



Office of the City Manager

06

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 19, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From:  Christine Daniel, City Manager
Submitted by: Kate O'Connor, Animal Services Manager
Subject: Donations to the Animal Shelter: The Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation and Every Dog Has Its Day Care

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving donations to the Animal Shelter in the sum of \$10,000 from the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation and \$2,000 from Every Dog Has Its Day Care.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The donations totaling \$12,000 will be deposited in the Animal Shelter Fund: 139-0704-368.20-99. The donation will be officially appropriated in the Second Amendment to the FY 2013 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation wishes to donate \$10,000 and Every Dog Has Its Day Care has collected \$2,000 from its clients to donate to the Animal Shelter to support the work that we do for the animals in our care. The Clients at Every Dog also donated many goods for our animals such as dog and cat beds, toys, treats, leashes and collars .

The shelter treats sick and injured animals that have a good chance of recovery and adoption. This economic climate is causing many people to give up their animals if they need medical attention. This is very costly and donations are often used to cover these extraordinary veterinary bills.

The Animal Shelter runs a low-cost spay/neuter program for the residents of Berkeley and for people adopting animals from the shelter. The City funds the program at a cost of \$30,000 per year. However, the actual cost of the program is approximately \$45,000 per year and has to be subsidized from other areas within the Animal Shelter budget.

The volunteer program is flourishing and with that comes the need to provide leashes, collars, treats, beds and toys. These are paid for from the animal shelter donation fund.

BACKGROUND

Barbara Suzanne Farley, Attorney at Law, has been given the opportunity to designate a further \$10,000 to the shelter from the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation. Every Dog Has Its Day Care also collected \$2,000 in donations and many goods for the animals. These donations will be used to enhance the following programs:

Veterinary Care

In this economic climate and with veterinary treatment being expensive, many people have to give up their animals if the animal becomes sick or is injured. The shelter often elects to put extensive resources into these animals including expensive veterinary work. Veterinary fees for these special cases are often paid for from the donations fund.

Spay/Neuter your Pet Program (SNYP)

This program offers low cost spay/neuters for animals of low income residents of Berkeley, senior citizens and residents who own Pitbulls and Chihuahuas. This program has helped finance the sterilization of about 8,000 since it began in 2001.

Volunteer Program

Each day, an average of 20 volunteers comes to the shelter to enrich the lives of the animals and to make them more adoptable. This includes walking and training dogs, giving them treats and toys, playing and socializing with cats, taming feral cats and kittens and bathing and grooming the animals. The volunteers also help in many other ways such as placing the animals on various websites to increase their chances of adoption, actively fundraising and assisting staff and customers in the office.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The shelter already receives donations from the public and the funds are used for the programs outlined above. The cost of goods and services are increasing continually and any donations are greatly appreciated in order to ensure that the animals in our care receive the best treatment possible and that the spay/neuter program continues throughout the fiscal year.

CONTACT PERSON

Kate O'Connor, Animal Shelter Manager (510) 981 6601

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO.

-N.S.

DONATIONS TO THE ANIMAL SHELTER: \$10,000 FROM THE STEPHEN AND MARY BIRCH FOUNDATIONS AND \$2,000 FROM EVERY DOG HAS ITS DAY CARE

WHEREAS, Barbara Suzanne Farley, Attorney at Law, has again been given the opportunity to designate the recipients of gifts for the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Ms Farley is impressed with the efforts of the staff and volunteers in recovering, housing, feeding and caring for the animals housed at the shelter; and

WHEREAS, Every Dog Has Its Day Care has also donated to the animal shelter to support the work done for animals in our care: and

WHEREAS, the donations totaling \$12,000 will be deposited in the Animal Shelter Fund: 139-0704-368.20-99; and

WHEREAS, the Animal Shelter uses donation money to fund various programs that help the animals in our care such as the SNYP (Spay/Neuter your Pet) program, the volunteer program and for extraordinary medical cases; and

WHEREAS, the animal shelter already collects donations from the public for various shelter programs that enhance the lives of animals.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that donations to the Animal Shelter are accepted in the sums of \$10,000 from the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation and \$2,000 from Every Dog Has Its Day Care

