COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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Committee: Rules
Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date 6/20/13

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OTHER
(Use back side if additional space is needed)

Completed by: Linda Wong Date 6/17/13
Completed by: Date

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages. The complete document is in the file.
Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Animal Control & Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): __________________________ District: 3

Name: Amy J. Van Nest

Home Address: — Powell St #25 — Zip: 94108

Home Phone: (925) — Occupation: Legal Secretary

Work Phone: (415) 364-8200 Employer: Rose, Moline & Bentley

Business Address: 1001 Market St #500 Redwood City — Zip: 94063

Business E-Mail: awscott@rmb.com Home E-Mail: —@yahoo.com

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes ☒ No ☐ If No, where registered: __________

Resident of San Francisco ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ If No, place of residence: __________

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I am a animal lover that has taken it two injured foster cats from the shelters. I understand what it takes to take care of a pet in the city. The challenges people have with many apartments not allowing animals. I understand how much food & medical is for maintaining a healthy pet life. I would like to see more discounted pet services in the city.
Business and/or professional experience:

I am a legal secretary/paralegal/notary. I have office experience, travel arrangement & seminar experience & some knowledge of legal documents & insurance documents. I handle phones, computers, communications as well as other office equipment & systems.

Civic Activities:

I volunteer at the Humane Society & used to be a foster-parent. I also volunteer at the Macy's Windows Pet Adoptions.

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes ☐ No ☑

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: 4/8/13 Applicant’s Signature: (required) [Signature]

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.
Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Animal Control & Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): Any
district: ________

Name: James York

Home Address: 23rd St.
Zip: 94107

Home Phone: 415__ Occupation: Animal Maintain

Work Phone: 415 324 3594 Employer: Self

Business Address: 1920 23rd St.
Zip: 94107

Business E-Mail: Jyork@astound.net Home E-Mail: @astound.net

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes [ ] No [ ] If No, where registered: ________

Resident of San Francisco [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] If No, place of residence: ________

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

See Attachments
Business and/or professional experience:

see attachments

Civic Activities:

see attachments

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes [ ] No [ ]

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: 5/28/13  Applicant's Signature: (required)  

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Appointed to Seat #: Term Expires: Date Seat was Vacated:

01/2012
James Yorck
23rd St., San Francisco, CA 94107
415.
@astound.net

Objective
Seeking appointment to The San Francisco Animal Control & Welfare Commission.

Profile
Maintain Aviaries for Managed Care Facilities Self Employed, San Francisco, CA 2001 to present
Avian Boarding, Grooming, Consultation Self Employed, San Francisco, CA, 2001 to present
Spectrum Exotic Birds Owner/Chief Bottle Washer, Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA 1978 - 2000

Education
B.A. Upsala College East Orange, NJ 1975

Summary of Qualifications
Small Business Owner in San Francisco, Retail Store, 23 years
Resident of San Francisco, 36 years
Experience caring for exotic birds, 35 years
Working with the public regarding exotic birds, 35 years
Customer support with caring for their pet birds
Rehoming of pet birds – When I opened my store my first sale was a rehomed African Grey Parrot. He came with the name Moses. Moses led the way and over the years I became a major resource for finding new homes for pet birds within the city. For example from January to April 8th of this year I have rehomed 100 pet birds.

Membership / Affiliations
NFSS – National Finch and Softbill Society
AFOHG – American Federation of Human Gadflies, founder, chairman and sole member
DCCC – Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee
2013/ Rules Committee/ My Objective

My name is Jamie Yorck and I want to thank you for considering me for the Animal Welfare & Control Commission. This is my third year to seek appointment to the Commission. I don't expect to ever be appointed to this Commission even though I'll keep applying. I do think by reapplying my voice might be heard by the Board of Supervisors. It's become clear to me that appointment is all about politics and the Commissioners are completely in control of who makes the team. For example, last year at this Rules Committee meeting, one of the Supervisors retold a rumor that strongly indicated that my store had been investigated for animal cruelty. News to me! I left the meeting and went to ACC only to find out that my records had been hot reading for the day. I now have copies of my records which I'd be happy to show to any Supervisor who is interested and no, I never was investigated for animal cruelty.

For more than 35 years, I've lived and worked in San Francisco. From 1978 to the end of 2000, I owned a small exotic bird store on Fillmore Street. I think my experience in the pet business uniquely qualifies me with an expertise and a perspective that few others in this room have regarding pets and the rehoming of them.

In attempt to add another perspective to the viewpoints of the Commissioners, I regularly speak at the meetings and as, you'll learn, I'm passionate about finding practical solutions to how we can implement positive change. Last year and the year before, I presented to the Rules Committee a petition with over 300 signatures that both condemned the one-sidedness of the Animal Welfare Commission and also supported my appointment.

I began attending the commission meetings several years ago, when the Animal Welfare Commission was considering a ban on the sale of pets in San Francisco. A few months later the Commission was seriously deliberating upon another ban- the banning of the Blue Grass Festival from Golden Gate Park because it interfered with the feeding habits of the feral cat population. This definitely was more fun than the cooking channel; I was hooked! Ever since then, I have piously attended all except one of their meetings.

This Commission is supposed to be the eyes and ears of San Francisco and to serve the community. Unfortunately, the Commission is an exclusive club for paternalistic ideologues who refuse to work with people with differing view points.

Again, I don't expect to be appointed to the Commission because I'm not a representative of one of the various animal non profits. I'm not the politically correct choice for you, but isn't it time that the members of this Commission reflect the diversity of ideas which are so very present in our city. Isn't it time the Commission take an inclusive view to new ideas and new people and use all the
many options available to help rehome unwanted pets and find solutions to other animal related issues.

Thank you.

Addendum:

I would personally like to thank Ms. Rebecca Katz, the Director of the ACC, for her open mindedness to suggestions and ideas and her willingness to tackle projects in new and creative ways. In 2010 I and others told her and other rescues to lower their adoption fees so that they could stay competitive: she did!

Then we put forward the not so new idea that pet shops could be utilized by ACC and the SFASPCA to help in the rehoming of unwanted pets. Well there has been a long standing bias against working with pet shops (those with pets) held by the San Francisco animal activist. Ms Katz pursued a different tack; she enlisted the help of a small local pet supply chain which was deemed political correct to help in the rehoming of these pets. The result can be seen the next time you visit ACC, plenty of empty cages.
Animal Control and Welfare Commission: May 2013

My Parrot is a Vegan is your Dog One?

In the past few years there has been a great nationwide outcry by environmentalists over the deaths of 1/2 million native birds caused by wind turbines within this country. Billions of dollars have been spent on trying to improve things. But if you compare morality rates of wind turbines versus cats: it’s a ratio of 1 bird for renewable energy to 7000 birds for the feral cats’ lunch. For me the most frightening thing of all was that there has been barely a peep media over the massacre.

I believe that this Commission’s proposal to discourage humans from feeding wild animals on city land is a good and important one. I believe environmental problems trump the sometimes petty concerns of pet enthusiasts. I purposely brought up the topic of the feral cat dilemma again and again because if you don’t deal with it within this Commission, there never will be any legislation.

By making the goals of this proposal modest it should be an easy slam dunk for the Board of Supervisors.

Nowadays, we shop with our own bags, we recycle our trash and we buy fuel efficient cars. If this proposal is passed by the Board of Supervisors, it will serve as another ecological statement. It sends a good message by reminding us, in yet another way that we should be more careful in what we do on our planet.

If this Commission recommends a reasonable ecological proposal it might also help to thaw its relations with the Board of Supervisors. In the recent past, the environmental record of this Commission has been lacking. For example, doggie walking versus the breeding grounds of the Snowy Plover; this Commission’s ecological creditability can be viewed as to serve the little principalities within itself.

To be a Progressive means that sometimes we all have to give up a little something to move forward. Since 1997 there are 9 sanctioned feral cat feeding areas within Golden Gate Park. There are an additional 80 unsanctioned covert feeding sites. Do you think that it is possible to embrace the “Yes We Can” spirit? Can we show the nation tangible results of the Spray, Neuter and Release program? By voluntarily reducing the number the sanctioned feeding areas within Golden Gate Park, even by one, it will show the nation the beginning of success of one program and on the other hand solidarity with another important and progressive idea.

On occasion I do miss having my free paper bags but I know we are on a better path without them.
Animal Control and Welfare Commission: February 2013

February 4th article in The Chronicle; No. 1 Bird Killer is Outdoor Cats

"Wildlife experts were stunned by a new report last week that as many as 3.7 billion birds were killed by outdoor cats in the ...U.S. last year. That’s far more than the 1 billion that previously had been estimated and more than are killed by any other single source...." Looking at the data from Mother Jones Magazine, the other major causes of bird deaths are: flying into buildings and power lines also flying into communication and wind towers and death by pesticides. If you combine the totals of all these other factors you only get 1.3 billion in opposition to the 3.7 billion attributed to cats.

The Chronicle article goes on to “indicate that unowned cats are responsible for the vast majority of bird deaths- 70%. Yet policies in cities like San Francisco do little to address the gruesome toll of feral cats on wildlife.” Further on it says that “feeding and maintaining large feral cat populations may seem humane for cats- but it a death warrant for birds and other wildlife.”

All our Fluffys and Rovers can be considered as causing ecological damage. We all have to give something up to make things a little better for the whole.

Animal Control and Welfare Commission: March 2013

Again at the SFAWC meeting in March I hit home the point of this hypocrisy but in a different way. The particulars were the Animal Rights Naturalists big squawk over the deaths of ½ million native birds by wind turbines. Put in relationship to cats; 1 native bird sacrificed to provide us with clean energy versus 7,000 birds (not even a peep) in providing feral cats lunch; the whole argument is absurd!!!

Addendum:

Here in San Francisco it is not only that the cat people have weird ideas; the doggie activists have their own egocentric ecological eccentricities revolving around dog walking versus the breeding ground for a threatened bird species named the Snowy Plover. The doggie people won and the population of the Plover will diminish. These people only give lip service to the ecology.
Animal Control and Welfare Commission: January 2013

We live in the city named after Saint Francis with the ensuing myth of his great kindness and love of all animals. Unfortunately, in their zeal for a greater good, many of our home-grown Franciscan pet activists feel entitled to disregard some of the other biblical teachings.... especially the one about "Thou shall not bare false witness."

Front page October 2010 edition of the S.F. Weekly- "ACC rescues 35 cockatiels" the article stated that the birds were from an unknown source from within San Francisco and the onus was directed at our local pet stores. But just only a month before, at a meeting, a member of Mickaboo bird rescue stood up and bemoaned the fate of exactly 35 cockatiels but these birds were located in Lake County. Clearly these 35 cockatiels had been smuggled from Lake County to San Francisco County and clearly this was another attempt by our Evangelical pet activists to vilify our local stores. Commissioners Stephens, Gerrie and Hemphill attended this meeting and also present was Kat Brown*** the assistant director of ACC. Is there improper collusion to deceive the citizens of San Francisco between the rescues, the Commissioners and a rogue staff member of ACC?

How many pets per year are smuggled from outside of the city into ACC to inflate a crisis? Is it 35 or is it 350? I do support helping our neighbors but I do think that the people of this city deserve an honest accounting!

Is there any moral difference between manipulating an increase in the totals at ACC versus the recent manipulations by Republican officials to decrease voter participation, as in Ohio and Florida?

I don't understand; in terms of causes and ideals, this Commission holds the moral higher ground but in terms of action; they always stoop to the low road approach... This Commission is suppose to be the eyes and ears of San Francisco and to serve the community. Unfortunately, the present Commission is an exclusive little club of ideologues that are so dogmatic that they refuse to work with people with differing points of view.
October, 2012 Rules Committee

Priorities: During last year's Rules Committee Commissioner nominations, the Animal Welfare Commission had took up nearly 1 1/2 hrs. of the City's time while the Children and Families First Commission had only 1/2 hr... priorities?

In these dismal financial times I am bearing good news. 40 years ago 20,000,000 dogs and cats in shelters were euthanized every year in the United States. That worked out to 1 dog or cat that was put down yearly for every 10 humans. Our forefathers; the so called "greatest generation", were not so great when it came to Fluffy and Rover.

Nowadays, we should all take pride in the fact that nationally the annual shelter euthanasia rate has dropped to nearly 1 dog or cat per 100 humans and furthermore within the City of San Francisco we should celebrate the fact that there are only 1.2 deaths per 1,000 San Franciscans.

In 2009, New York's Mayor Bloomberg declared a victory over the unnecessary slaughter of adoptable dogs and cats. N.Y.C. government services were very effective in their efforts of rehoming by coordinating with the Animal Rescues and with the local Pet Stores throughout the 5 boroughs; thus reducing the number of needless euthanasia. By proclaiming a victory and embodying the "Yes We Can" spirit, New Yorkers were uplifted and reenergized; demonstrating that with time, effort and money almost anything can be fixed in this society of ours. Yes we can... make the world better!

On the other hand, starting in 2009, the San Francisco Animal Control Welfare Commission went negative. Citing an excessive euthanasia rate and overpopulation in our city's shelters and rescues they wanted to mandate a citywide ban of the sale of pets from pet stores. Unfortunately their premises were absolute fabrications. If one looks at ACC statistics for 2009 under the category of "available" meaning "adoptable without defect", not one dog or cat was euthanized. In fact for that year under the category of "available" the only pets euthanized in the City and County of San Francisco were 10 mice and 2 hamsters. As for overpopulation in our local shelters and rescues; if that is the case why is that Pets Unlimited and the SFSPCA are bussing in several thousand dogs and cats from the Central Valley or flying them in from Taiwan?

Don't get me wrong, I thoroughly support bringing in pets from other locals and rehoming here where we have the demand and resources. I think this program could be vastly expanded without spending another dime. Unfortunately, in the last 25 years, because of a "holier-than-thou" attitude and an uncompromising ideological agenda, animal rights activist refuse to work together with pet shops (those that sell live animals) or pet supply stores to create additional
opportunities to find homes for shelter animals. I'm familiar with a pet shop near Santa Rosa that works with the local Humane Society to rehome cats. The store averages 300 cat adoptions a year. The Basic Bird pet store in Berkeley rehomes (in house) 75 cats a year and also frequently sponsors a rescue group which displays cats for adoption in front of its store on weekends. With some prodding over the last two years, I'm finally starting to see a slight change in attitude from the ACC and ASPCA but we still aren't utilizing one of our very best avenues for pet adoption. Just think of how many more pets could be rehomed in San Francisco if pet shops and pet supply stores would be allowed to fully participate.

I've been going to the meetings of the Animal Welfare Commission for the past two years. Originally I began attending because of the pet ban consideration. I was amazed that in our incredibly creative, fair and open city that this was the best solution that they could dig up. I have continued to attend because I think a different voice should be heard other than the "fringe" and a commission that is stuck on one note. What has struck me most about the present commission is how suffocating ideologically oriented they are; completely closed to practical or new ideas in resolving issues. I feel that with my voiced added to the Animal Welfare Commission there could be a more pragmatic approach in dealing with the future.
4/8/12 SPCA Statistics should be in Pinocchio's Doghouse!

I was very impressed with the size and scope of the survey conducted by Dr. Scarlett and the SFSPCA. Getting 426 San Franciscans to respond to a phone survey must have meant thousands of calls and hundreds of people-hours of work. What I found of particular interest was the great disparity between the National Statistics and the San Francisco SPCA survey in nearly every category of question. For example, San Franciscans acquire dogs from shelters 3 times higher than the national average.

As I said, all of Dr. Scarlett's categories showed significant difference between National and Local statistics. All categories except for the category called "Acquisition of Dogs from Pet Stores". Nationally that total is 7% and the SFSPCA's survey matched with 7%. Armed with this statistic, Dr. S went on to espouse her personal support of this Commissioner proposed "PET BAN" of 2010.

Using Dr. Scarlett's own calculations, that San Franciscans acquire 8-10 thousand new dogs every year would mean that the local pet stores who sell dogs must churn them out at a rate of 560 to 700 dogs per year. Those figures didn't strike me as right so I decided to do my own survey. State law requires pet stores to keep records of all dog sales which made my job easy. I visited the dog-selling pet stores who were happy to share their numbers, these totaled to about 130 dog sales (not 5-7 hundred) to San Francisco residents. Adding a margin of error of 33% you still only reach 175 dogs sold by local pet stores. This is only 2% - I wonder why this statistic needed to be inflated to 7%?

I am vexed, and also saddened, but most of all totally FATOOTSED AT THE LEVEL OF dishonesty of this Commission and Animal Rights Activists within San Francisco. Starting nearly 2 years ago with Ms. Katz proclaiming on television that ACC receives 300 pet birds a year; when in reality her own statistics clearly shows an intake of 109 birds...to this Commission's Pinocchio episode with the Examiner and members of the Board of Supervisors where you claim that there are 4 pet stores in SF selling dogs instead of the correct number which is 1....and now this; the head of the SPCA artistically fabricating the empirical data of a survey to help support her cause. I think this Commission and the Animal Rights activists who grace this hall's new motto should be... "If the statistics don't fit; we'll make our own shit."

4/23/12 Addendum

At the March 8th meeting of the Animal Welfare Commission, Dr. Scarlett made public the S.P.C.A.'s findings from a 2011 phone survey to learn were and
how San Francisco residents acquire dogs. We were told that 426 S.F. residents responded to this phone survey. By April 18th, a different version of the survey was published in the Chronicle. The number of S.F. residents responding to the new survey had now dropped to only 300 and somehow another “408 Bay Area” residents from outside the city where added to this survey. The most incredible thing about these 2 surveys was that the statistical results were absolutely.... exactly..... identical.

So, how many surveys did the SPCA conduct or maybe the better question is how many versions of the survey are out there? Why can't they do a survey and stick to empirical fact. What are they trying to gain or hide from this smoke and mirrors charade?
In June of 2011, 4 of the current members of this Animal Welfare Commission stood before the Rules Committee. They presented the Supervisors with a fact sheet. This "fact sheet" stated "as fact" that there are 4 pet shops in the City of San Francisco that sell dogs. This Fact was an intentional lie!

Commissioner Gerrie clarified when asked in July of 2009 that there was only one pet store in SF which sells 50 to 75 dogs per year. A month and a half later, another meeting included Commissioners Stephens, Hemphill and Gerrie and the owner of Pet Central, the single dog-selling establishment. It was known and mentioned before the meeting that this was the only store that sells dogs in the city.

It is interesting to see how a lie takes on its own life. First the lie was put before the Members of the Board of Supervisors. Then, the next month the lie, still alive and well, shows up in this chamber, over on that table, next to the copies of the minutes and agenda. Still not a peep about the lie and I'm sorry to say neither complicity nor ignorance are good excuses! Finally it hits the Examiner; "Let's lie to the public." We all know that once a lie is published, it becomes our new truth.

So why lie to the Supervisors and the Public? Could it be "the ends justify the means"? For the last year and a half that I have been coming here, I feel that most of the commissioners and their allies, care more about their political agenda than they care about lowering the euthanasia rate. They care more about their ideology than increasing the opportunities for rehoming of companion pets. This commission and its allies don't care if they tell the truth; they'll do what it takes to get what they want.

Members of this commission and its allies continuously speak for the moral high road. But if they continue being disingenuous and /or lie; they will end up sounding like self righteous sanctimonious hypocrites, worse, they will be letting down the People of San Francisco.
August 2010- AWC Meeting

Last month was the first meeting to include opponents of the proposed ban at this Commission. At the beginning of the meeting the commissioners presented themselves with a little bio and a short synopsis of their views. When they finished my partner passed me a note.....it said..."the Commissioners have already decided."

Before the meeting a group of us had informally met with the commissioners to be advised on how the meeting would be conducted, during this meeting I realized that the commissioners had at the last minute altered the venue. The group against the ban had the floor for the first 2.5 hours. We all listened in amazement as the Commissioners lobbed softball questions to their friends in the rescues and fired cannon at the people who were against the ban. The Commissioners...... had already decided.

In the newspaper, a commissioner stated that she had been working on this proposed ban for over 2 years. As it turns out, the groups pushing this ban have had the ear of the commission for 2 years, the general public has only known about this proposal for 2 months. I also noticed that her article was in lockstep with two other articles written by animal rescue groups....The Commissioners.... had already decided.

In the last month there have been meetings with the local Pet stores owners and several of the Commissioners. The stores offered solutions ranging from helping with re-homing of pets, to suggestions that Animal Control and the rescues lower some of their adoption fees, to a moratorium on opening any new pet stores. These suggestions were blown off. The Commissioners... had already decided.

It seems that now, instead of touting the big ban......the Commissioners are feeling the political winds blowing against them..... They have come up with a new proposal..... under the guise of pet owner education. Instead of an outright ban to close pet stores ....they intend to strangle them to death. This proposal is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

I say that this Commission's 15 minutes of fame is over and ask the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to dismiss this one sided Commission and to replace them with citizens who are willing to be impartial and open minded in finding solutions that will work for all of us.
Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Animal Welfare Commission

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 3, 4, 5 A.C. District: ______

Name: Laura Gretch

Home Address: 1 Funston Ave. SF, CA Zip: 94116

Home Phone: 415- Occupation: Community Services Program Manager

Work Phone: 415-522-3564 Employer: San Francisco SPCA

Business Address: 201 Alabama St. SF, CA Zip: 94103

Business E-Mail: l.gretch@sfsPCA.org Home E-Mail: l.gretch@gmail.com

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes ☑ No ☐ If No, where registered: __________

Resident of San Francisco: Yes ☑ No ☐ If No, place of residence: __________

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

[Blank space for response]
Business and/or professional experience:

Civic Activities:

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment?  Yes [x] No [ ]

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made.  *Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing."

Date: 5/2/13  Applicant's Signature: (required)

*Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Appointed to Seat #: Term Expires: Date Seat was Vacated: 01/20/12

Received Time May. 2, 2013 1:07PM No. 1040
Laura Gretch  

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

In my role as the Community Cares Program Manager at the San Francisco SPCA, a community-supported nonprofit organization that serves all residents of San Francisco, I remain tirelessly dedicated to serving and advocating on behalf of the underserved communities in San Francisco, including the Bayview-Hunters Point and Excelsior-Outer Mission districts. In particular, as the direct result of my leadership and vision in these districts, the SF SPCA launched and continues to offer several successful programs designed to reduce barriers for pets and guardians in the city. For example, I personally oversee free monthly wellness clinic for pets of low-income community members, dog training classes for those dogs most at risk at ending up in the shelter, and free transportation for spay/neuter appointments that enables the SF SPCA to make inroads to reach animals that, if not for such transportation, would not otherwise come through the doors of the SF SPCA.

In addition to my extensive community outreach efforts, I manage the SF SPCA's Community Cats program, which progressively addresses issues associated with feral and free-roaming cats all over the city. In this capacity, I interact with city officials and diverse constituent members from different neighborhoods in San Francisco on a daily basis, and I continually work to form strong and sensible stakeholder partnerships that enable the SF SPCA to provide essential spay and neuter and veterinary services to the community. For example, under my leadership, the SF SPCA has peppered every neighborhood in the city with innovative multilingual marketing materials, thereby greatly expanding our community network and more effectively addressing the community issue of community cats in San Francisco.

Business and/or professional experience:

I serve as the Community Cares Program Manager at the San Francisco SPCA. The Community Cares Program works with at risk and underserved communities in San Francisco to ensure the health and safety of owned, homeless and feral animals, while aggressively working to reduce the number of animals entering the shelter system each year. In 2010 Community Cares launched a mobile clinic to vaccinate pets in neighborhoods where veterinary services were lacking and animals were often abandoned. Under my leadership the program has grown to serve more than 2,000 clients each year, providing preventive veterinary care, spay/neuter surgery, dog training classes and transportation for clients.

I also lead the SF SPCA's Community Cats program, which focuses on providing services for feral and free roaming cats throughout San Francisco. I have increased the scope of this program to include medical care for ferals and a no-reservations-needed schedule for community cats in need of veterinary services, and conflict resolution with city officials, property owners and caregivers. In 2012, the program provided free veterinary services to nearly 2,000 community cats and saw a dramatic 13% drop in cat intake to the San Francisco municipal shelter.

Prior to my position with the SF SPCA, I worked on open access adoption programs at the Boston Massachusetts SPCA, including work with both the Boston and Salem, MA police department task forces on breed specific legislation issues and housing ordinances relating to pet guardianship.

Civic Activities:

Active in neighborhood watch groups, volunteer experience with Election Day, Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) and Disaster Emergency Response Team (DERT) certified.
April 30, 2013

Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

The Honorable San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

Re: Support for Laura Gretch Candidacy for San Francisco Animal Welfare Commission

On behalf of the San Francisco SPCA, a community-supported animal welfare organization founded in 1868, we are writing to confer our strong support for Laura Gretch in her application to fill vacant seat number 3, 4, 5 or 6 on the San Francisco Animal Control and Welfare Commission.

As Co-Presidents of the SF SPCA, we have enjoyed the pleasure of knowing Laura both professionally and personally. In her role as the Community Cares Program Manager at the SF SPCA, Laura demonstrates daily an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of San Francisco’s animals and pet guardians. Whether striving to reduce economic barriers to pet care and services for low-income guardians in San Francisco, or cooperatively working with diverse constituents and City officials to proactively address the community issue of outdoor cats in San Francisco, Laura’s leadership has proven an invaluable resource to the SF SPCA, as well as countless individuals and animals across the City.

Laura’s unique expertise in the animal welfare industry and ability to engage various stakeholders to reach common-sense consensus on a wide variety of issues involving animals in San Francisco make her an excellent candidate for the Commission. The SF SPCA heartily supports her candidacy.
Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Scarlett, DVM
Co-President

Jason Walthall
Co-President
Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
(415) 554-5184 FAX (415) 554-7714

Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: **Commission of Animal Control and Welfare**

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 3, 4, 5, 6 District: 5

Name: **Russell Tengsky**

Home Address: — Buchanan St. Apt. Y — Zip: 94102

Home Phone: 415- Occupation: **Unemployed**

Work Phone: — Employer: —

Business Address: — Zip: —


Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes ☑ No ☐ If No, where registered: —

Resident of San Francisco: ☑ Yes ☐ No If No, place of residence: —

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

**Please see attachment for answers to questions.**
Business and/or professional experience:

PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT.

Civic Activities:

PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT.

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment?  Yes [ ] No [ ]

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: 5/28/13  Applicant's Signature: (required)  [Signature]

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Appointed to Seat #:  Term Expires:  Date Seat was Vacated: 01/2022
Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a), please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

As a longtime resident of San Francisco’s District 5, and a longtime member of the local animal protection community, I have a firm grasp of both the local animal protection issues and our political environment. I also have the unique perspective of being born with a congenital heart defect. This has forced me to navigate San Francisco’s health care and hospital systems and enabled me to appreciate how the average San Franciscan interacts with the local government. Furthermore, I have experience working directly with members of every sexual identity, gender group, ethnic background and financial strata; and assisting people living with HIV/AIDS and other chronic illnesses, and their companion animals.

Business and/or professional experience:

As the Director of Communications for two local animal protection organizations (In Defense of Animals and The Oceanic Society), I have over five years of professional experience conducting communications, outreach, public relations and educational efforts on behalf of animals. I have direct experience working to change local municipal codes that effect animals, including working with the Commission of Animal Care and Welfare. Additionally, I have a Masters Degree in Applied Ethics, focusing directly on animal rights and welfare.

Civic Activities:

I have been a volunteer at Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS) since 2010. My responsibilities require me to interact with San Franciscans who do not have the physical capacity or financial resources to completely care for their companion animals. I must answer a myriad of questions about animal welfare and offer information about local animal care services. I have also been a Heart-to-Heart Ambassador with the Adult Congenital Heart Association (ACHA) for over three years. I am an Ambassador for congenital heart patients and their family members in need of assistance, and represent ACHA at local conferences, exhibitions and patient/parent groups. I am also a member of the Editorial Board of the Nonhuman Rights Project, where I write, edit and produce content for their web site and monthly newsletter.
Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 3, 4, 5 or 6 District: 5

Name: ZACHARY MARKS

Home Address: McAllister St. B Zip: 94118

Home Phone: 925- Occupation: NONPROFIT DIRECTOR

Work Phone: 925-888-6888 Employer: CALIFORNIA BRAIN TUMOR ASSOC.

Business Address: CABTA@ME.COM Zip: N/A

Business E-Mail: CABTA@ME.COM Home E-Mail: ZACKMARKS.COM

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes ☒ No ☐ If No, where registered: 

Resident of San Francisco ☐ Yes ☒ No If No, place of residence:

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

My qualifications specific to the Animal Control & Welfare Commission include volunteering at the SF SPCA with my golden retriever, and participating in Animal Assisted Therapy at VA hospitals. I have owned animals my entire life and have studied the minds of pets. I have attended all commission meetings. I have a MA in politics from the University of San Francisco and used to work as a dog walker.
Business and/or professional experience:

Please refer to my attached resume. I have a tremendous amount of business and professional experience.

Civic Activities:

Please refer to my attached resume. Thank you.

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes☐ No ☐

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: 5/23/13  Applicant’s Signature: (required)

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Appointed to Seat #: Term Expires: Date Seat was Vacated: 01/20/12
ZACK MARKS
www.zackmarks.com | www.linkedin.com/in/zackmarks | 925 — — @cabta.org

Visionary Strategist / Inspirational Leader / Social Media Expert / Certified Web Designer

SUMMARY

• Specialization in organizational planning, research, and project management
• Comprehensive public relations and community engagement skills
• Extensive public affairs, negotiation, and leadership experience
• Significant insight into conflict resolution and sustainability
• Passionate about coalition building and social advocacy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City & County of San Francisco, City Hall | San Francisco, California 2012 – Present
Chairman: Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee
Serve as liaison between public and governmental agencies for pedestrian-related projects
Advise the Board of Supervisors regarding policy, funding, & enforcement recommendations
Provide expertise regarding pedestrian safety, funding allocation, and strategic planning
Work closely with: Board of Supervisors, Municipal Transportation Agency, SFPD, SFPUC, DPW, SFCTA, and other city departments, commissions, boards, and agencies
Make recommendations as part of the Mayor's Pedestrian Safety Task Force regarding funding, priorities, policies, and programs for the SF Pedestrian Safety Strategy

City & County of San Francisco | San Francisco, California 2013 – Present
Committee Member: SF County Transportation Authority
Create financially constrained investment scenarios for the SF Transportation Plan
Draft and evaluate investment scenario equity analysis methodology

California Brain Tumor Association | Lafayette, California 2008 – Present
Executive Director (Recipient of an honorable commendation from the SF Board of Supervisors)
Testify before the US Senate / House, and appear on national TV as a precautionary action advocate
Recommend, plan, develop, implement, and monitor important programs, grants, and functions
Working with federal, state, and local governments to pass a landmark public health disclosure laws
Host didactic symposiums with 100+ attendees, featuring State Senators
Perform complex budget and legislative analyses

City & County of San Francisco, City Hall | San Francisco, California 2012
Trainer and Presenter: Department of Elections
Presented and delivered training curriculum to thousands of Election Officials
Served a registered-voting base of > 450,000 San Francisco citizens
Taught Election Inspector training courses and resolved ADA-related issues
Administered the oath of office on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco
Supervised: 3,200 Poll Workers, 570 Election Inspectors, 55 Field Election deputies,
22 District Leads, 30 Technicians, and 107 Deputy Sheriffs at the Election Center
ZACK MARKS


City & County of San Francisco, City Hall | San Francisco, California 2011

Legislative and Fiscal Policy Fellow: Office of Mayor Edwin M. Lee
Devised comprehensive recommendations through complex public policy analysis
Wrote internal legislative briefing memos and identified implementation strategies
Scheduled activities (e.g., travel, speaking engagements, special events, meetings, etc.)

Environmental Health Trust | www.ehtrust.org 2011 – 2012

West Coast Director
Championed cell phone safety legislation before local, state, and federal agencies
Developed and evaluated complex management, administrative, and fiscal policies
Implemented and managed program planning, research, analysis, and writing
Designed, assessed, grew, managed, and monitored strategic relationships
Analyzed public policies, determining benchmarks in comprehensive reports
Supervised staff and prioritized projects

Marks Brothers Motors, LLC | Lafayette, California 2004 – 2008

Founder and Small Business Owner
Managed a fully-licensed, bonded, and insured luxury-automobile dealership
Supervised personnel and all operations (e.g., marketing, accounting, sales, web design, etc.)


Administrative Analyst
Worked in Senator Kennedy’s personal office and briefed the Senator on his schedule
Participated in Senate committee hearings on prisoner abuse and same-sex marriage

International TEFL Academy | Florence, Italy 2004

Teacher and Tutor
Provided tutoring services and taught English to a culturally diverse group of students
Mentored students, edited assignments, and drafted lesson plans

Governor Bill Owens | Denver, Colorado 2003

Communications Fellow
Researched and wrote speeches for the Colorado Office of Innovation and Technology

EDUCATION

Master of Public Affairs and Practical Politics | University of San Francisco 2011
Leo T. McCarthy Center for Public Service and the Common Good—SF, CA - 3.8 GPA
Study Abroad - The West Bank - Beyond Bridges - De Swig Israel Scholarship

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science | University of Colorado at Boulder 2005
Minor in Philosophical Foundations of Law—Boulder, CO - Honors
Study Abroad - University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

Web Design Intensive for Business Professionals Certificate | SF State University 2013

AFFILIATIONS
SF SPCA * SF Planning and Urban Research Association * SF for Democracy * Democratic Party
Walk SF * SF Bicycle Coalition * SF Tomorrow * Sigma Pi Fraternity * National Forensics League
REFERENCES

Aaron Hahn Tapper, Ph.D.
Program Director and Professor - Abraham’s Vision
ajhahntapper@usfca.edu
(415) 422-2378

Antoinette “Toni” Stein, Ph.D.
Environmental Engineer
tweil@igc.org
(650) 823-7662

Bret Bocook, Esq.
CEO and Founder - Worldslaw.com
bbocook@worldslaw.com
(650) 387-1903

Brian Weiner, Ph.D.
Associate Professor - University of San Francisco
weinerb@usfca.edu
(415) 422-6861

Corey Cook, Ph.D.
Director of the McCarthy Center and Professor - University of San Francisco
cdcook@usfca.edu
(415) 422-6163

David Carpenter, Ph.D.
Director of the Institute for Health - University of Albany
carpent@uamail.albany.edu
(518) 525-2660

David Ryan
Faculty Director and Professor - University of San Francisco
ryand@usfca.edu
(415) 422-5524

Devra Davis, Ph.D. MPH
Nobel Prize Laureate and Author - Environmental Health Trust
ddavis@ehtrust.org
(202) 427-2206
James Johnson  
CEO and President, Myers Johnson  
jim@jamesrjohnson.net  
(650) 595-8888

Jason Elliott  
Legislative Director - San Francisco Mayor’s Office  
jason.elliott@sfgov.org  
(415) 554-6141

Kevin Hickey  
Senior Manager - Jewish Vocational Service (JVS)  
kevinphickey@yahoo.com  
(415) 391-3600

Lloyd Morgan  
Senior Research Fellow - Environmental Health Trust  
lloyd.l.morgan@gmail.com  
(510) 841-4362

Rabbi Steven Chester  
rchester@sbcglobal.net

Robin Brasso  
Independent Education Management Professional  
robinbrasso@yahoo.com

Yelena Kravtsova  
San Francisco Department of Elections  
yelena.kravtsova@sfgov.org  
(818) 653-8916
To Whom It May Concern:

As the Berkeley City Councilmember representing District 3 I highly recommend Zachary Marks for the available position at your office.

Zachary is a gifted individual, and I met him when he spoke before the Berkeley City Council on the cell phone "Right to Know" issue. He was an excellent public speaker and presented as an intelligent professional person with a pleasant demeanor. Currently, Zachary works at San Francisco City Hall and used to work for Mayor Ed Lee. In addition, I heard that Zachary used to work for Senator Kennedy in DC. Zachary is also the Executive Director of the California Brain Tumor Association, which is a public health organization recently commended by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Zachary hosted an event at UC Berkeley, and I was the featured guest speaker. Zachary also planned and hosted a didactic event at the University of San Francisco at which I heard Senator Mark Leno present along with Senator Leland Yee.

I offer high recommendations for Zachary without reservation. His drive, abilities, and organizational skills will truly be an asset to your office. Zachary is a promising and accomplished young man with a tremendous amount of potential. He specializes in research, writing, public speaking, outreach and advocacy. In addition, he has worked in public, nonprofit and public sectors.

I strongly urge you to consider him for the available position. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Max Anderson
Councilmember, District 3
Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: **ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE COMMISSION**

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 5  District: 7

Name: **SALLY STEPHENS**

Home Address: **QUINTARA ST, SAN FRANCISCO, CA**  Zip: 94116

Home Phone: 415-  Occupation: **RETIRED SCIENCE WRITER**

Work Phone: **SAME**  Employer: **FREELANCE, SELF-EMPLOYED**

Business Address: **SAME**  Zip:

Business E-Mail: N/A  Home E-Mail: 1@MINDSPRING.COM

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes ☑  No ☐  If No, where registered: 

Resident of San Francisco  ☑ Yes ☐  No ☐  If No, place of residence:  

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

SEE ATTACHED STATEMENT & RESUME
Business and/or professional experience:

SEE ATTACHED RESUME

Civic Activities:

SEE ATTACHED RESUME + STATEMENT

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment?  Yes [X]  No  

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: 5/5/13  Applicant’s Signature: (required)

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once Completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Appointed to Seat #:  Term Expires:  Date Seat was Vacated:
01/20/12
RESUME
Sally Stephens
Application for Reappointment to Seat 5
Commission on Animal Control and Welfare
5/6/13

EDUCATION:
B.S. in Physics, Summa Cum Laude; University of Toledo, Ohio; March 1979
M.S. in Astronomy and Astrophysics; University of California at Santa Cruz; March 1983
Graduate Certificate in Science Communication; University of California at Santa Cruz; August 1987
Ph.D. in Astronomy and Astrophysics; University of California at Santa Cruz; December 1987

BUSINESS AND/OR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:
Retired: 2006 to present
Freelance, Science Writer; owner Sirius Science Writers; San Francisco; August 1994 to present
Education Coordinator, Editor “Mercury” magazine, Staff Scientist; Astronomical Society of the Pacific;
San Francisco; September 1991 to August 1994
Researcher/Producer; The Universe Group (television production company); Washington, D.C.; June
1988 to August 1991

Chair, San Francisco Dog Owners Group, 2004 to present
Communications Director, San Francisco Dog Owners Group, 2003 to 2004
President, Northern California Science Writers Association, 2000 to 2003

CIVIC ACTIVITIES:
President, Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association; 2010 to present; Secretary from 2002 to 2010
Secretary, West of Twin Peaks Central Council, June 2012 to present
Co-founder; Co-Chair, Friends of Golden Gate Heights Park; 2003 to present
Election Precinct Inspector (my garage is my precinct polling place); 2002 to present
10th and Quintara Block Party Organizer (held in summer each year); 2002 to present

ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE COMMISSION:
Appointed to Seat 5: May 2007
Seated on Commission: June 2007
Elected Chair of the Commission: January 2008 to present
Appointed by Commission as its representative to the Joint Zoo Oversight Committee: January 2009 to present
Statement from Sally Stephens
Application for Reappointment to Seat 5
Commission on Animal Control and Welfare
5/6/13

I would appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve on the SF Commission of Animal Control and Welfare. The Commission acts as the Board’s eyes and ears about issues and concerns involving all animals, both domestic and wild. I am personally committed to ensuring the safety and well being of all animals, and I consider it a great honor to serve on the Commission.

I was appointed to Seat 5 six years ago. In January 2008, after serving for six months, I was elected Chair of the Commission by the other Commissioners, a position I still hold today. There are a lot of administrative details in running the Commission, and, with no staff and no budget, they fall to me as Chair. I prepare the agenda, make copies of it and of the minutes for the public, and deal with new responsibilities when they are added to Commission, such as the new appointments database. I am the contact for the Commission with the City Attorney’s Office, and other city departments, and I am responsible for ensuring the other Commissioners understand Sunshine Law regulations, especially serial meeting prohibitions. I take the responsibilities of Chair seriously, and try to conduct meetings that deal with highly emotional issues in a way that fosters civil discussion and respects all viewpoints.

In February 2009, I was appointed by the Commission to be its non-voting representative on the Joint Zoo Oversight Committee of the Recreation and Park Commission. I have tried to use that appointment to serve as a bridge between animal welfare advocates and Zoo officials, two groups that have been at odds in the past. I helped organize informal meetings between the two groups to brainstorm relatively simple and inexpensive ideas to help make the lives of specific Zoo animals better. I hope to foster better communication between the two groups, which can only benefit the animals of the Zoo.

I have used my training as a scientist and as a science writer to gather and present facts and information on animal issues to help guide the Commission in its deliberations. I researched and brought to the Commission the idea of a ban on cat declawing, that was then passed by the Board of Supervisors in 2009. I was one of the primary writers of the Commission’s report on animal welfare at the Zoo. I have worked to ensure that recommendations from the Commission to the Board of Supervisors are well thought out, well researched, workable, and fair.

For example, the Commission held extensive discussions on the subject of “No Kill” (no potentially adoptable animals is ever euthanized at a city shelter). Over two years, we heard presentations from a wide variety of experts on the issue, to ensure we had the basic information necessary to make any decision. Ultimately, we decided not to recommend that the Board create a legislative mandate for No Kill because we did not think it was workable at this point, even though many who attended our meetings wanted us to do so. We did what we thought was right, not what was popular.

I have been the Chair of the San Francisco Dog Owners Group (SFDOG) for nine years, serving as its Communications Director for a year before that. SFDOG is an all-volunteer non-profit that advocates for responsible dog ownership and off-leash opportunities for people whose dogs are truly under voice control. At SFDOG, I developed programs to increase and promote cooperation and understanding among different groups, including a Park Petiquette flyer, dog training workshops, a Dog-Horse Socialization workshop with horses and riders provided by the SFPD Mounted Police Unit, a “Dog Body Language” workshop for Recreation and Park Department gardeners and rec center staff, and a Kids Read to Dogs pilot childhood literacy program with the San Francisco Boys and Girls Clubs. I strongly believe that, with education and common courtesy, we can all get along.

I also believe strongly that everyone should give back to the City in which they live. I am active in my neighborhood, serving on the Board of the Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association (GGHNA) for the past eleven years, initially as Secretary and, for the past three years, as President. I also represent GGHNA on the West of Twin Peaks Central Council (WTPCC), a coalition of twenty neighborhood groups. I have served as Secretary of WTPCC for the past year. I am an active supporter of parks, having helped co-found and co-chair Friends of Golden Gate Heights Park. I am part of a small group of neighbors who plan and hold a neighborhood block party every year (this summer will be our 12th annual event) in which we get an official street closure and fire up the barbecues. My garage has been the precinct voting place for over ten years, and I have worked every election since then as a Precinct Inspector, helping ensure the voting happens smoothly and fairly.

Like everyone who applies for this Commission, I love animals. I have actively supported wildlife protection programs and environmental groups my entire adult life – over 40 years now – at the local, national, and international level. Although my recent experience has focused on dogs, I can and do consider the needs and concerns of ALL animals in my Commission deliberations. Like Gandhi, I believe that you can judge a society by the way it treats its animals. I went to help ensure the city of Saint Francis is judged well. I would appreciate your support for my re-appointment to Seat 5 of the SF Commission of Animal Control and Welfare.
May 6th, 2013

West of Twin Peaks Central Council
PO Box 27112
San Francisco, CA 94127

To:
Board of Supervisors Rules Committee
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Dear Supervisors Yee, Breed and Cohen,

I’m writing to express my support for the re-appointment of Sally Stephens to the Animal Control and Welfare commission. For the past year, Sally and I have worked very closely together as board members on the West of Twin Peaks Central Council. During this time I’ve gained a great amount of respect and trust for her. She’s responsible, reasonable, and thorough. She’s also one of the smartest people I’ve met in a long time. I know that she takes her responsibilities on the Animal Control and Welfare Commission very seriously, and I think that San Francisco is a better place for having Sally work so diligently on behalf of both our citizens and animals.

Sincerely,

Matt Chamberlain,
President, West of Twin Peaks Central Council

cc: Linda Wong, Clerk of the Rules Committee
Hi Linda,

Attached is a PDF copy of a letter of recommendation for Sally Stephens to the Animal Control and Welfare Commission (Rules Committee). She informed me that I don’t need to mail a hard copy into your office in addition to this electronic version. Can you confirm that the electronic copy alone is sufficient?

Thanks for your help,
Matt Chamberlain
Dear Ms. Wong,

Enclosed please find a letter of recommendation for the reappointment of Sally Stephens to the Animal Control and Welfare Commission.

Thank you for your attention.

Vicki Tiernan
May 8, 2013

The Honorable
Norman Yee
London Breed
Malia Cohen

Re: Reappointment of Sally Stephens to the Animal Control & Welfare Commission

Dear Supervisors:

It is my pleasure to recommend Sally Stephens for reappointment to the Animal Control and Welfare Commission.

I have known Ms. Stephens for over a decade and have worked with her on many political issues. She cares deeply about the welfare of dogs and all animals and is dedicated to promoting reasonable and productive community dialogue on political issues. In addition, her academic training has provided her with tools for navigating the rigors of academic inquiry as well as the discipline to work hard at understanding all sides of a given issue.

We are blessed in the Bay Area to have a wealth of truly fine animal welfare advocates, many of whom would be assets to the Commission. Sally brings something extra to the table in a strong ability to network effectively with people on all sides of an issue to work toward finding common ground. In fact, in my own involvement in grass roots political issues over the last 15 or so years, I have not known anyone who does this as effectively as Sally Stephens. For a commission that is charged with representing the views of 850,000 people, the value of this quality cannot be overstated.

Sally’s fellow Commissioners affirmed their confidence in her by voting her in as chair in January 2008 and appointing her to represent the Commission on the Joint Zoo Oversight Committee in June 2009. She conducts every Commission meeting in a fair and balanced manner.

I recommend Sally Stephens wholeheartedly for reappointment to the Commission.

Sincerely,

Vicki Tiernan
May 7, 2013

The Honorable Norman Yee, London Breed and Malia Cohen
Members, Rules Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Re: Consideration of Sally Stephens for Reappointment to the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

Dear Supervisors Yee, Breed and Cohen:

I write in strong support of the reappointment of Dr. Sally Stephens to the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare.

I have known Sally for several years, and have worked with her closely on the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Dog Owners Group (SFDOG), where Sally serves with distinction as Chair.

Sally was appointed to the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare in May, 2007. In January, 2008, she was elected by her peers to chair the Commission. It is a measure of Sally’s ability to work well with her colleagues, to respect all points of view, and to hear all sides of an issue, that she was put in this position of authority so early in her tenure on the Commission.

As Chair, Sally has brought breadth and depth to the discussion of issues which concern the Commission and the San Francisco community. When actions are taken, they are based on detailed information presented to the Commission. For example, in considering No Kill, Sally ensured that a number of experts were invited to speak to the Commission, so that all aspects of the issue could be discussed and understood. Issues are thoroughly researched and, when recommendations are sent forward to the Board of Supervisors, they are well worked out and viable.

Since 2009, Sally has been the Commission’s non-voting representative on the Joint Zoo Oversight Committee. Besides attending and contributing to Joint Zoo meetings, Sally provides a detailed recounting at the Commission of the zoo issues discussed, thus ensuring that both the Commission and the general public are kept informed about what is happening with regard to the zoo animals homed in San Francisco.

It should be noted that since the Commission has neither staff nor budget, Sally has also acted to fulfill the Commission’s administrative functions virtually single-handedly during her tenure. And at every meeting, minutes, agendas and other relevant materials are available to the Commissioners, and to the public, provided by Sally on her own initiative.
Sally’s deep compassion for animals, respect for other people, and ability to reconcile different points of view have been instrumental in the smooth, effective, and productive running and outcome of Commission meetings.

I respectfully ask that you support Sally Stephens’ application for reappointment to the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare. This will benefit our animals and our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. Renée Ilene Pittin
Dear Ms. Wong,

Please distribute the attached letter (Recommendation for Sally Stephens reappointment to the Animal Control and Welfare Comm.) to the Rules Committee.

Let me know if there any problems.

Thank you for your help!

Sincerely,
Karin Hu
May 10, 2013

Rules committee, SF Board of Supervisors
Clerk: Linda.wong@sfgov.org

Re: Recommending reappointment of Sally Stephens,
Animal Control and Welfare Commission

Honorable Supervisors Yee, Breed, and Cohen,

Please reappoint Sally Stephens to the Animal Control and Welfare Commission. She has successfully served as a member of the commission since 2007, and as elected Chair from 2008 to the present date. Beginning February 2009 she has also served on the Joint Zoo Oversight committee. Her record of service demonstrates that while she is passionate about animal welfare, she is also a rational moderate who combines intelligence and fairness in seeking workable solutions. Dr. Stephens has competently handled commission administrative details without problems, and has provided the Board of Supervisors with well-researched and thoughtful information.

As a professor of psychology, I have taught courses in Animal Behavior and in Scientific Research Methods. I have nothing but praise for Stephens’ knowledge and interest in animals, as well as her use of scientific and critical thinking strategies.

In addition to Dr. Stephens’ intelligence, she has good communication and interpersonal skills. In a forum where heated confrontations can occur, Sally keeps a cool head, facilitates civil discussion and seeks a diversity of opinions.

San Francisco is lucky to have Stephens as a devoted, civic-minded citizen, involved in animal issues, as well as human issues. Sally is active in her neighborhood. She is President of the Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association, and serves as Secretary on the West of Twin Peaks Central Council.

I hope you will reappoint Sally Stephens to the Animal Control and Welfare Commission and allow her to continue her active role in helping all San Franciscans, including pets, zoo animals, wildlife and humans.

Sincerely,

Karin Hu, Ph.D.
Home: San Leandro Way, SF, CA 94127
Work: Department of Behavioral Sciences, City College of San Francisco
Dear Ms. Wong,

Please see attached letter, from the Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association Board, in support of Sally Stephens for the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare.

Let me know if you have any trouble opening up the attachment.

Thank you,

Carla Kozak
Secretary, GGHNA

Carla Kozak "Librarian by Day, Catwoman by Night (Gone to the Dogs)"
May 29, 2013

Rules Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

RE: Sally Stephens for Commission of Animal Control and Welfare

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors Rules Committee:

The Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association highly recommends the reappointment of Sally Stephens to the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare. Sally has a passion for creating fair and workable solutions for animal issues and has provided leadership in specific issues involving dogs for many years. She is well informed and concerned about all animals, domestic and wild, as delineated by her decades-long support for groups such as World Wildlife Fund, Marine Mammal Center, Sierra Club, and other environmental groups.

Sally has the perfect profile for the ideal commissioner. On our neighborhood board, she takes a very balanced approach to consider facts and weighs divergent neighborhood concerns before taking a position. Sally is willing to spend the time to research detailed and specific information and applies accurate logic to facilitate efficient decision making. She has the trust of everyone on the board because she acts with integrity and makes an effort to foster open and honest communications. I believe she is a great asset to the commission. Sally has undertaken many initiatives to better the Rec Centers and parks in our neighborhood, and in particular to improve the animal support facilities in our neighborhood parks.

Sincerely yours,

Carla Kozak
Secretary, Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association
Application for Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Task Forces

Name of Board, Commission, Committee, or Task Force: Animal Control & Welfare

Seat # or Category (If applicable): 6 District: 

Name: Ryan Young

Home Address: 24th St. Zip: 94114

Home Phone: (415) Occupation: Sustainable Business

Work Phone: Employer: Sustainable Apparel Coalition

Business Address: Zip:

Business E-Mail: Home E-Mail: @chicago.berkeley.edu

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.101 (a)2, Boards and Commissions established by the Charter must consist of electors (registered voters) of the City and County of San Francisco. For certain other bodies, the Board of Supervisors can waive the residency requirement.

Check All That Apply:

Registered voter in San Francisco: Yes ☒ No ☐ If No, where registered: 

Resident of San Francisco ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ If No, place of residence:

Pursuant to Charter section 4.101 (a)1, please state how your qualifications represent the communities of interest, neighborhoods, and the diversity in ethnicity, race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, types of disabilities, and any other relevant demographic qualities of the City and County of San Francisco:

I have been living in San Francisco for almost 12 years (July 2001) and have lived in 5 different neighborhoods. I recently became a San Francisco homeowner (Nov. 2011).
Business and/or professional experience:
- Have been focused on sustainable business since 2007, including environmental issues.
- Volunteered for Felidae Conservation Fund, a Marin-based mountain lion and wild cat conservation organization.

Civic Activities:
- Current Commissioner on Animal Control & Welfare Commission (since May 2011)
- Helped Commission pass Humane Pet Acquisition Proposal

Have you attended any meetings of the Board/Commission to which you wish appointment? Yes

I attended several commission meetings prior to becoming a commissioner in May 2011.

For appointments by the Board of Supervisors, appearance before the RULES COMMITTEE is a requirement before any appointment can be made. (Applications must be received 10 days before the scheduled hearing.)

Date: 5/8/2013 Applicant's Signature: (required) Ryan Young

Please Note: Your application will be retained for one year. Once completed, this form, including all attachments, become public record.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Appointed to Seat #: Term Expires: Date Seat was Vacated:
01/20/12
COMMISSION OF ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE

Contact and Address:

Sally Stephens Chair
Animal Care and Control
1200 15th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Phone:
Fax: (415) 554-9424
Email: stephensfw@mindspring.com

Authority:

Added by Ordinance No. 226-73, approved on June, 1973. Code Section 41.1 et seq., Amended by Ordinance No. 59-82 approved on February 19, 1982; Amended by Ordinance 182-89 approved June 5, 1989; Amended by Ordinance 394-89 approved on November 6, 1989; Amended by Ordinance No. 107-99, May 7, 1999.

Board Qualifications:

The Commission of Animal Control and Welfare consists of 11 members, seven of whom are voting members appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The voting members appointed by the Board of Supervisors shall be six members representing the general public having interest and experience in animal matters and one licensed veterinarian practicing in San Francisco.

The other four members who are non-voting members include the following: One member shall consist of the Director of the Animal Care and Control Department or his or her designated representative. One City Department representative member shall be appointed by each of the following: the Director of the Department of Public Health or his or her designated representative; the Chief of Police or his or her designated representative; and the General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department or his or her designated representative.

Each member of the Commission of Animal Control and Welfare of the City and County of San Francisco shall be a resident of the City and County of San Francisco, except for the licensed veterinarian, who must practice in San Francisco, but who need not be a resident of San Francisco.

The Commission shall have the powers and duties to (a) hold hearings and submit

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San Francisco
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recommendations regarding animal control and welfare to the Board of Supervisors and the City Administrator; (b) study and recommend requirements for the maintenance of animals in public, private, and commercial care; and (c) work with the Tax Collector, the Director of the Animal Care and Control Department and authorized licensing entities to develop and maintain dog licensing procedures and make recommendations on fees.

Term of Office: Three of the members who are first appointed by the Board of Supervisors shall be designated to serve for terms of one year and three for two years from the date of their appointment. Thereafter, members shall be appointed as aforesaid for a term of two years, except that all of the vacancies occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired term. A member shall hold office until his or her successor has been appointed and has qualified.

Reports: The Commission shall render a written report of its activities to the Board of Supervisors quarterly as stated in Section 41.3 of the San Francisco Health Code.

Sunset Date: None

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