

**CITY OF PETALUMA
ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
4 FEBRUARY 2009**

- I. **Attending:** John Cerini, Pam Morris, Jack Eliot, Tim Christensen, Barbara Van Gedden, Jack Eliot, Jonathan Long
Council Liaison: David Rabbitt
Staff: Nancee Tavares, Animal Services Manager; Kathy Sousa, Shelter Supervisor; Donna Forst, Volunteer Education Coordinator
- II. **Approval of Draft Minutes:** All approved
- III. **Committee Comment:** None
- IV. **Shelter Report:** Kathy explained that two adoption cats recently tested positive for ringworm, a common fungus found in the environment. Because ringworm is zoonotic, all exposed cats had skin scrapings done and we are awaiting results. They were pulled from adoption pending results. The majority of cultures should be confirmed by Saturday, 2/7/09. All rooms have been cleaned and thoroughly disinfected. All carpeted furniture has been disposed of. It will not be replaced with same because it is not possible to clean.
- V. **New Education Program:** Animal Services' new volunteer Education Coordinator, Donna Forst, M.A. introduced herself and described the new school program in humane education. All of the lessons are designed for school age children in Petaluma to teach them about the value of animals in their lives. There are 11 different topics and 15 lessons for kindergarten through eighth grade. All lessons meet California State Teaching Standards. Donna has a Masters in Marriage, Family and Child Counseling. She developed a similar Humane Education Program while living in Hawaii. Nancee sent letters with brochures to 18 elementary and middle schools. Two schools have already scheduled programs. The Committee members and Nancee expressed their gratitude to Donna.
- VI. **Subcommittee Reports:** Pam Morris, Chair of the Events Subcommittee explained that there is a need for all members to sign-up to sell tickets. To date, sales total \$6,600, according to John Cerini. Committee discussed best places to sell tickets. John will contact G&G Market and other sites. Committee discussed postponing drawing from March 16 if sales are slow. Will vote at March meeting. (Pam will be out of area from 2/19 – 3/31.) Nancee will attempt to talk with manager of McGuire's Pub to see if we could sell tickets. Barbara suggested "Pints for Pets" night in conjunction, perhaps with pub donating a portion of each pint sold. Jon Long, Chair of the Fundraising Subcommittee said the members met on January 16 and discussed the following: A larger funding source is needed than the trip raffle. Group discussed estate planning and wills. John Cerini said that local attorney, Dwayne Sartori has agreed to attend a meeting to discuss. Barbara Van Gedden described "Marsh Madness" a large event in the Peninsula that has grown into a major fundraiser for Children's Hospital. She will get more details. Nancee Tavares will research dog walks as fundraisers. A possible raffle for cash was also discussed. David Rabbitt suggested participating in the Human Race.
- VII. **Future Agenda Items:** 1. Extending date of raffle drawing; 2. mid-year budget update.
- VIII. **Meeting adjourned** at 8:12 p.m.