
Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council Minutes
Monday, October 16, 2023 – 7:00pm-9:00pm
Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Center; Webex

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

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome / Announcements
3. Approval of Agenda
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: Hunter; Second: Parker; Vote: (7:0); Aulbach -Yes; Hunter - Yes; LaBerge -Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Parker-Yes; Womack-Yes}
4. Approval of Minutes August 28, 2023
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: LaBerge; Second: Nicholas; Vote: (7:0); Aulbach -Yes; Hunter - Yes; LaBerge -Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Parker-Yes; Womack-Yes}
5. Presentation from Law Department
6. Staff Updates
 - Animal Welfare & Enforcement Updates
 - Operations Updates
 - Outreach & Resources Updates
 - Upcoming Special Events
7. Old Business
8. New Business
 - SPLOST Expansion Updates
 - Revision of Ordinances
 - Special Meeting

The Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council made a motion to meet at Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Center on Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00PM.
 - {Action: Approved; Motion: Aulbach; Second: LaBerge; Vote: (7:0); Aulbach -Yes; Hunter-Yes; LaBerge-Yes; Martin- Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Parker-Yes; Womack-Yes}

9. Public Comments

10. Adjournment

- {Action: Approved; Motion: Aulbach; Second: Nicholas; Vote: (6:0); Aulbach -Yes; Hunter-Yes; Martin-Yes; Nicholas-Yes; Parker-Yes; Womack-Yes}



Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council

October 16, 2023

Vernon Sawyer, Director



Team Updates

(August – September 2023)

Welcomes

- Tasheeka Stewart, Assistant Director
- Cynthia Womack, Center Manager

Promotions

- Juliana Wheelis, ASA II
- Noah Hale, ACO II



Team Updates Continued

New Hires

- ACO I

Resignations

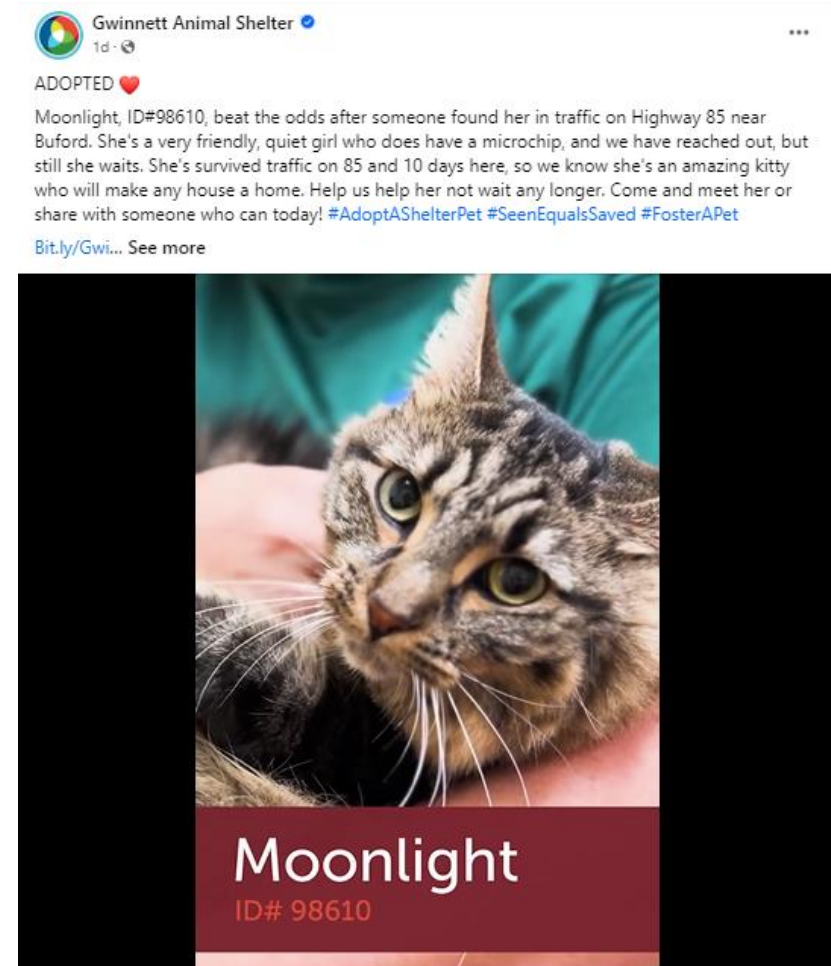
- None

Vacancies

- ASA I (2)
- ACO I (8)
- Animal Supervisor
- Animal Care Supervisor
- Animal Behaviorist (closing 10/16)
- Training Officer
 - Road Day/ Road Night

Website and Social Media

- 195,076 Animal Welfare homepage sessions in 2023
 - #10 on GwinnettCounty.com
- 59,523 Animal search page sessions in 2023
- 27,000 Followers on Facebook
- Videos posted on Facebook
- Average followers reached per post percentage is double than Facebook average (4.32%)*



Website and Social Media

- ~2,250 Reached per post since 2021
 - (~8% follower reach)
- Top-performing posts and interests of followers:
 - Shelter capacity, employee spotlight, and adoption follow-ups
- Average 275 new page likes per month since 2021
- Average 9.5 new page likes per post



Center Operations

Tasheeka Stewart
Assistant Director



A French Bulldog with grey and white fur is running happily on a green lawn. It has its mouth open and tongue out. In the background, there is a blue canopy and a chain-link fence. The image is part of a presentation slide with colorful geometric shapes (yellow, blue, pink) at the bottom.

Center Operations (August – September 2023)

- 1,291 New arrivals and intakes
- 1,500 Pounds of pet food distributed
- The Scratching Pad
- Daily play groups and walks
- Organization of kennel
- Kennel team structure

Center Operations

(August – September 2023)

	Aug – Sep 2023	Aug – Sep 2022	Total for 2022	YTD 2023
Visitors	4,357	4,349	25,003	16,286
Adoptions	765	783	4,360	2,677
Return to Owners	284	299	1,897	1,319

Euthanasia

(August – September 2023)

- 118 Animals euthanized
 - 73 Animals euthanized (August – September 2022)
- 36 Unassisted deaths
 - 25 Kittens, 3 cats, 3 dogs, 3 puppies, 1 bird, and 1 mammal
- 4 Felines sent for rabies testing
- 6 Canines sent for rabies testing

Euthanasia by Species

(August – September 2023)

Animal Type	In-House	Outside Vet
Dog	72	5
Puppy	2	0
Cat	6	9
Kitten	16	2
Bird (wildlife)	0	1
Mammal	12	0
Marsupial	3	0
Grand Total	111	17



Team Training

- Reptiles of Georgia
- Better Together Georgia Summit
- Code Three Training
- Southeastern Animal Control Association Conference
 - Officer Amaro presented and nominated to serve on board

Team Training Continued

- Animal transfer
- ASP baton
- Bite procedures
- Chemical capture
- Field and kennel training
- Fuel site
- Humane euthanasia
- Intake procedures
- Neglect
- Ordinance review
- Shelter Buddy cleaning procedure
- Rabies and heartworm

Workers Comp Incidents

August – September 2023

- 4 Cases
 - Field Team – 0
 - Center Team – 4

August – September 2022

- 8 Cases
 - Field Team – 3
 - Center Team – 5

Aggressive/Failed Behavior Eval.

(2021 October 10 - 2022)

Top 10 Breeds	2021	2022	YTD – Oct 10	Total By Breed
American Bulldog (size M – L)	1	3	2	6
American Bully (size M – L)	0	2	4	6
American Pit Bull (size M – L)	4	9	8	21
Boxer (size M – L)	3	2	4	9
German Shepherd (size M – L)	5	13	11	29
Labrador (size M – L)	9	11	26	46
Pit Bull (size M – L)	38	39	96	173
Rottweiler (size M – L)	1	5	12	18
Shepherd (size M – L)	2	6	12	20
Siberian Husky (size M – L)	6	12	19	37
Grand Total	69	102	194	365

Aggressive/Failed Behavior Eval.

(2021 – October 10, 2023)

Days in Care for Top Breeds	2021	2022	YTD – Oct 10	Total Days In Care By Breed	Overall Average Days In Care By Breed
American Bulldog (6)	5	131	26	162	54
American Bully (6)	0	257	30	287	96
American Pit Bull (21)	279	190	318	787	262
Boxer (9)	75	17	152	244	81
German Shepherd (29)	160	276	182	618	206
Labrador (46)	298	502	1,259	2,059	686
Pit Bull (173)	1,274	1,129	3,000	5,403	1801
Rottweiler (18)	44	81	461	586	195
Shepherd (20)	5	119	282	406	135
Siberian Husky (37)	303	312	365	980	326
Days of Care for Year	2,443	3,014	6,075		
Overall Average for Year	244.3	301.4	607.50		

Aggressive/Failed Behavior Eval.

(2021 – October 10, 2023)

Ages For Top Breeds*	Under 1 Year Puppy	1 – 6 Years Adult	7+ Years of Age Senior
American Bulldog	-	5	1
American Bully	-	3	1
American Pit Bull	1	18	2
Boxer	-	8	1
German Shepherd	-	21	4
Labrador	-	38	4
Pit Bull	3	127	5
Rottweiler	-	17	1
Shepherd	-	15	2
Siberian Husky	2	29	3

**Not all listings had age listed*

Current Shelter Population

Animals at the Bill Atkinson Center

- 10 Bite canines
- 54 Large canines
- 28 Medium canines
- 27 Large puppies
- 19 Small puppies
- 21 Holding canines
- 9 Neglect canines
- 19 Sick canines
- 3 Bite felines
- 8 Felines <1 year old
- 2 Feline adults
- 3 Felines respiratory
- 24 Neglect felines/maternity
- 22 Sick felines
- 1 Hen
- 5 Exotics
- 15 Surgery suite
- 50 Fosters
- 2 Intakes



Field Operations

Chris Emerson
Field Service Manager



Field Operations

(August – September 2023)

- 3,514 Calls for service
 - 10.3% increase compared to Aug-Sep 2022
- 1,210 Animals saved
- 73 Animals returned in the field
- 193 Citations issued



Field Operations

(August – September 2023)

	Aug – Sep 2023	Aug – Sep 2022	Total for 2022	YTD 2023
Animals Saved	1,210 591 August 619 September	1,179 636 August 543 September	96.05%	89.71%
Calls for Service	3,514	3,185	19,412	14,816
Animals Returned in Field	73	80	559	404
Citations Issued	193	173	1,135	788



Special Operations

Katrina Amaro
Special Operations Manager



Special Operations

(August – September 2023)

- 149 Animal Bites
 - 133 Animal Bites (Aug-Sep 2022)
- 2 Positive Rabies Cases
- 161 Animals Sent to Rescue



Dangerous/Vicious Hearing Board

(August – September 2023)

Dangerous Dogs	Vicious Dogs
1 Dangerous dog cases (hearing pending)	1 Vicious dog case (hearing pending)
0 Dogs declared dangerous	0 Dog classified as vicious
0 Hearings	0 Vicious dog hearings

Dangerous/Vicious Hearing Board

(August – September 2023)

	Aug – Sep 2023	Aug – Sep 2022	Total for 2022	YTD 2023
Animal Bites	142	133	676	569
Positive Rabies Cases	2	2	9	9

Rescues/Neglect/Court and Probation

(August – September 2023)

	Aug – Sep 2023	Aug – Sep 2022	Total for 2022	YTD 2023 – Sept.
Sent to a Rescue	161 <i>(66% increase from 2022)</i>	97	717	588
Neglect Cases	177	225	978	680
Court and Probation	104 <i>(27 placed on probation)</i>	121 <i>(45 placed on probation)</i>	623	516



Medical Services & Intake

Brittany Bradford
Manager



Fosters

(August – September 2023)

- 40 Home visits conducted
- 58 Animals in a foster home



Return to Community Cat Program

- 347 TNR'd
 - August 2023 – September 2023
- 254 TNR'd
 - August – September 2022
- Increased 36% from 2022



Return to Community Cat Program (August – September 2023)

Month	August – September 2022	August – September 2023
August	154	203
September	100	144
Grand Total	254	347

Owner Surrender Emails

(August – September 2023)

Month	August – September 2022	August – September 2023
August	171	226
September	120	211
Grand Total	291	437 <i>(50% increase from 2022)</i>



Outreach and Volunteers



Lisa Howell
**Volunteer and Resource
Coordinator**



Community Outreach (August – September 2023)

- Roberts Elementary
- Subaru of Gwinnett
- Dog Day Out Program
- Friendly Finder Program
- Veterinarian Guide for Adopters

Community Event Appearances

- Tractor Supply Company
- Pet Supplies Plus
- Earthwise
- Gwinnett Black Family Reunion
- Engage in Aging
- Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce Celebrity Softball Game
- Gwinnett Citizens Academy 101
- Harvest Food Festival



Just a little happy #WagYourTailWednesday for ya to start your day! These love bugs were pretty happy to finally meet their forever families, and they were all pretty happy too! Happy tales to our swe... See more



Community Pet Vaccination Clinics

- Society of Humane Friends of Georgia
 - 198 Dogs and cats serviced
 - 173 Rabies shots administered
 - Projecting 1,114 animals serviced YTD 2023

Community Pet Vaccination Clinics

- Planned PEThood of Georgia and Subaru of Gwinnett
 - 322 Dogs and cats serviced
 - 253 Rabies shots administered
 - Projecting 921 animals serviced YTD 2023

Upcoming Outreach

- **October 18:** Bark Break at Jenkins Elementary from 2:00pm to 3:00pm
- **October 19:** Bark Break at Freeman's Mill Elementary from 2:00pm to 3:00pm
- **October 22:** Volunteer Gwinnett Appreciation Party at Tribble Mill Park from 2:00pm to 5:00pm
- **November 11:** Education Event at Lawrenceville/Suwanee PetSmart from 10:00am to 2:00pm
- **November 12:** Vaccine Clinic with Society of Humane Friends of Georgia from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Upcoming Speaking Appearances

- October 20 – 21: Animal Protection and Wellness Expo
- October 28: STRAP and LSTRAP Youth Diversion Program
- October 30: Gwinnett Technical College
- October 31: Gwinnett County Employee Lunch and Learn

Volunteer Opportunities

- Gwinnett Great Days of Service (October 20 – 22)
- Community Events Hosted by Animal Welfare
 - November 4: Shelter Pets Rock
 - December 9: Brunch with SantaPaws
 - January 20: Wanna Go For A Walk





Thank You

GwinnettAnimalWelfare.com

[@GwinnettAnimalWelfare](https://www.instagram.com/GwinnettAnimalWelfare)