

Mark Sears

Seeking to be appointee for District 4 Animal Advisory Board

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE (animal related only)

September 2018 – Current

VOLUNTEER, AND BOARD MEMBER SPAY NEUTER IMPERITIVE PROJECT (SNIPBUS)

With my wife Lisa, we actively searched out and contacted SnipBus to inquire about bringing their services to Monterey County as we both felt that the important need of addressing low cost spay and neuter had not been a major focus as we felt it should have been. Since contacting SnipBus and bringing them to our county, they have provided over 7,000 low cost or free spay and neuters in our county.

I currently volunteer my time at the feral cat clinics, work the low cost dog and cat clinics, as well as help trap stray and feral cats. Through my capacity on the board, I work on fundraising, cost/benefit analysis for the clinics, as well as give my independent thoughts and ideas that I feel are important towards the well-being of the thousands of animals of Monterey County.

September 2015 – Current

VOLUNTEER, HEADING HOME ANIMAL RESCUE

Since 2015 I have been a volunteer for Heading Home Animal Rescue. With an annual budget of about 100k, Heading Home is a small but powerful rescue made up of dedicated volunteers. With that small budget, Heading Home traps, fixes and adopts out about 1000 animals per year, rivaling the larger rescues with just a fraction of the budget. Between 2018 and November 2020, we were responsible for all of the pet adoptions at the PetSmart Sand City. We trained 15 volunteers to assure daily presence in the stores to assist, qualify, and interview prospective adopters. A normal week for me was working the adoption clinics between 5-7PM two nights a week. We averaged about 200 adoptions per year from this location. We have also fostered over 200 cats/kittens in our home since 2015.

1993 – 2010

VOLUNTEER SPCA FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

I have volunteered at the SPCA for almost 20 years in many capacities. I've raised well over \$100,000 for them over the years through Wag-n-Walk and the Telethon. I was able to get my employers, Morgan Stanley and UBS Financial make large contributions as well. For close to 10 years we did off-site adoption clinics at various locations on the Peninsula, including Macy's and also coordinated an annual fashion show/fundraiser in the Macy's Monterey Store, an annual event of over 10 years. At the shelter, we have done laundry, walked dogs, cleaned kennels, helped customers with the adoption process, and picked up poop. When I was President of the local non-profit Rebuilding Together Chapter, I arranged for over 100 volunteers to come out to the property and clean up horse stalls, repaint buildings, put up hundreds of feet of fencing and landscape. Also during my tenure I spearheaded a project at the Salinas Animal Shelter where we put up fencing and did painting, landscape and cleanup. I pulled together approximately 40 volunteers for that project.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In addition to my dedication to the animals, I feel that my professional expertise in financial analysis would add a valuable resource to the committee. As Vice President of Investments for Morgan Stanley, I have deep knowledge of budgeting analysis and would be able to offer objective advice on whether the county is using their funds objectively and wisely.

I have read thoroughly Title 8 of the Monterey County Code and will be able to offer thoughts, guidance and opinion of any section that comes before the Advisory board.

Please consider adding my independent voice to the committee. My sole objective is to assure that the county is using their resources wisely and effectively to assist the animals of our county.