



CHICKEN

MAYOR OF RUSH CREEK

Chicken is standing proudly on the dam of the small pond and overlooking the herd in the pasture. He looks around, doesn't see any of the other animals nearby, and starts practicing his speech for the annual meeting of the animals at the Sanctuary later in the day.

"Good evening everyone ...

"I will be retaining my position as Mayor of Rush Creek Sanctuary for another year.

Whether you are one of the dogs, a donkey, a longhorn, or one of the bison, I will represent each and every one of you equally and fairly. I will also represent the wildlife that wander through these pastures, as they also contribute to the tranquility of this place, and their inclusion adds to the welfare and wellbeing of everyone here.

I will ensure that you all will have plenty of hay, fresh water, and are allowed to roam freely through the pastures and graze at your leisure.

I will continue to greet all guests at the Sanctuary by braying loudly, and bray loudly up at the ranch at 6:30 every morning to ensure everyone is awake to enjoy the day, and that our graham crackers are provided to start the day

I will continue to protect the herd 24/7, including chasing coyotes and other varmints off the premises

I will make sure that you will all get routine health services, such as regular check-ups and hoof trimmings, curative, and emergency medical care, when needed.

I will continue to greet and onboard all new arrivals at the Sanctuary, making sure they understand that we all live here in harmony, support each other, and the needs of those visiting the Sanctuary for therapeutic, healing and discovery purposes.

I will request additional portions of oats, and request that Mr. Brooks install shade shelters and water sprays to help keep us cool on hot summer days.

Your Mayor, in Service ... "

"When were you elected Mayor?", Zeus asked, startling Chicken from his impromptu speech from his faux podium.

"Years ago." He responded, "Before you arrived." He wasn't going to admit to Zeus that he had proclaimed himself Mayor and nobody had confronted him ... yet.

"Is anyone running against you?"

"Are you challenging me?" He asked, cocking his head to one side.

"I have given it zero thought." Zeus said, nodding his head slowly back and forth. "But I want to make ensure we keep this place nice for all of us and those that visit."

"Of course." Chicken said, forcing himself to breathe. "That's what we all want."

"I'll be watching." Zeus declared, after a long pause, and slowly tipped his head forward..

"Thanks for having my back.", Chicken said, as Zeus turned and slowly headed up towards the ranch.

It was a new day at the Sanctuary.

Rush Creek Sanctuary

Where animals find peace, purpose, and second chances