

Commission on Animal Care & Control
Approved Minutes of March 20, 2025 Commission Meeting

Commissioners Attending (7 of 9)

Dr. Janna Kerins, Chair, Chicago Health Department Member
Joan Colletta, private citizen
Sandra Alfred, private citizen
Richard Rice, Sergeant, Chicago Police Department Member
Dr. Megan Carolan, Veterinarian
Tonette Dugar, Department of Streets & Sanitation - Virtual
Ramona Griffin, private citizen - Virtual

Commissioners Absent (1 of 9)

Paula Fasseas, Humane Society Member

Commissioners Vacant (1 of 9)

VACANT – Private citizen

Also Attending

Susan Cappello, Acting Executive Director, CACC
Angela Rayburn, Operations Manager, CACC
Armando Tejada, Executive Administrative Assistant, CACC
Arthur Hamilton, Shelter Manager, CACC
Members of the public – via livestream & in person

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

J. Kerins performed roll call, determined a quorum, and called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Agenda Item #2: Public Comment

Procedure is to email askcacc@cityofchicago.org to request to make a comment.

Claudia Langman commented on volunteer issues (observed and experienced). Concern over budget cuts and staff jobs, onboarding is chaotic and slow, no name tags, adoption questionnaire is lacking, adoption pending forms are chaotic, adopters are provided wrong information, dogs are not walked everyday, important to emphasize spay/neuter for animals and consider allowing volunteers to come in as early as 10a to start walking.

Agenda Item #3: Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes from November 21, 2024 meeting, were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #4: Report of Chairperson

No report.

Agenda Item #5: Report of Executive Director

S. Cappello reviewed report (attached).

S. Alfred asked if South Suburban Humane Society (SSHS) was invited to be involved with the Rescue Together Event as SSHS is performing spay/neuter for Cook County Residents. Also Evanston Animal Care and Control can be a potential partner. S. Alfred also asked if animal illness information will be distributed at your pet vaccine clinics. S. Alfred also asked about fee waived adoption events to highlight that long term dogs are also fee waived. S. Alfred also asked about goodie bags given to adopters during events and advertising these extras when

you adopt. J. Colletta commented that a focus document should be created to highlight activities. A. Tejada responded on our partnership with Austin Career Academy High School. R. Griffen asked if CACC keeps numbers on what CACC is giving for diversion. S. Cappello will see if CACC can report on what was provided to families for diversion. S. Alfred asked about the field hours for CACC over the summer. A. Rayburn responded regarding the hours. A. Hamilton sends a special thanks to PAWS Chicago for their help with the Rescue Ready program, sending volunteers to our adoption events to help and having a staff at CACC to help with daily adoptions. A. Tejada added to thank Safe Humane Chicago for help by hosting In Kennel Enrichment (IKE) with the new volunteers (those who are in the process of getting fingerprints cleared) to keep them engaged.

Agenda Item #6: City Agency Reports

- J. Kerins (Dept of Public Health) – reported that the State of Illinois released a report on Rabies Surveillance (bulk is found in bats) and reported on the Avian Influenza. S. Alfred asked if feral cat colony caretakers are aware of the Avian Influenza being transmitted to cats.
- T. Duggar (Streets & Sanitation) – Introduced the Deputy Commissioner over Rodent Control Gloria Pittman. Still running 3-4 trucks Monday through Friday.
- R. Rice (Police) – reported on the PATH Program (Pets Assisting Those Healing) to kick off the week of April 6th. The program connects Chicago residents with an adoptable pet from CACC. The Chicago Police Department is creating an Animal Crimes Team again. CACC is working with CPD on training for Detectives for animal cruelty cases. PAWS Chicago hosted a donation drive for pet supplies to be distributed to CPD Stations for animals temporarily housed at the districts.

Agenda Item #7: Commissioner Reports

- P. Fasseas – No report.
- R. Griffin – asked if CACC has any process for Pet rehoming by the owners. S. Cappello responded that CACC does not currently have a rehoming process. Thanked the volunteers for being at the adoption events, invite the Commissioners to attend an adoption event to see how things are done. Thanked the volunteers who help with pavilion out so kennels are deep cleaned and the volunteers who do the agility. Thanked the smaller rescues who take the hard cases and staff who do the work. Is currently working on two initiatives, one over the summer for a big adoption event.
- Dr. M. Carolan – Pet Vaccine Clinic season has kicked off to include Vets and Pets Clinics with free rabies, distemper and microchips. Additionally, Cook County Animal and Rabies Control is hosting an Animal Control Basics training session in conjunction with CACC and the Illinois Animal Control Association in April 2025.
- S. Alfred – no report.
- J. Colletta – assessment will be marked as a draft and sent to the Commissioners for review.

Agenda Item #8: Other Business

- None

Agenda Item #9: New Business

- None

Agenda Item #10: Adjournment

Dr. Kerins reported that the next meeting is May 15, 2025. The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 a.m.