in their database even if the owner does not subscribe to the additional services..
4. PAWS Report: Janice Frazier gave an update on PAWS programs:
 - The “Mommy Spay” program is focused on getting cats who have had litters spayed. There is \$4000 of funding for the program, and approximately 20 cats so far have been spayed. PAWS would like to increase the awareness of the program to make more impact
 - May 10 will be a Vaccine Clinic event
 - PAWS is also focusing on Microchipping programs
 - May 17 will be the Macy's Community Support Event, at the Valley Fair Macy's store. This is a significant fundraising event for PAWS

- The Medical Fund has \$10,000 for rescue groups to use, as they take animals from the SJ Animal Care Center who need additional medical work done. Ideas were discussed for how to get more awareness of this program as well
5. Shelter Director's Report
- Limited discussion, as Jon did not have any significant topics to discuss.
6. Future Agenda Structure: The committee agreed to make the following changes to the meeting agendas going forward:
- Put the Public Comments topic first
 - Have a PAWS update every meeting
 - Discuss the Strategic Planning/Goals at the next meeting
 - Discuss the Committee membership at the next meeting (confirm all current members, discuss how to recruit additional members)
7. Old Business:
- Strategic planning and goals will be discussed at the next meeting.

Mission statement: To develop a humane community for the benefit of animals and people through service and education.

Next meeting to be held on Thursday, June 19, at 5pm.