Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 1/1/13 to 12/31/13.

Austin Animal Advisory Commission

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) **is:** *The purpose of the board is to advise the City Council and Travis County Commissioners' Court on compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 823 (Animal Shelters); advise the City Council on animal welfare policies and on budget priorities identified by the Commission and the community, except on issues related to the administration of the Animal Services Division; promote collaboration between the City and private citizens, institutions, and agencies interested in or conducting activities relating to animal welfare in the city; identify proactive, creative approaches to engage and facilitate communication within the animal welfare community; and foster and assist the development of animal welfare programs in the community. The commission may study, advise, and report on policy recommendations it deems effective to promote animal welfare outcomes consistent with City goals and objective as outlined by City Council and the City Manager.*

1. **Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

    - Received quarterly reports from Austin Pets Alive! per the temporary license agreement between APA and the COA regarding the TLAC facility.

    - Received quarterly reports from staff on issues directly related to Chapter 823 compliance at the Austin Animal Center and TLAC.

    - Sent a letter of support to Austin City Council for the Animal Services Office FY 14 budget request including unmet needs.

- Sent a recommendation to the Austin City Council that they pass an Ordinance prohibiting the use of bull hooks (aka guides or ankuses) and other implements and tools designed to inflict pain for the purpose of training and controlling the behavior of elephants in traveling shows and exhibitions in the city limits of Austin. Included would be a ban on the use of chains or other restraining devices on elephants in traveling shows and exhibitions in the city limits of Austin.

- Sent a recommendation to City Council that they accept a Department of State Health Services Animal Friendly Grant for Community Sterilizations of $295.00.

- Sent a recommendation to City Council to accept the funding amount from the Maddie's Fund Lifesaving Award.

- Dissolved the *Pet Registration* Work Group, the *Perceived Deer Overpopulation* Work Group, The *Pet Food Bank* Work Group and formed the following new Work Groups;

    - Coyote
    - Transportation
    - Community Solutions
    - Aquarium

- The Chair called the following two special meetings.

    1. One in September to facilitate a Humane Society of the United States presentation on managing Human/Deer conflicts in urban areas.
    2. One in December to facilitate a HSUS presentation on Coyote Hazing.

2. **Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

Yes.

3. List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.

- Maintaining the No-Kill status at the Austin Animal Center. The 2013 Live Outcome rate at the Austin Animal Center for 2013 was 92.62 %.

- Actively support Animal Services 2014/2015 budget request including Capital improvement project for expanded kennel capacity and additional staff.

- Receive quarterly reports from Austin Animal Center staff on status of shelter operations and No-Kill.

- Receive quarterly reports from Austin Animal Center staff on issues related to compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 823 at the Austin Animal Center.

- Receive quarterly reports from Austin Animal Center staff and Austin Pets Alive! staff on issues related to compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 823 at the former TLAC site.

- Present a yearly report to City Council on issues related to compliance with Texas Health and Safety Code Chapter 823 at the Austin Animal Center and former TLAC site as recommended by city auditor.

Respectfully submitted,

David Lundstedt, AAC Chair