



**RICHARDSON, TX**

HEALTH

Richardson Health Department  
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**Minutes**  
**ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION**

City of Richardson, Texas  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024

A meeting of the Commissioners was held at 6:45 pm, Tuesday, February 20, 2024:

<i>Present</i>	Meg Austin	Chair, Animal Welfare Rep
	Maureen Doherty	Vice-Chair
	Holly Goodside	Commissioner
	Erika Batzler	Commissioner
	Dr. Rae Falagraday	Commissioner, Veterinarian
	Bill Alsup	Municipal Official

<i>Staff</i>	Noura Jammal	Animal Services Manager
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<i>Not present</i>	Jennifer Justice	Council Liaison
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1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 6:43 pm. Last meeting’s minutes approved
- Introduction of Commission Members
- Welcome to Dr. Rae Falagraday – Richardson resident for 15 years, Texas A & M Alum, practices locally
- Guest expressed her concerns about staffing, maintenance & funding at Shelter

2. Shelter Operations

- Social media presence remains strong
- Volunteer programs, Community Service & Fundraising events continue to be popular: Doggy Day Out, Low-Cost Vaccination Clinic & weekend adoption events continue
- RISD Internships: 1 for Spring Semester
- Great new intern program through Project Search Texas - QUEST Employment Services. It matches young adults with special needs with real-life work experience opportunities. COR is pursuing this intern-matching in several departments, including Animal Services. Coming in Fall for 5-day, 6 hours/day assignments
- Events/clinics are ramped-up at local feed-shops like Petco, PetSmart & Hollywood Feed – showcasing adoptable dogs with great guest interaction
- Partnership: What a Great Dog (WAGD) of Richardson will begin training our shelter dogs this week – teaching basic commands to provide a “scorecard” for potential dog owners

3. Staffing

- Most positions filled; Kennel Attendant Position still open
- New Animal Services Officer has 20+ years experience in Dallas

4. Shelter Stats

- Live Release rate is down some, relative to last year.
- Discussion of animal groups from hoarding homes, often untrained & unsocialized, making them poor adoption candidates

5. Lobby Reconstruction

- March 4-5 – scheduled move-into temp trailer date. Reviewed map of construction
- Discussion of larger map, schedule – should open 12-18 months after groundbreaking
- Reviewed map of trailer & operations; how the guests flow inside & outside
- Discussion of how COR and surrounding community can support staff during transition – local restaurants may possibly donate meals?

6. Questions – Concerns - Feedback

- Discussion of displayed animal art for lobby & possible artists; narrowed down to 3
- Wonder if art could be available for purchase as a fundraiser?
- Continuing question of best ways to train future pet owners?
- Future Topic: Comparing current practices & how to improve ideas and communication


7. Next Meeting

Next meeting is Wednesday, June 19, 2024, location TBD

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

  
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Staff Liaison

  
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Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date