

***City of Los Angeles Spay/Neuter Advisory Committee***

**Internal L.A. Animal Services Subcommittee**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
7:00 p.m.**

Scott Sorrentino (Chair), Bobby Dorafshar, Laura Beth Heisen, Judie Mancuso  
Christine Peters, Theresa Sardisco

Chair Scott Sorrentino called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Present were Chair Scott Sorrentino with members Bobby Dorafshar, Laura Beth Heisen and Judie Mancuso. Christine Peters arrived at 7:11 pm and departed at 7:33 pm. Theresa Sardisco was absent.

Laura Beth Heisen gave an overview of California's open meeting law requirements pursuant to the Brown Act.

Christine Peters arrived and introduced herself.

Scott Sorrentino led a discussion of the Internal LA Animal Services ("LAAS") Sub-Committee's purpose.

Laura Beth Heisen noted that some purposes for the Sub-Committee, in addition to those purposes identified on the meeting Agenda, can be found in the city's spay/neuter ordinance at paragraph 8.H., and specifically noted number 2 of paragraph 8.H., pertaining to the full Committee's responsibilities.

Laura Beth Heisen recommended that the Sub-Committee attempt to complete its work early on gathering basic statistical data, because this information could be useful to the other Sub-Committees as they perform their work.

The Sub-Committee members present agreed that the following generally sets forth the Sub-Committee's purposes, although modifications may be made as work progresses:

- Establish a statistical baseline
- Review LAAS statistics-gathering procedures
- Review/advise with respect to current LAAS spay/neuter programs and services
- Advise/consult regarding new and/or improved programs and services
- Other suggestions from sub-committee members

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Laura Beth Heisen suggested general topics for the Sub-Committee as basic statistics, LAAS systems, LAAS programs (veterinary and non-veterinary), enforcement and ordinances.

Judie Mancuso pointed out the importance of determining the reliability of LAAS data and statistical methods.

Scott Sorrentino pointed out the importance of establishing a statistical baseline.

Christine Peters departed.

Judie Mancuso offered to lead the Sub-Committee's work on establishing the reliability of LAAS statistics. Bobby Dorafshar noted his flexibility and willingness to assist with any Sub-Committee work needed.

The Sub-Committee members present agreed to the following general breakdown of the Sub-Committee's work and persons who would work on the sections:

Subject	Lead	Assist
LAAS statistics and systems, also including enforcement	Judie Mancuso	Bobby Dorafshar (emphasizing enforcement)
Current LAAS programs and services, also including ordinances and funding	Scott Sorrentino	Laura Beth Heisen and Bobby Dorafshar
Recommendations for spay/neuter improvements	To be determined	To be determined

It was agreed that all Sub-Committee members will also assist with other sections of the Sub-Committee's work.

It was agreed that some Sub-Committee members will meet with LAAS to determine current methods, systems, record-keeping and policies helpful to the Sub-Committee's work. The LAAS meeting is expected to be with LAAS representatives from administration, the field and the shelters, and is expected to include both managers and non-managers.

Judie Mancuso will secure available meeting dates and times from LAAS.

It was agreed that the Sub-Committee members present will prepare lists of questions for the meeting with LAAS by one week from this meeting date. The lists will be discussed at the next meeting.

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Resources discussed as being needed from LAAS are: access to statistics, systems, records and LAAS personnel including administration, the field and the shelters, and both managers and non-managers.

Judie Mancuso noted an approximately 30-page LAAS internal document regarding spay/neuter ordinance enforcement. The group agreed to secure a copy of this document. Judie stated that she would attempt to secure a copy of the document.

The next meeting will be on November 3, 2008 at 7:00 pm. It will be a telephone meeting using the same telephone number and access code as were used for this meeting, i.e., call-in number: 1-605-475-6230 and access code: 6406167.

Future agenda items were discussed.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.