

Commission on Animal Care & Control
Minutes of January 21, 2021 Commission Meeting
Approved at the March 18, 2021 meeting

Commissioners Attending (6 of 9)

Cynthia Bathurst, Chair, private citizen
Janna Kerins, Chicago Health Department Member
Charleen Propsom, private citizen
Heather Owen, private citizen
JB Bruederle, Veterinarian Member
Ramona Griffin, private citizen

Commissioners Absent (2 of 9)

Paula Fasseas, Humane Society Member
Josie Cruz, Chicago Department of Streets & Sanitation Member

Commissioners Vacant (1 of 9)

Chicago Police Department (Vacant)

Also Attending

Mamadou Diakhate, Interim Executive Director, CACC
Susan Cappello, Human Resources Business Partner, CACC
Arthur Hamilton, Shelter Manager, CACC
Jennifer Schlueter, Executive Administrative Assistant, CACC
Members of the public – via livestream

Agenda Item #1: Determination of Quorum and Call to Order

C. Bathurst performed roll call, determined a quorum and called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Agenda Item #2: Public Comment

Susan Taney, Director, Lost Dogs Illinois – member of the public – sent an email comment.
‘I wanted to thank CACC for working with our Microchip Help group. Our group and CACC were featured on WBBM last week. Here is the link: https://www.radio.com/wbbm780/news/local/microchip-hunters-reunited-143-lost-pets-with-owners-in-2020?fbclid=IwAR1G-3mjyKWLik_RXCwRGmv6xcV511OK3OWLxCnGs_MLUyEQ9m2hVpBrxg
The new mantra is keeping pets in their home. We are proud that we are a small part in increasing CACC's return to home rate. Thank you.’

Everyone was reminded to send Public Comments to askcacc@cityofchicago.org in advance of the meeting.

Agenda Item #3: Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes from the November 19, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved by all in attendance.

Agenda Item #4: Report of Chairperson

C. Bathurst reported on the Commission roll and what the purpose of the Commission is.

Agenda Item #5: Report of Executive Director

Interim Executive Director M. Diakhate thanked all the partners for their continued support. Reported on population, diversion, volunteer program, resources, food bank, looking to partner with others to create a strong

vaccine program. In 2020, 37,092 service requests and closed 36,956 of those calls in the field. 2021 calls are continuing to come in with 1404 service requests and closed 1359. C. Bathurst asked if 311 has changed their call intake. M. Diakhate reported that 311 has a new system called Salesforce and they are trying to encourage residents to enter their own requests via the CHI311 App. S. Cappello reported on current vacancies. A. Hamilton reported on statistics and comparison from 2019-2020. Live outcomes are at 93%. J. Schlueter reported on the Save the Humans campaign with University of Chicago.

C. Bathurst reported that Intake in 2019 over 17,000 impounded and only 11,000 in 2020 and encouraged everyone to view the statistics online.

Agenda Item #6: City Agency Reports

- (Streets & Sanitation) No report.
- J. Kerins (Health) reported that the health department is focusing on COVID-19. Numbers going down overall in Chicago. CDPH is looking at the new variant strains of the COVID. Chicago is moving into Tier 2 and possibly Tier 1. C. Bathurst commented on Vaccinations that Animal Care Workers are listed as Essential Workers in Agriculture. J. Kerins right now that Vets and Vet Staff are in phase 1b to start on Monday, January 25th. Will look into how Animal Welfare staff are included in the vaccine program. C. Bathurst asked about new strain and animals. J. Kerins stated that there are no indications of positive domestic animals. M. Diakhate reported that CACC tested 17 animals who were in contact with COVID positive cases in 2020. C. Bathurst reported that CDC put together guidelines on animals and people.
- (Police) no report.

Agenda Item #7: Commissioner Reports

- JB. Bruederle – nothing new. Business is continuing to stay busy.
- C. Propsom - Reported on the After Hours Care Program. Instituted on June 12, 2020 and was in place to cover the time gap for when CACC Medical staff leaves the facility and ACO's bring in more animals. FCACC / MedVet / CACC created a Memorandum of Understanding to care for the animals. Power Point presentation attached. M. Diakhate thanked FCACC for this program and would like to jump on board with educating people on caring for animals. Additionally, FCACC reported that they rented 2 food lockers and Pets For Life volunteers are delivering food door to door and are continuing to provide free food to those in need.
- R. Griffin – Took part in the recent pet food pantry at CACC and we have a lot of work to do to help the residents in Chicago. CACC should report on the numbers of services provided. Would like to work on future pet food pantries. New Volunteer program – recommends that we get current volunteers involved with revamping the program in a positive way. Question for CRISP – first point of contact trained and has a consistent message. H. Owens CRISP is already the first point of contact in the facility and everyone involved was trained. Will provide document to R. Griffin. Demographics are available. R. Griffin will be attending many conferences and will send information on them to CACC.
- H. Owen – reported on the CRISP program. Been continuing to help out Chicago Residents either from referral from CACC or other ways. Helped 197 residents with pets, majority with medical care (serious care, hit by car, etc). Will survey clients in 2021 to determine who came from CACC or otherwise. Since CACC switched to scheduled intake we agreed to have clients contact CRISP first that did not happen. CRISP also helped with owner surrenders but since those numbers are down no need to help. C. Bathurst asked how does this compare with 2019. H. Owens did not look at that number at that time will do so and report on this next time. M. Diakhate thanked Heather and the CRISP program for all their help.
- C. Bathurst – Reported on Safe Humane Chicago programs. Will list out the major programs and brief description on each in the annual report. Safe Humane is still unable to provide any programming at CACC due to COVID. Many SH Volunteers are still at CACC performing volunteer duties such as dog walking and exercising. Court Case dogs get free behavioral support for the lifetime of the dog and

worked with over 50 dogs in 2020 on virtual training. SH working on doing more programs in the community.

Agenda Item #8: Other Business

None

Agenda Item #9: New Business

Need to complete a Commission Report. C. Bathurst will start the report and will assign the tasks to other Commissioners. C. Propsom = Friends programs; R. Griffin = Volunteers; J. Kerins = health issues from 2020; J. Bruederle = COVID related to animals, ways Vets can help; H. Owens = CRISP programs; P. Fasseas = humane society concerns; All = other concerns like pet food pantries.

Agenda Item #10: Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m. The next virtual meeting is March 18, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.