ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL HEARING

Commission Vice-President Riordan called the Administrative Appeal Hearing to order at 10:20 A.M. Present were Commissioners Riordan, Brown, Ponce, and Quincey.

1. Appeal of the General Manager’s Decision in Barking Dog Case – BD 07515 SL
   Appellant: Kevin Hackie
   Complaining Witness: Todd Berrien
   District Manager, South Los Angeles Shelter, Jorge Figueroa, Captain
   Hearing Coordinator, Department of Animal Services, Ross Pool, Management Analyst II

   **Commission Decision:**

   Commissioner Quincey motioned to uphold the Terms and Condition of the General Manager. Commissioner Brown seconded the Motion. The vote to uphold the terms and conditions was split evenly 2-2. A motion by Commissioner Quincey recommended that a unanimous vote was not arrived at during the next-meeting; the recommendation of the General Manager would prevail. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed 4-0

2. Appeal of the General Manager’s Decision in Barking Dog License Revocation Case – BR 07340 NC
   Appellant: Margarita and John Trebaol
   Complaining Witness: La Rom Barker
   District Manager, North Central Animal Center, Keith Kramer, Captain
   Hearing Coordinator, Department of Animal Services, Ross Pool, Management Analyst II

   **Commission Decision:**

   Commissioner Quincey motioned to uphold the recommendation of the General Manager to revoke the dog license of Ms. Trebaol. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion which was approved 3-1.
3. Appeal of the General Manager’s Decision in Barking Dog Case – BR 07369 WV
   Appellant: Marcell and Samy Yosef
   Complaining Witness: Walter Sweeney
   District Manager, West Los Angeles Animal Center, Jesse Castillo
   Hearing Coordinator, Department of Animal Services, Ross Pool, Management Analyst II

   **Commission Decision:**

   Commissioner Brown motioned to overturn the recommendation of the General Manager to revoke the license, and to instead, reissue the license along with terms and conditions. In addition Mr. Yosef will be required to pay a $250 fine for the reinstatement of the dog’s license.

   A short recess was called at 11:15 P.M.

   **COMMISSION MEETING**

   Commission Vice-President Riordan reconvened the Commission Meeting to order at 11:25 A.M. Present were Commissioners Riordan, Brown, Ponce and Quincey.

   1. **ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER – EDWARD BOKS**

   The General Manager reported on the No kill Equation. Many in the community are asking why we are not implementing those recommendations. This report demonstrates what we have been doing. In addition, the 2007 Statistical Report for the Department. This report compares our progress in previous years. Both reports are in your binders. The General Manager requested the Commission to review both items so they could be placed in the minutes as reviewed.

   2. **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

   A. Approval of the Commission Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2007.

   Commissioner Ponce motioned to approve the minutes of December 17, 2007. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Quincey and passed on a vote of 4-0.

   B. Oral Report by the Commission on Meetings and Events Attended

   Commissioner Ponce attended the funeral of Department employee Christina Winzer and met with Councilman Huizar’s field deputy to discuss the “Be Kind to Animals Week – Humane Education For the Youth” event to be held at the North Central Shelter. Commissioner Riordan attended the funeral for Department employee Christina Winzer.

   3. **GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION**

   A. Proposal to Amend the Los Angeles Municipal Code to Require Dogs and Cats to be Sterilized

   Please join us at our website:  www.LAAnimalservices.com
The General Manager reported on the efforts to develop a comprehensive Municipal Code to enact spay and neuter requirements. The Department has been working closely with Councilman Alarcon’s Office and the Mayor’s Office. Commissioner Ponce recommended all community service be at the shelter. Mr. Boks indicated that there are some people the Department may not want working at the shelter. She also recommended that the committee be facilitated by the City’s Human Relations Department, as a neutral party. Commissioner Riordan asked if the mandatory microchipping and spay/neutering is a Department recommendation to the ordinance. The Assistant General Manager indicated they were there as a recap to what the Commission approved last summer. Commissioner Riordan recommended that the word “mandatory” be removed. She also commented that if a dog owner purchased a breeders permit, they would be exempt from the ordinance. The City Attorney indicated that this is a loophole but statistically few people would take advantage of it. In addition, Commissioner Riordan had a reservation of Section F, dealing with a valid breeding permit. The City Attorney asked the concurrence of the Board to support the ordinance and recommend it to the City Council so it can be adopted. He also indicated the motion is before the Council’s Public Safety Committee this morning and before the entire Council this Friday (February 1st).

A representative of the Mayor’s Office, Mr. Jim Bickhart, as a person who has been involved in the process of bringing this item before the Board, provided a short history of the ordinance, to date. The document before the Board is much more concrete than when it was discussed during the summertime. The short timeframe is as a courtesy for Councilman Alarcon who recommended the ordinance. Mr. Bickhart discussed Commissioner Riordan’s question regarding Section F.

Public Comments

Teri Auston: Supports the ordinance. A big part of any ordinance is enforcement. This in not based on AB 1634.

Judy Mancuso: On a city ordinance you can be more specific. In a local level, you can put in microchipping that would never pass at the state level.

Haze Lyn: Supports this effort. The tougher the better. This is a good stepping stone

Phyllis Daugherty: Supports what Mr. Bickhart said. Hope deterrent and fees will help reduce breeding.

Commissioner Ponce motioned that the recommended ordinance be approved with the following addition that The Board also require a one-year review of the ordinance and the potential involvement of the Human Relation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Quincey and passed on a vote of 4-0.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Teri Auston: Saw a man with puppies for sale on top of his van and saw a dog left out in the rain. Called the local shelter and was happy with the response. She supports the Departments response to the issues. Believes the carrot and stick works to bring dog owners around.

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Phyllis Daugherty: Thanked the Board for a vote on the ordinance as it closed another loophole. Believes Department officers are not aware of new ordinance 53.70. Believes they are using old ordinance. Furthermore commented on the officers not writing citations.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Requests from Commissioners For Future Agenda Items:

- Commissioner Ponce would like to consider another meeting day.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be on Monday February 11, 2008 at 6:00 P.M., WEST VALLEY ANIMAL CARE CENTER 20655 Plummer Street, Chatsworth, California 91311

Commissioner Ponce motioned to adjourn was seconded by Commissioner Quincey and approved 4-0.