

# Quality of Life Council Committee

## Meeting Record

(DRAFT)

**Meeting Date:** 3-23-2009

**Convened:** 12:03 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 1:36 p.m.

Pauline Medrano, Chair  
Vonciel Jones Hill, Vice Chair  
Sheffie Kadane  
David A. Neumann  
Carolyn R. Davis  
Steve Salazar  
Angela Hunt  
Elba Garcia (non-member)

### **Briefing Presenters:**

-Troy Thorn & Frank Poe, Convention & Event Services  
-Lynetta Kidd & Joey Zapata, Code Compliance Department

### **Staff Present:**

Forest Turner, Kent Roberson, James Childers, Laurietta Stewart, Lori Chance, Lisa Christopherson, Rick Galceran, Elizabeth Fernandez, Maria Munoz-Blanco

### **Special Guests:**

Animal Shelter Commission Members

## AGENDA:

### 1. **Approval of February 23, 2009 minutes**

**Presenter(s):**

**Information Only:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Motion to approve the February 23, 2009 minutes.

Motion made by: Sheffie Kadane  
Item passed unanimously: \_\_X\_\_  
Item failed unanimously: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion seconded by: Vonciel Jones Hill  
Item passed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_  
Item failed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. **Urban Rodeos**

**Presenter(s):** Frank Poe and Troy Thorn

**Information Only:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

The purpose of the briefing was to review the current status of urban rodeos, present concerns with Chapter 42A Special Events ordinance, and suggest changes to the ordinance.

The Office of Special Events (OSE) received complaints regarding Tierra Caliente Rodeo which then resulted in an assessment of urban rodeos under Chapter 42A. Currently Chapter 42A does not prohibit urban rodeos and it does not provide guidelines or regulations for urban rodeos. OSE issued permits to two urban rodeos in fiscal year 07-08. The rodeos being Rio Rodeo and Tierra Caliente Rodeo. OSE received no complaints or reported violations for Rio Rodeo, but did receive thirty-five 311/911 calls for Tierra Caliente Rodeo.

Currently Rio Rodeo remains active due to no complaints and operates weekly on Sunday's from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tierra Caliente Rodeo has been denied of any future permits and is currently operating in Hutchins, Texas. The reason for denial of future permits was due to noise issues, zoning complaints, building permits needed for temporary structures, animal safety, and traffic and parking problems.

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Recommendations put forth by OSE include limiting a rodeo to no more than 30 days per address per calendar year and no more than 10 consecutive days, implementing a tear-down policy for special events in order to differentiate between a temporary event venue and a permanent event venue, require rodeos dismantle and clean up within 48 hours of the closing of the event, provide general authority to OSE Director to produce guidelines to support the ordinance, and request a moratorium on rodeo special events until Chapter 42A ordinance is updated.

Next steps are to secure Quality of Life Committee direction regarding urban rodeos and acceptance of staff's recommendations/modifications. As well as continue dialogue with stakeholders and the City Attorney's Office to draft an ordinance with proposed revisions.

A motion was made to accept staff's recommendations and have staff return to present overall revisions of Chapter 42A within the next 60 to 90 days.

Motion made by: Steve Salazar

Item passed unanimously:  X

Item failed unanimously:  \_\_\_\_\_

Motion seconded by: Vonciel Jones Hill

Item passed on a divided vote:  \_\_\_\_\_

Item failed on a divided vote:  \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Dallas Animal Services Update

**Presenter(s):** Joey Zapata and Lynetta Kidd

**Information Only:**  X

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

The purpose of the briefing was to provide an update on Pet Adoptions, Dallas Animal Services operations, Loose Dog Initiatives, and outreach efforts. The Dallas Animal Services and Adoption Center impounds loose or unwanted animals, has a lost and found area, has dog and cat adoptions, pet registrations, 24-hour night drop, and also responds to emergencies.

In June 2008 the City Council amended the Animal Control Ordinance. Since the ordinance was approved it has been proven effective. There has been a 9% increase of dogs caught over the same time last year, 34% increase of dogs/cats adopted, and 59% increase of spay/neuter applications approved.

The Southern Dallas Loose Dog Initiative and District II Loose Dog Initiative were formed with dedicated animal officers in designated areas to pick up loose dogs. Coordinated efforts with Code Officers were established to distribute educational information door to door and at neighborhood meetings. Owners were counseled on responsible pet ownership and given written notice to comply with Chapter 7. A follow-up initiative for both areas will begin in April of 2009.

Approximately 33,000 dogs and cats are impounded each year (3,000 livestock and wildlife are impounded for a total average of 36,000). Of those approximately 6,500 dogs and cats are adopted, rescued or reclaimed by owners. Off-site pet adoptions, providing the best value for vaccinations, sterilization, and microchips, updating the website and promoting the "pet of the week" have all contributed toward the increase of pet adoptions. Outreach efforts include public

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education, distributing posters and fliers, raising awareness, and revamping and building a volunteer program.

Next steps are to continue outreach and education, hold prevention of Animal Cruelty month events in April, and kick-off a Volunteer Orientation in April.

\* After the Quality of Life Committee meeting 3 dogs were adopted at the City Hall Plaza including Peppy, the dog that attended the meeting.

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously: \_\_\_\_\_

Item failed unanimously: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_

Item failed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_

4. A motion was made to approve and move the upcoming agenda items.

Motion made by: Steve Salazar

Item passed unanimously: X

Item failed unanimously: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion seconded by: Vonciel Jones Hill

Item passed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_

Item failed on a divided vote: \_\_\_\_\_



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Pauline Medrano

Chair