



Manatee County Animal Services Advisory Board

September 29, 2020

A meeting of the Manatee County Animal Services Advisory Board was held via Zoom.

Roll Call

Hans Wohlgefahr, Outreach and Events Specialist

Board members:

Lisa Barnott

Jana Martin

Laurie Wasoski

Alicia Dougherty

Dr. Lindsay Rollend

Katie Howard

Faith Peterson

Welcome

Meeting called to order by Chair, Lisa Barnott

Approval of Minutes

January 2020 Minutes, Approved

Topic*

* Shelter updates from Hans:

- August Stats
 - Intake 247
 - Adoptions 109
 - Transfers 74
 - 96% Save Rate
- Adoptions slightly lower but kennel census is much lower. 2018 & 2019 dramatic decrease in strays coming into the shelter.
- Although further data harvesting would be needed, we could deduce the decrease contributed by large community effort into spay/neuter, education and the pet retention.
- Continue to serve our community with a new set of operations
 - Increased customer service efforts
 - Serving customers by appointment only – new online application; links located on several parts of the menu; allowing time to prepare in advance for their

appointment; reduced the kennel stress with dogs; no risk of customers getting bit by sticking fingers in cages; allows for better staffing allocations and better customer service environment.

- Working on advanced customer service training
- Volunteers sign up prior to shift, based on needs of the facility
- Officers taking vehicles home at night reduced the call time for first call and complete a fuller day
- Continue to work towards a paperless environment
- Upgrades at the facility Include:
 - Electrical upgrade
 - Industrial exhaust fans providing
 - Portable AC Units
 - Utilize industrial fans
 - Sunshades on the dog walk path
 - White cooling paths
 - Installed industrial fans in the guest waiting area and play yards
- Adopt a Shelter Dog Month – featuring dogs and running an adoption promotion
- November is Adopt A Senior Pet Month
- December Foster Express – Waiving fees in lieu of a donation to Friends of Manatee County Animal Services
- Finding Rover – facial recognition software

Topic*

Current Business

- Commissioner Whitmore – Spent over \$400,000 on the upgrades at the facility

Topic*

New Business

- Introduction of New Board Members
- Alicia – a MCAS volunteer for 5-6 Years started as a dog washer and now a dog walker. Fosters a lot of dogs and helps to contribute; Officer manager for an Ophthalmology Group for 30 years
- Faith – Moved to FL in 2003, had a love of animals since she was a baby, had a house of 5 dogs. When living North, used to take litters of kittens from the shelter until adoptable; a business owner; owns substance abuse facilities up North, has a rescue GSD and a mixed dog. Happy to be involved and offer services in any way you can. Faith appointed Secretary
- Wait for project determination for the next meeting when Chief Brown can attend

Next Meeting

Friday, November 13, 2020

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:51 pm