

ANIMAL RESCUE AND ADOPTION ADVISORY BOARD
“MISSION PAWSIBLE”
January 10, 2023 4:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM

PRESENT:

Homer Garza, President
 Yvonne T. Perez, Secretary
 Sandra Kemp Groth, Member
 Thomas Edward Tabor, Jr, Member
 Dendea Balli, Member
 David Heflin, DVM, Member

ABSENT:

GUEST:

STAFF PRESENT:

Jennifer Zamora, Administrative Assistant
 Daniel Garza, Health Director
 Anna Carrillo, City Secretary
 Esther Peña, Asst. City Attorney

1. Call to order

With a quorum being present, Homer Garza called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

2. Approval of December 6, 2022 Minutes.

Board reviewed minutes and Mr. Homer Garza motioned to approve the minutes presented. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Dendea Balli and approved unanimously 6-0.

3. Shelter Update – Mr. Garza addressed the board with the total number of animals serviced for the month of December for the City of Mission, City of Alton, and City of Palmview. Mrs. Balli expressed a concern that the numbers were inaccurate and wished for the total number of animals adopted and euthanized to be looked in to and included as a change/update on the minutes to reflect the correct numbers.

The total number for the month of December are as follows:

Statistics for December

Dogs Adopted	Dogs Rescued	Dogs Owner Surrender	Dogs Euthanized	Cats TNR	Cats Petco	Cats Rescued	Cats Adopted	Cats Owner Surrender	Cats Euthanized
M: 12 A: 2 P: 3	M: 21 A: 0 P: 7	M: 13 A: 2 P: 2	M: 31 A: 5 P: 3	M: 14 A: 0 P: 1	M: 0 A: 0 P: 0	M: 0 A: 0 P: 0	M: 0 A: 0 P: 0	M: 6 A: 0 P: 0	M: 6 A: 0 P: 1

A) Discussion of number of spay neuter disposition to be added to the monthly shelter report – After much discussion, Mrs. Dendea Balli wants the actual number of animals that have been altered to be added to the report to see how effective the programs are.

B) Discussion of number of adopted animals returned to be added to monthly shelter report – After much discussion, Mrs. Balli said this would help get a better plan on where we are for adoptions and fostering that will strengthen the program.

C) Discussion to include gender of animals adopted on the monthly shelter report – After much discussion, Dr. Heflin said this would help to know if it's male or female to see if whether they are castrated or not, and would help him out.

D) Discussion of Long-term vision for 2023 for Adoptions & Rescues – After much discussion, Mrs. Balli said this is something good to have to know what everyone is committed to with accurate data to be included in this long-term vision where a workshop needs to be help in order to create this vision and goals. Mr. Homer Garza says one long term goal the board should have is education to the community for spay neuter and vaccinating their pets. Mr. Daniel Garza said one of his goals is to get his staff in control of the entire operations and work in conjunction with volunteers, rescues, and all organizations. Dr. Heflin said he feels the city needs to let the board know what they want to do or expect in order to be able to effectively advise.

4. Old Business –

A) Discussion of December vaccine Clinic – After much discussion from the board, Ms. Perez said that in the December 10th vaccine clinic, there were over 27 owners with their pets and over 90 orders processed with about 170 animals total being serviced. She mentioned the upcoming clinic will be on January 14 at Bannworth park again from 10am – 1pm and would like a staff member there to have the tags available to register their pets. Board went on to mention the adoption clinic would be held at PETCO on January 21, 2023.

B) Discussion of Grant Report for 2022 – After much discussion, Mr. Homer Garza voiced his concern about not knowing where these grant monies went to. Ms. Zamora did let him and the board know that this had been discussed in previous board meetings and that the monies were being used mostly for spay and neuter services and that there were still monies available that are being used for those same purposes.

C) Discussion of allocation of grant funds – Discussion was done with previous item, Item B.

D) Discussion of Cat Barn Update – Mr. Garza let the board know that the project should be completed within the next 30 days.

E) Discussion of Dog Run Update – Mr. Garza let the board know that he wasn't aware of a dog runner area that had been previously discussed with the previous director, therefore, he didn't have an update on that, but would be willing to look in to it. Mr. Homer Garza said the board might be able to fundraise or think of a way to help make his possible. Mrs. Balli stated the dog run is a good way for the dogs to alleviate some of the stress of being locked up in the kennels.

5. New Business –

A) Discussion of Texas Citrus Fiesta Parade – Mr. Homer Garza suggested the board and volunteers sign up to walk the parade using the Scruffy dog costume to entertain the audience. He mentioned they could walk with some of their own dogs to promote shelter and adoptions and be visible to the community. Mrs. Groth motioned to participate in the parade and Ms. Perez seconded the motion, all in favor.

B) Discussion of Election of Co-Chairman to be done when board vacancy is filled – Mrs. Esther Peña, informed the board that there is no correct procedure to go about this since the bylaws for the board have not been established yet. Her recommendation was to table the item until the bylaws are set in place and the board has the authority to vote on it. She also mentioned that the bylaws do need to be approved by council and that they can send them to her for review.

6. Discussion of the Role of the advisory board – Mrs. Peña gave the board copies of the ordinance (46.09) and explained to the board that this was implemented in 2018 and wanted to discuss the duties of the board. The duties of the board are to advise the mayor and city council of animal rescue and adoption programs. She did emphasize that the role of the board was to advise and promote for the betterment of the community. Dr. Heflin voiced his opinion on this matter. He said the duties seem super limited and they are an advisory board for rescue and adoption programs. He wanted to clarify the board was just there to advise and not to say that vaccination of animals and other things need to occur. He is a veterinarian and he isn't able to do more because they are limited to only advise. Mrs. Pena advised them, that it would be something that needs to be brought up to Mayor and council so any type of changes to the board can take place.

7. Discussion of wellness from Veterinarian – After much discussion, Dr. Heflin says he would like to have some sort of triage system in place in order to service the animals properly. It will make decisions more educated when an animal is sick and it gives a better success for treatments. He also mentioned that the facility needs a better plan for cleaning and disinfecting for the animal's wellness.

8. New meeting for next board meeting was set for February 7, 2023 at 4:30 pm at the City Hall Community Room by Mr. Garza and the board members.

9. Adjournment

At 6:15 p.m., Dr. David Heflin moved for adjournment. Motion was seconded by Mr. Edward Tabor Jr. and approved unanimously 6-0.

Homer Garza, President

(Name), Secretary

ANIMAL RESCUE AND ADOPTION ADVISORY BOARD
“MISSION PAWSIBLE”
February 7, 2023 4:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM

PRESENT:

Homer Garza, President
 Yvonne T. Perez, Secretary
 Sandra Kemp Groth, Member
 Thomas Edward Tabor, Jr, Member
 Dendea Balli, Member
 David Heflin, DVM, Member

ABSENT:

GUEST:

Luis Quintanilla
 Karen Reid

STAFF PRESENT:

Jennifer Zamora, Administrative Assistant
 Aida Lerma, Deputy City Manager
 Esther Peña, Asst. City Attorney

1. Call to order

With a quorum being present, Homer Garza called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

2. Approval of January 10, 2023 Minutes.

Board reviewed minutes and Ms. Yvonne Perez motioned to approve the minutes presented. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Sandra Groth and approved unanimously 6-0.

3. Shelter Update – Ms. Zamora addressed the board with the total number of animals serviced for the month of January for the City of Mission, City of Alton, and City of Palmview.

The total number for the month of January are as follows:

Statistics for January

Dogs Adopted	Dogs Rescued	Dogs Owner Surrender	Dogs Euthanized	Cats TNR	Cats Petco	Cats Rescued	Cats Adopted	Cats Owner Surrender	Cats Euthanized
M: 0 A: 1 P: 0	M: 34 A: 5 P: 5	M: 35 A: 2 P: 0	M: 34 A: 5 P: 5	M: 6 A: 0 P: 0	M: 0 A: 0 P: 0	M: 23 A: 0 P: 0	M: 5 A: 0 P: 1	M: 0 A: 0 P: 0	M: 3 A: 0 P: 0

4. RGV Humane Society Update – Mr. Luis Quintanilla was introduced by Mrs. Lerma. Mr. Quintanilla did inform the board the numbers he had for the Harlingen Humane Society. Harlingen had 194 dog adoptions, 115 cat adoptions, 63 dogs rescued, 3 cats rescued, 41 dogs and 3 cats returned to owners, and 47 cats returned to field, 4 cats and 1 dog euthanized. Mrs. Lerma then informed the board of the changes that has happened at the shelter with the Humane Society coming in. She also addressed the concern of what will happen with the board. Mr. Quintanilla voiced to the board how his board works (the City board) they meet and discuss what has happened with the shelter. Their main purpose is to know how are we protecting the animals in the community and at the shelter. He said that here is Mission, he wants

to start working with AWO's in training and what is expected at the shelter, and ride along with them in the field and vice versa.

Mrs. Lerma mention that operationally board does not get involved with providing direction to staff, all directives and trainings will come from the director. The board will focus on other things such as Tethering Laws to work closer with citizens such as mending fences if animals are getting out. Campaign and work on awareness of Firework ordinances, ordinances of how many puppies in the backyard are allowed. Mrs. Balli mentioned that the board can work based on metrics and education in neighborhoods based on monthly numbers, while Mr. Garza mentioned educating the community in different topics to help getting the word out there. She informed them that the role will change in the involvement at the shelter since the Humane Society has their own guidelines.

Mr. Quintanilla said that they don't have the ability to say no to the AWO's. They will not turn away any animal and can't close the doors to the shelter. What they do is mention in social media to the community of the need to get animals adopted and fostered and anything the community can do to help alleviate the shelter being full. He said they rely mostly on adoptions and also do transports monthly. Mr. Garza voiced his concern on a news report that said the Harlingen shelter was going to euthanize animals if they don't get adopted, and he just wanted to make sure that wouldn't be the case in Mission. Mr. Quintanilla did explain that there are mixed messages from other organizations out there. He mentioned that they don't slow down intake but they do ask people to stop calling animal control and try to find other solutions to fix the problem. Mrs. Balli made a comment on the January numbers at the Harlingen Humane Society and praised the numbers and said she was all about the numbers and is excited about what's to come for Mission with their strategies.

5. Old Business –

A) Discussion of Vaccine Clinic – Mr. Garza mentioned that they did have over 165 dogs & cats vaccinated in the previous clinic. He mentioned that the upcoming clinic was going to be February 11, 2023 at Bannworth park between 10 am – 1 pm. Mr. Quintanilla did mention that they have drive thru vaccine clinics and they service between 190-515, 1 Saturday a month and are hoping to get that started 3 months from the start date.

B) Discussion of PETCO Adoption Clinic – Mr. Garza mentioned there was no adoptions at PETCO for the past month. Mr. Quintanilla said he does encourage we keep working with the partnership with PETCO.

C) Discussion and recommendation for Workshop for bylaws, ordinance discussion and mission statement. – After much discussion, it was agreed to have the workshop set up for February 21, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. at the Golf Course Meeting Room.

6. New Business – There was no new business discussed, Mr. Garza just mentioned that the board is excited with all that is coming with the Humane Society working with the shelter.

7. New meeting for next board meeting was set for March 7, 2023 at 4:30 pm at the City Hall Community Room by Mr. Garza and the board members.

8. Adjournment

At 5:36 p.m., Ms. Yvonne Perez moved for adjournment. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Sandra Groth and approved unanimously 6-0.

Homer Garza, President

(Name), Secretary



BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF MISSION

Minutes of the Boys and Girls Club Mission
Youth Advocacy Advisory Board Meeting, January 10th, 2023

The Youth Advocacy Advisory Board of the Boys and Girls Club of Mission held a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 10th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Unit of the Boys and Girls Club Mission

Board Members Present:

Henry Rodriguez	Rolando Reyna
Rebecca Lopez	Sergio Cruz
April Chapa	Jesse Garcia
Jennifer Venecia	Scott Meyer
Nanette Ortiz	Joel Garcia

Board Members Absent:

BGCM Staff:

Rick Venecia	AB Gutierrez
Edgar Villarreal	Nanette Galvan

Guests:

Joe Salazar

I. Call to Order

A. Chapa called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes for December 13th, 2022 Meeting

After a brief review, a motion was made by J. Venecia to approve the minutes for the December 13th, 2022 meeting; the motion was seconded by J. Garcia; the motion carried unanimously.

III. Citizen Participation

No citizens participated . . .

IV. Director's Report

R. Venecia reported that the Boys & Girls Club of Mission has partnered with K-White Jr High to start on the Girls Empowerment grant. The program will take up to 20-30 girls. Through this grant middle schoolers will be able to work side by side with Boys & Girls Club staff to navigate the online program. R. Venecia reported the active Texsyn Grant that was awarded to the club. Out of the ten grants applied for this year only one was rejected. R. Venecia announced the partnership with Pharr, Harlingen, Weslaco, and Edinburg Boys & Girl Clubs for a grant that will be funded by the federal government. No award letter has been released but if awarded Boys & Girls Club of Mission will be awarded anywhere from \$280,000.00 to \$350,000.00. Boys & Girls Club of Pharr are the fiscal agent who is overseeing this grant. R. Venecia reported the start of the Media Program. City of Mission will be donating old equipment in order for this program to excel. Through this program members will be able to attend City events, take pictures, and make good quality content.

V. Programs Reported

N. Galvan reported the first annual Valentines Dance that will take place on February 10th at 3:30PM and the Main Unit. Also reported was the curriculum for the month, Emotional Wellness. Staff and members have been working on how to deal with their emotional and mental health. Through this curriculum members have learned how to cope with their emotions.

VI. Athletics Report

E. Villarreal reported the preparation of Basketball season which will begin on January 23rd. With more than 50 teams and a little over 600 members registered for the basketball season. E. Villarreal mentioned the partnership with Sharyland ISD for flag football and volleyball program that will begin on February 13th. Volleyball games will be Mondays and Flag football on Tuesday. Also reported was the start of Baseball registration which will open January 30th through February 30th.

VII. Grants Report

R. Venecia reported the active grants and upcoming of monthly reports. Active grants at the moment are the following; COVID-19 grant, Texsyn Grant, and AmeriCorps Grant.

VIII. Chairperson Comments

None at this time . . .

IX. Adjournment

After a brief discussion, A. Chapa entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by H. Rodriguez; the motion was seconded by S. Cruz; the motion passed unanimously. Adjournment time was 7:00 p.m.

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
February 14, 2023
Teleconference/Hybrid
Regular Meeting

Members Present

Lorenzo Garza
Roxanne Mendez
Zoreida Lopez
Elizabeth Segovia
Kathy Casillas
Victor Anzaldua
Alma Garcia

Members Absent

Alex Guerra
Cynthia Pacheco

Staff Present

Jo Anne Longoria
Esther G. Rivera
Helen Torres

Call Regular Meeting to Order

Chairman Lorenzo Garza called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Ms. Jo Anne Longoria conducted roll call. She stated six members were present, therefore there was a quorum.

Citizens Participation

Chairman Garza asked if there were any citizens present to discuss any items on the agenda or to express their concerns on this Special Meeting. With no one present, online nor in person and no comments, he continued with the next item.

Discussion and Recommendation to Approve Minutes for Public Hearing/Special Meeting held on January 17, 2022

Ms. Helen Torres asked the members present if they had reviewed the minutes for the Public Hearing/Special Meeting held on January 17, 2022 and if there were any questions or comments. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Vice-chairman Zoreida Lopez motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Elizabeth Segovia seconded the motion. Motion carried. (6-0)

At 5:35pm Ms. Alma Garcia joined the meeting in person for a total of seven members present.

Discussion and Recommendation on Housing Assistance Program Guidelines - Revisions

Ms. Esther Rivera presented the Housing Assistance Program Guidelines – Revisions. She elaborated on the changes that we are seeking to obtain approval of the revisions and additions for the Housing Assistance Program Guidelines. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve the Housing Assistance Program Guidelines

– Revisions. Ms. Roxanne Mendez motioned to approve the Housing Assistance Program Guidelines – Revisions. Mr. Victor Anzaldua seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0)

Discussion and Recommendation on Status of Housing Assistance Program Applicant Waiting List

Ms. Rivera presented the Status of Housing Assistance Program Applicant Waiting List. She provided a list of the applicants on the waiting list and advised that applicant number 18 at 209 Covered Wagon is ineligible due to building restrictions. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve the Status of Housing Assistance Program Applicant Waiting List as presented. Mr. Anzaldua motioned to approve the Status of Housing Assistance Program Applicant Waiting List. Ms. Mendez seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0)

Discussion and Recommendation to Approve Applicants for the Housing Assistance Program HAP Phase 22-I

Ms. Rivera presented a memo requesting to approve applicants for the Housing Assistance Program HAP Phase 22-I. Ms. Rivera stated that floor plans and cost estimates were completed and ready to solicit bids for applicants located at: 209 E. Melba Carter; 128 S Slabaugh; 213 Del Mar Ave.; 969 N. Los Ebanos Rd.; 415 N. Slabaugh Ave. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve applicants for the Housing Assistance Program HAP Phase 22-I. Mr. Anzaldua motioned to approve applicants for the HAP Phase 22-I. Vice-chairman Lopez seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0)

Other Business

A. Progress Report- January 2023

Ms. Torres presented the Unofficial Progress Report for January 2023. After a brief discussion, Chairman Garza asked for a motion to approve the progress report. Mr. Anzaldua motioned to approve the progress reports. Ms. Segovia seconded the motion. Motion carried. (7-0).

B. Chairman's Comments-

Chairman Garza wished everyone a Happy Valentine's day with their family and friends.

C. Committee Member's Comments-

Ms. Mendez mentioned that the blessing boxes have been a great impact helping the community. Ms. Segovia said that she was glad fruit and vegetables were provided during the food distribution at Nell Tolle Park. Ms. Longoria mentioned the next food distribution is scheduled on February 28, 2023 at CWV Park from 9am to 11am. Ms. Kathy Cassillas stated she has a concern with the number of "Smoke Shops" in the city. Mr. Anzaldua wished everyone a Happy Valentine's day.

Adjourn

Chairman Garza asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Anzaldua motioned to adjourn meeting. Ms. Garcia seconded. Motion carried (7-0). The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 P.M.

Lorenzo Garza, Chairman