

Commission on Animal Care & Control
Minutes of May 19, 2022 Commission Meeting
Approved at the July 21, 2022 meeting

Commissioners Attending (6 of 9)

Cynthia Bathurst, Chair, private citizen
Josie Cruz, Chicago Department of Streets & Sanitation Member
Heather Owen, private citizen
JB Bruederle, Veterinarian Member
Janna Kerins, Chicago Health Department Member
Charleen Propsom, private citizen

Commissioners Absent (3 of 9)

Paula Fasseas, Humane Society Member
Thomas Beazley, Lieutenant, Chicago Police Department Member
Ramona Griffin, private citizen

Also Attending

Mamadou Diakhate, Executive Director, CACC
Susan Cappello, Deputy Director, 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 8:31 a.m.

Agenda Item #2: Public Comment

Public Comment requests are to be emailed to askcacc@cityofchicago.org in advance of the meeting. Reviewed an email sent to askcacc and CACC will respond to the emailer Joann Joyce.

Agenda Item #3: Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes from the March 17, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved by all in attendance.

Agenda Item #4: Report of Chairperson

The 2020 & 2021 Annual Report will be sent out to all Commissioners for review. CACC, CPD and Safe Humane are working together to update flow charts & procedures on Animal Cruelty Cases to train CPD and the States Attorney Office. There is also a group of Court Advocates through Safe Humane who attend all court cases on animal cruelty. After last Commission meeting C Bathurst reached out to all the members to see when they will be available to go to the Shelter to see the facility.

Agenda Item #5: Report of Executive Director

ED Diakhate commented on how important the flow chart for Animal Cruelty Cases are. Challenging for all shelters across the nation, and in final phase to open up to walk in adoptions on June 1st for open adoption. Open adoption means that all animals are available to view for adoption and you can put a hold on an animal under stray hold but can not officials adopt the pet until after the stray hold is up. Walk in adoptions will allow animals to move out more quickly. While animals are housed at CACC, we provide enrichment like agility and nose-work and doggie day out. M. Diakhate reported on the field service numbers. S. Cappello reported on the hiring/vacancies and construction. A. Hamilton reported on shelter statistics (all monthly stats are available

online at www.chicago.gov). M. Diakhate is asking for more people to get involved and help get the animals out and thanked the volunteers for helping with spot cleaning the kennels while they are at the shelter. J. Kerins asked if we have the ability to map where stray and chipped animals come from and if CACC targets clinics in those areas? A. Hamilton responded that CACC does track this and provides clinics in these areas. M. Diakhate reported that CACC will be working in Roseland and Austin to provide services and CACC is working with the University of Wisconsin to gather statistics to help these areas. C. Bathurst asked to see some mapping in terms of Stray/Owner Surrender and chipped pets. H. Owen asked about RTO practices and what changes are on the horizon to get RTO back up. C. Bathurst reported that both A. Rayburn and R. Griffin attended the HSUS Conference and participated in RTO seminars. M. Diakhate reported that field staff returns pets in the field per the municipal code. J. Schlueter reported on the volunteer program, community events and spotlight on the dogs of the meeting. Volunteer process – New Volunteer Virtual Orientation, submit application & form for debt check and fingerprint check, schedule fingerprint session, go for fingerprints, while waiting for fingerprint clearance candidate will participate in a short interview process, clearance is received, and candidate can now schedule Handling training then one on one mentoring sessions. Working on campaigns with the Chicagoland Coalition for marketing and working with a marketing company on a short video. CACC is partnering with Cook County Animal & Rabies Control and One Tail at a Time and CRISP and we could not do these community clinics without them. J. Schlueter highlighted Byron (longest term) and Vermouth (heartworm positive).

Agenda Item #6: City Agency Reports

- J. Cruz (Streets & Sanitation) – will post the two spotlighted dogs at their time clock. S&S reported on multiple calls related to if they pick up animal with chip where is it recorded? Nothing in 311 on that at this time. If an animal is picked up with a chip, these animals are sorted separately when dropped off at CACC.
- J. Kerins (Health) – Avian influenza in Illinois and Fox testing for the Avian flu, rabies and distemper. M. Diakhate reported that field staff has been instructed to follow proper protocol if they interact with a fox.
- T. Beazley (Police) – No report.

Agenda Item #7: Commissioner Reports

- JB. Bruederle – Hiring is difficult with Veterinary Medical Staff.
- C. Propsom – No report.
- R. Griffin – No report.
- H. Owen – Reported on trends of CRISP is increasing on referrals to people who need help with their pets. Referrals from outside CACC and internally. Hope to meet with CACC soon to discuss CRISP.
- C. Bathurst – Reported on Safe Humane Chicago programs like IYC and Corporate and HS groups for In Kennel Enrichment and other things. Reported that the very first court case dogs (started in 2010 at CACC) has passed away at 14 years old (Bruno).
- P. Fasseas – No report.

Agenda Item #8: Other Business

None.

Agenda Item #9: New Business

None. Sherri Grassmuck asked when are you lifting the vaccine mandate for volunteers. S. Cappello responded that this is a City Wide Department mandate.

Agenda Item #10: Adjournment

Meetings will continue to be virtual. Meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m. The next virtual meeting is July 21, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.