

Commission on Animal Care & Control
Minutes of November 19, 2020 Commission Meeting
Reviewed and approved at January 21, 2021 meeting

Commissioners Attending (7 of 9)

Cynthia Bathurst, Chair, private citizen
Josie Cruz, Chicago Department of Streets & Sanitation Member
Janna Kerins, Chicago Health Department Member
Charleen Propsom, private citizen
Heather Owen, private citizen
JB Bruederle, Veterinarian Member
Ramona Griffin, private citizen

Commissioners Absent (1 of 9)

Paula Fasseas, Humane Society Member

Commissioners Vacant (1 of 9)

Chicago Police Department (Vacant)

Also Attending

Mamadou Diakhate, Interim Executive Director, CACC
Susan Cappello, Administrative Services Officer II, CACC
Members of the public – via livestream

Agenda Item #1: Determination of Quorum and Call to Order

C. Bathurst performed roll call, determined a quorum and called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Agenda Item #2: Public Comment

Everyone was reminded to send Public Comments to askcacc@cityofchicago.org in advance of the meeting.
No Public Comment.

Agenda Item #3: Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes from the September 17, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved by all in attendance.

Agenda Item #4: Report of Chairperson

C. Bathurst reported that at the last meeting the Ethics Department spoke about rules and regulations. The Commission will set the 2021 meeting dates in New Business. CACC emails daily population reports, if you don't get them let us know and we will get you on the email list. The Commission is tasked by ordinance to do an annual report, the report, due in January, will be mostly regarding the impact of COVID-19. C. Bathurst will reach out and review a draft at the January meeting and submit to the City.

Agenda Item #5: Report of Executive Director

Interim Executive Director M. Diakhate reported that on November 9th CACC went before the City Council to discuss the 2021 Budget request. CACC explained their changes to scheduled appointments for intake, adoption and redemptions and how the appointment-based program lets CACC staff focus on helping Chicago Residents keep their pets in their home. CACC also discussed Coyotes in Chicago and CACC received over 2000 calls for coyotes in Chicago. CACC asked people to manage their garbage and shared the CACC Coyote Management Plan and Wildlife Management Plan. Field calls are currently at 33,846 and only 275 calls are still open. Of the open calls, 203 are Animal Bites, but COVID-19 makes it harder to investigate. CACC continued to discuss stats and live

outcomes are at 93.3%. CACC expressed an extra 'Thanks' all the rescue partners and residents for helping these animals. Stray animal intake is by appointment only but CACC is flexible and will take in the stray animal for the resident even without an appointment. Volunteers continue to help out at CACC. We have 37 volunteer slots for dogs and 8 volunteer slots for cats. Unsure if CACC will be adding additional slots due to the COVID-19 increase. S. Cappello reported on the budget and vacancies. Currently 18 vacancies (6 full time & 12 part time) and we are losing 2 full time vacancies (Supervising APC & Animal Care Clerk) and 2 part time vacancies (2 part time Animal Placement Coordinators). C. Bathurst requested to send the stats to Commissioners and the Coyote and Wildlife Management Plans to the Commissioners. CACC continues to divert animals to CRISP and OTAT and thanks Heather Owen for working with us.

Agenda Item #6: City Agency Reports

- J. Cruz (Streets & Sanitation) reported that there has been an uptick of DOA coyotes on the streets of Chicago. Still running two crews and this year there were more wasp removals and DOA animal recovery than previous years.
- J. Kerins (Health) reported that the health department is focusing on COVID-19. No reports of COVID in animals or reported diagnosis. Nationwide the animals that have tested positive were owned animals and mostly cats.
- (Police) no report.

Agenda Item #7: Commissioner Reports

- JB. Bruederle – Vet world is very busy, s/n surgeries are moving along. Most hospitals are still doing curbside services due to COVID.
- C. Propsom - Reported on FCACC food storage lockers one at CACC and second at the 11th District Police station. Since then, worked with Rescue Pack Chicago and World Vision for food donations. 2 food distributions at the 11th Police District for people to drive up for pet food. Police at the district have been helpful. After Hours program moving forward but a bit slower now. 10 boxes of linen donated from Four Seasons to CACC. FCACC is working with a TNR Groups to place difficult feral cats in barns. The TNR agents are having a hard time getting S/N services for the cats and looking for suggestions. R. Griffin will follow up on the S/N for feral cats.
- R. Griffin – None.
- H. Owen – No questions but would like to say that we have a really nice diversion program with CACC. Helped a lot of people this year. C. Bathurst would like to include CRISP/Diversion numbers in the Commission Annual Report.
- C. Bathurst – Reported on Safe Humane Chicago programs. COVID has done a number on programs at CACC, playgroups, manners program, community reentry, lifetime bonds, corporate groups, YMCA youth safety program, etc. Since March could not do any of those programs at CACC. Playgroups maintain the quality of life and physical quality of life and working with CACC to take on playgroups. Court Case animals (animals that come in with RD numbers) CACC is working with CPD to make sure that cases are moving along. Safe Humane is out in the community for food and supply drives and help people with animal behavioral issues. R. Griffin reported that there are a lot of people who don't know about CACC. C. Bathurst will be reaching out to Commissioners.

Agenda Item #8: Other Business

None

Agenda Item #9: New Business

Establish meeting dates for 2021. Will be doing these meetings virtually moving forward:

January 21 / March 18 / May 20 / July 15 / September 16 / November 18

Beginning at 8:30 a.m. with the public comment going first by emailing askcacc@cityofchicago.org.

Meeting dates approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #10: Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m. The next virtual meeting is January 21, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.