



CLALLAM COUNTY ANIMAL SOLUTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES of December 3, 2024

MEETING OF THE ANIMAL SOLUTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ASAC)

Sheriff's Office representative Elizabeth Waknitz called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m., December 3, 2024 in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Present were:

Mike Hill	Lisa Hopper	Linda Allen	Jason Viada
Ed Bauck	Mark Ozias	Barbara Brabant	Mel Marshall
Suzanne Hadley	Martha Ireland	Meagan Karnes	Shayna Robnett

Absent were:

John Southard	Dave Campbell	Amy Bundy	Brian Smith
Randy Johnson	Kimberlie Kitts	Tracey Kellas	Danielle Hursh
Susan Sanders	Danette Grady		

MEETING AGENDA

No revisions were sought.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 11/5/24 meeting were unanimously approved following the requested correction to "501(c)(3)".

BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Update on shelter services

- 1) Elizabeth notified the group that while Kim Kitts and Danette Grady were unable to be present for the meeting, they had emailed updates to share on behalf of PFOA. They had many adoption appointments scheduled, and are optimistic that their low cost spay/neuter clinics through Sequim Animal Hospital will resume in mid-January.
- 2) WAG – At capacity. They declined 49 requests to rehome pets from owners in November, and worked with citizens to hold onto 13 strays that were found, since WAG could not take them.
- 3) OPHS – All components are ordered for the planned upgrades to the Barkhouse dog kennels. They currently have 9 employees. Meagan, from RISE, has been training the OPHS employees. They are currently on target to open dog kennels in mid to late January. They have received new Board member applications that are currently being reviewed.
 - a. Have they received a cost estimate for their plumbing work yet? - Martha believes Paul is working to gather multiple plumber quotes before choosing one.
 - b. Will they be a "humane society" vs a selective intake shelter? – Still a Board discussion point, difficult to decide when many Board members are still pending. They have definitely learned their lesson about accepting more animals than they can safely hold, and will not exceed capacity again. They acknowledge that holding animals that won't be adopted is not a kindness, and will revisit their dedication to being a "no kill" shelter. Potentially LE agencies could make the decision to euthanize animals held for them.
 - c. Will they hire a vet on staff? – They're looking into advertising for a "1099" vet, which is a contracted per diem vet, rather than on staff.

b. Mission Statement creation.

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"Enhancing animal welfare with a multi-faceted approach to animal husbandry needs, responsible ownership, and public safety." This statement was reviewed and approved. One vote dissented.

- c. Public message creation.
Shayna volunteered to work on an informational poster each agency could post on Facebook or at physical locations.
- d. Update on event planning/organization.
 - 1) WAG will sponsor a spay/neuter clinic on 1/25/25.
 - 2) RISE will have a new vet in January that could potentially help with clinics
 - 3) Rather than having a specific fiscal agent, each clinic could be sponsored by a rotating non-profit that collects donations towards costs.
 - 4) Could grants be applied for to help defray costs? Lisa will ask at City of Sequim, and Shayna will ask a personal friend with grant experience who is currently retired and may have free time.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Updates from agencies on sheltering capacity, current and future
- Organization of events such as spay/neuter or microchip clinics
- Review of potential marketing material/public information
- Revitalization of Pet Posse as a valued community resource?

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Public participation was encouraged throughout the discussion.

NEXT MEETING – January 7, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting concluded at 3:30 p.m.