
Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council Minutes
Monday, July 8, 2024 – 7:00pm-9:00pm
One Justice Square; Webex

Present: Jeanne Aulbach, Gail LaBerge, Nahum Nicholas, Dr. Tameka Womack
Absent: Erin Martin, B Thassanee Gutter-Parker

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome / Announcements
3. Approval of Agenda
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Nicholas: Vote: (4-0); Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Womack-Yes}
4. Approval of Minutes – April 8, 2024
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Nicholas: Vote: (4-0); Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Womack-Yes}
5. Staff Updates
 - Animal Welfare & Enforcement Updates
 - Operations Updates
 - Outreach & Resources Updates
 - Upcoming Special Events
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Public Comments
9. Adjournment
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Nicholas: Vote: (4-0); Aulbach-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Womack-Yes}

Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council

July 8, 2024



Center Updates



Kennel Floor and Ceiling Projects

Standard Bearers – Commendation for Excellence





Team Updates

April – June 2024

Vacancies

- Center Manager
- Field Manager
- Day Road Coordinator
- Animal Control Supervisor
- Facility Operations Assistant
- Animal Control Officer I (5)
- Administrative Associate I (1)
- Part-time Animal Control Officer (1)

Promotions

- Officer Waldron – ACO III Training Officer

New Hires

- Animal Control Officer I (3)

Team Updates Continued

Hello Team Community Services,

I am thrilled to share some fantastic news – This past Tuesday, the Georgia Department of Agriculture held a meeting at the Bill Atkinson Animal Welfare Center. During their visit, they were thoroughly impressed and commented on how Gwinnett has the cleanest and most organized animal shelter they have ever seen.

This outstanding recognition is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment of our incredible team of Animal Welfare and Enforcement Standard Bearers. Your relentless efforts to maintain high standards and provide the best possible care for the animals in our community do not go unnoticed. I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations and deepest appreciation to each and every one of you. Your exemplary performance as Standard Bearers not only upholds the values of our department but also sets a benchmark for excellence.

Thank you for your continued dedication and for making Gwinnett a shining example for others to follow!

~ Tina Fleming, Community Services Director

The logo for 'THE Gwinnett Standard' features the word 'THE' in a small, blue, sans-serif font above the word 'Gwinnett' in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below 'Gwinnett' is the word 'Standard' in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. The 'G' in 'Gwinnett' is particularly large and overlaps with the 'S' in 'Standard'.

Team Training

- Crime Scene Training
- Speed of Trust
- Mandated Reporting
- Summer Camp
- Volunteer Program
- Dogs Play for Life & Enrichment



Team Training Continued

- ASP Baton
- Bite Procedures
- Field and Kennel Training
- Fuel Site
- Chemical Capture
- Humane Euthanasia
- Catch Pole Training
- Intake Procedures
- Neglect
- Ordinance Review
- Rabies and Heartworm
- Shelter Buddy Cleaning Procedure
- Defensive Driving
- Dangerous Dogs
- Opioid/Narcan Training

Workers Comp Incidents

- April – June 2024
 - 8 Center and 7 Field
- April – June 2023
 - 7 Center and 1 Field



Social Media Recap

April – June 2024

- 446.1K Page reach
- 6.1K Content interactions
- 5.8K Link clicks





Center Operations

April – June 2024

- 988 Adoptions
- 697 New arrivals and intakes
- 537 Animals returned to owners
- 6,065 Visitors to the center
- Percentage saved:
 - 91.2% April; 88.83% May; 89.59% June

Center Operations

April – June 2024

	April – June 2024	April – June 2023	Total for 2023
Visitors	6,065 (15% increase)	5,256	21,838
Adoptions	988 (13% increase)	874	3,684
Return to Owners	537 (20% increase)	445	1,743

Animal Enrichment

April – June 2024

Center

- 113 Hours of enrichment
- 320 Dogs in enrichment activities
- 72 Cat enrichment activities

Outreach

- 116 Hours of enrichment
- 19 Dogs in enrichment activities
- Dog Day Out, adoption events, Spa Days, etc.



Animal Enrichment Continued



Animal Enrichment Continued



Euthanasia

April – June 2024

- 219 Animals euthanized
 - 216 Animals euthanized (April – June 2023)
- 72 Unassisted deaths*
 - 49 kittens, 5 cats, 5 dogs, 9 puppies, 2 mammal, 1 fowl and 1 marsupial

**Includes unassisted death-in foster and transit*

Euthanasia by Species

April – June 2024

Animal Type	In-House	Outside Vet
Dog	113	2
Puppy	7	0
Cat	27	1
Kitten	34	5
Bird (wildlife)	0	0
Mammal (<i>i.e., racoons, bats, opossums</i>)	20	0
Marsupial	8	0
Reptile	0	2
Grand Total	209	10

Field Operations April – June 2024

- 5,262 Calls for service
- 300 Citations issued
- 161 Animals returned in the field
- 957 Animals picked up on road
- 344 Dead animals picked up



Field Operations

April – June 2024

	April – June 2024	April – June 2023	Total for 2023
Animals Saved	1,711 (14.5% increase)	1,494	6,005
Calls for Service	5,262 (15% increase)	4,886	20,264
Animals Returned in Field	161	157	546
Citations Issued	300 (30% increase)	230	1,130



Special Operations April – June 2024

- Process of reported animal bites
- Two hoarding cases

Bites and Rabies Comparison

April – June 2024

	April – June 2024	April – June 2023	Total for 2023
Animal Bites	216 (13% increase)	191	770
Positive Rabies Cases	3	4	8

Process of a Reported Bite

Most reported through 911. Gwinnett Police is dispatched along with AWE and usually Gwinnett Fire. When on scene, ACO is to ensure scene is safe and animal(s) are secured before gathering any information.

ACO obtains victim(s) information (name, DOB, address and phone number) and photos of the injuries along with information for the owner of the animal(s) involved. Citations issued to the owner, if warranted.

ACO is to have a form signed for 10-day vet quarantine. Home quarantine is approved by management only. If the injuries sustained require medical treatment at a hospital, the animal may be impounded with a waiver of liability form signed by the owner to protect the public.

Animal(s) involved are held for 10 full days to ensure they do not show any signs of rabies. If the animal(s) does show signs of rabies, the Bite Officer contacts the owner. If euthanized, the specimen is sent for rabies testing. If positive, the state lab contacts the Bite Officer who informs all involved parties/staff.

An Emergency Department is only place to receive rabies vaccines for a human at the expense of the victim.

Rescues, Neglect/Court, & Probation

April – June 2024

	April – June 2024	April – June 2023	Total for 2023
Sent to a Rescue*	186 (6% increase)	175	578
Neglect Cases	177	171	882
Court and Probation	98	163	1,130 (388 Probation)

* Collaborated with 31 different rescues from April – June 2024.

Hoarding Case – Pomeranian

- Initial call pertained to breeding of rottweilers.
- Discovered seven nursing Pomeranians and two Rottweiler puppies at 10-weeks old.
- Citations issued and person denied having other animals.
- AWE follow-up inspection, learned puppies died and upon further inspection found plethora of dogs in unsanitary conditions.
 - All animals impounded that day.
- Animals impounded: one feline, 54 canines (two rottweilers and 52 Pomeranians).

Hoarding Case – Chihuahua/Dachshund Mixes

- Complaint from Fire Services responding to assist on a call concerning a fall.
- Fire Services advised conditions inside home were deplorable with 20 canines and they were almost unable to go inside without taking off the door hinges.
- AWE Special Operations Officers followed up with Fire Services after devising a plan and contacting necessary departments for assistance.
- Animals impounded: 18 canines (Chihuahua/Dachshund mixes)

Dangerous/Vicious Hearing Board

April – June 2024

Dangerous Dogs	Vicious Dogs
0 Dangerous dog cases (hearing pending)	0 Vicious dog case (hearing pending)
9 Dogs declared dangerous	2 Dog declared as vicious
0 Cases pending/investigation	1 Cases pending/investigation



Return to Community Cat Program

- 519 TNR'd
 - April – June 2024
- 331 TNR'd
 - April – June 2023
- 56% Increase from 2023

Return to Community Cat Program

April – June 2024

Month	April – June 2024	April – June 2023	Total for 2023
April	170	104	1,548 <i>(23% increase from 2022)</i>
May	172	116	
June	177	111	
Grand Total	519	331	

Owner Surrender Emails

April – June 2024

Month	April – June 2024	April – June 2023	Total for 2023
April	152	200	2,248
May	187	218	
June	199	210	
Grand Total	538	628	

Fosters April – June 2024

- 45 Home visits conducted
- 342 Animals in a foster home
- 158 Fosters
- 46,650 Foster hours



Purrs and Paws

- Hosted by Foster and Rescue Coordinators
- Hands on workshop to teach current and potential fosters how to care for bottle fed kittens
- Accepted donations to care for kittens
- Over 30 participants attended

Purrs and Paws



Purrs and Paws



Foster Animals Thriving

April – June 2024



Animals Rescued That Are Thriving

April – June 2024



Animals Rescued That Are Thriving

April – June 2024



Community Outreach

April – June 2024

- Paws in the Park
- Gwinnett County Employee Fostering Initiative
- Animal Ambassador Camp
- Christmas in July



in the Paws in the Parks

- June – September; 10 County parks
- Inspections & Citations
 - Rabies tags
 - Proper leashes
(provide complimentary leash when needed)
- Educating Citizens
 - Importance of vaccination
 - Rabies
 - Avoid being bitten
 - Leash and Dog Park ordinances/rules
 - Presented to Parks and Rec Grounds staff on signs of rabies and how to avoid being bitten by dogs while working in the park

Animal Ambassador Camp

- **SOLD OUT** June 3 – 7 & June 10 – 14
- Over 17 Live animal interactions
 - Goat, Snakes, Bunnies, Reptiles, Chickens, Cats, Dogs, Chinchilla, and over 10,000 Honeybees
- Educational Components
 - Dog bite prevention, bottle feeding kittens, microchip/vaccinations, extinct Georgia animals, dog body language
- Collaborations
 - Planned PetHood, Gwinnett K-9, Etowah Valley Exotics, and Bee Haven

Animal Ambassador Camp



Campers learned how our officers triage animals



Etowah Valley Exotics presented on identifying and caring for snakes.

Animal Ambassador Camp



Gwinnett K-9 presentation to campers



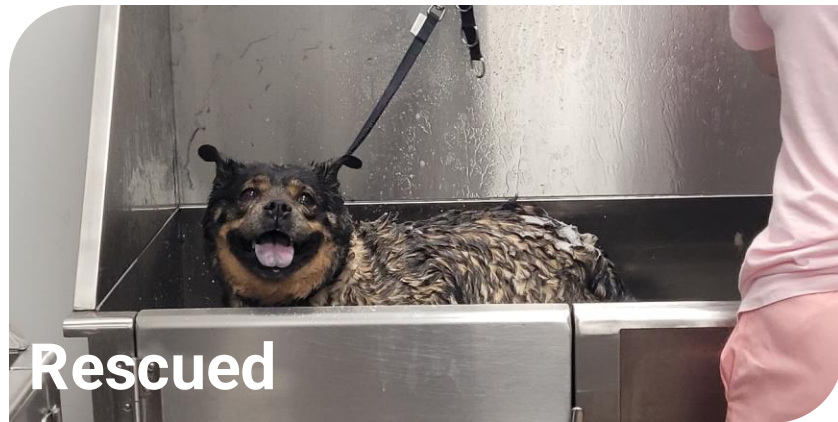
10,000+ honeybees

Appearances & Partnerships

- (6) Dog Days Out Held
- (6) Off-site Adoption Events
- Held “Wanna Go For A Dog Walk”
- Community events
 - Gwinnett Employee 5K (1 dog adopted!)
 - Alcova Career Day
 - Superheroes Day
 - Multicultural Festival



Woof Gang Bakery & Grooming



Woof Gang Bakery & Grooming

- Expanding partnership and displaying poster in store of available shelter dogs
- Poster includes photo, breed, weight, age, and personality traits
- New dogs featured monthly
- QR Code to adoption page



Speaking Engagements

- **April 27:** STRAP and LSTRAP Programs
- **May 1:** Dekalb County Animal Control officers' Animal Cruelty Class
 - Division Director and ACO III Cruelty and Neglect Officer

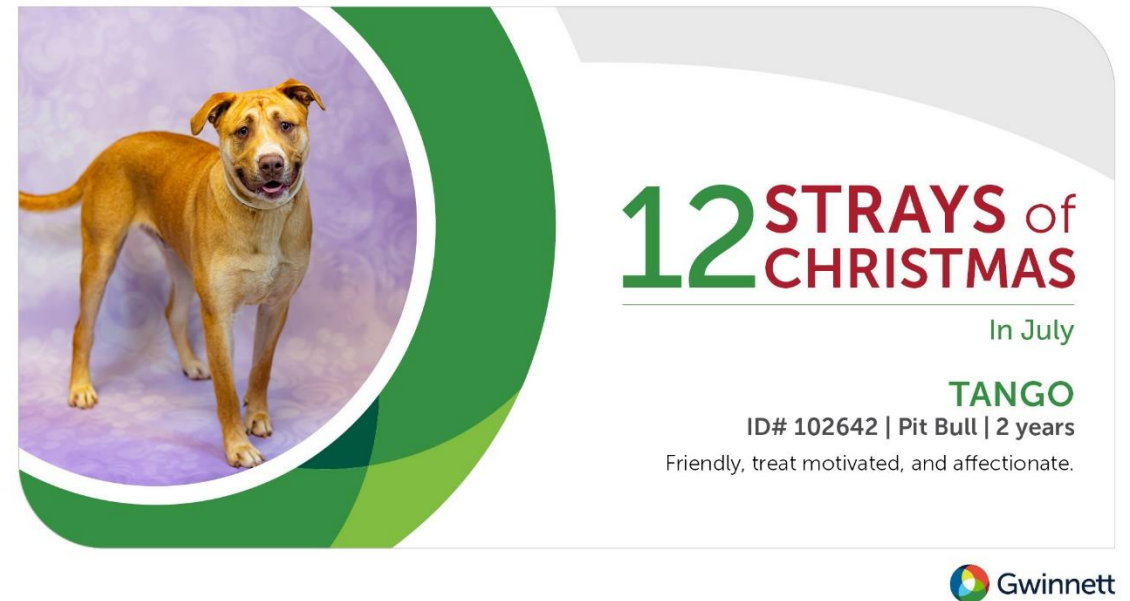


Upcoming Outreach

- Paws in the Park
 - **July 10:** Pinckneyville Park
 - **July 13:** Rabbit Hill Park
 - **August 3:** Simpsonwood Park
- **July 13:** Pet Education Event at Pet Smart Mall of GA
- **August 3:** Pet Education Event at Pet Supplies Plus
- **September 18:** Fall Safety and Preparedness at GGC


Upcoming Events & Promotions

- Christmas in July – Pet amenity gift pack with all dog adoptions (*while supplies last*)
- **August 24:** Clear the Shelter
- **October 19:** Shelter Pets Rock
- **October 26:** Vaccination Clinic
- **December 7:** Photos With SantaPaws



12 STRAYS of CHRISTMAS
In July

TANGO
ID# 102642 | Pit Bull | 2 years
Friendly, treat motivated, and affectionate.

 Gwinnett



Thank You

GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com

[@GwinnettAnimalWelfare](https://twitter.com/GwinnettAnimalWelfare)