

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COLLIER COUNTY  
DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Naples, Florida, May 17, 2011

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, that the Collier County Domestic Animal Services Advisory Committee in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 6:30 PM in REGULAR SESSION at Domestic Animal Services Training Room, Davis Blvd., East Naples, Florida, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Marcia Breithaupt  
VICE CHAIRMAN: Jim Rich  
Marjorie Bloom  
Dr. Ruth Eisele  
Sgt. David Estes (excused)  
Tom Kepp, Jr.  
Dan Martin

ALSO PRESENT: Amanda Townsend, Director, DAS  
Nan Gerhardt, Shelter Operations Mgr.  
Kathlene Drew, Volunteer Coordinator, DAS  
Dr. Karen Brown, Veterinarian, DAS

**I. Call to Order:**

**Chairman Marcia Breithaupt** called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

**II. Attendance:**

Attendance was taken and a quorum established.  
In attendance were several members of the public

**III. Approval of Agenda:**

*Add: Under Old Business item A. Meeting Etiquette  
Change Director's Report to item B.*

*Dr. Ruth Eisele moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Tom Kepp. Carried unanimously, 6-0.*

**IV. Approval of Minutes: April 19, 2011**

*Dan Martin moved to approve the minutes of April 19, 2011, as presented. Second by Jim Rich. Carried unanimously, 6-0.*

**V. Old Business**

**A. Meeting Etiquette**

**Jim Rich** spoke on adhering more closely to Roberts Rules and the County's rules for Advisory Board meetings. Specifically noted was:

- Speaking one at a time after recognition by the Chair
- Each person given a chance to comment on the topic
- Defining and adhering to the allotted time frame for speaking
- Staying on topic (control of meeting by the Chair)

He foresaw a smoother, more productive meeting and a more effective Board.

**B. Directors Report**

**Amanda Townsend** reviewed the Budget process, stating;

- The Preliminary Review for Public Services would be on Friday, May 20, 2011.
- A 3% across the board reduction was expected. Pre-planning and licensure revenue improvements reduced the effects of the reduction.
- One vehicle (of the four needed) will be replaced. Maintenance and out of service of vehicles adds to costs.
- Strategic Planning and performance measures being developed concurrent with the budget process this year.
- Two ACO positions were open
- The requested Public Information Specialist position was approved. Applications will be taken following the posting of the position.
- Budget presentation to DASAB at their June meeting.
- Amanda and Kathlene Drew attended the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) Exposition and reported on the variety of subjects and speakers at the conference. She noted the conference was open to anyone and a good source of information for Board Members.

**Nan Gerhardt** reported the shelter took in 5 horses, 2 of which were surrenders, a tortoise (adopted) and some rabbits as well as a cat and dog for adoption.

- The kennels received their quarterly soaking for ticks
- Tick infestation finally under control (unusually high this year.)
- One horse was returned to the owner and one was in the process of adoption.
- The ACO rescued and returned a herd of horses to the owners.
- The Humane Society Naples booked 100 appointments for their free Spay and Neuter Clinic in Immokolee.
- June 4<sup>th</sup> will be the next monthly Spay & Neuter clinic at DAS (which sees 50 to 100 animals per month.)

### **1. Mandatory Spay/Neuter**

**Amanda Townsend** addressed this topic at the request of Teri Licastro, a regular DASAB attendee. Upon researching Volusia County, that had adopted Mandatory Spay & Neuter Laws, she found that:

- enforcement was complaint based
- intake and euthanasia statistics were changed very little
- education and clinics were less intrusive and just as effective
- Many major animal organizations (ASPCA, HSUS, AVMA, NAIA etc.) were not overtly in favor of mandatory spay and neuter laws.

*She noted DAS has mandatory spay and neuter only for impounded and returned to owner animals.*

Discussion followed with the DASAB expressing mixed opinions on the issue. Breeder licensing, spay and neuter vouchers were mentioned.

*Amanda offered to provide information on other Counties' laws and position statements from some of the major animal organizations at the next meeting.*

### **2. Legislative Session Wrap**

**Amanda Townsend** gave a brief summary of the Florida Legislature's Bills that were passed or failed in the current session.

**Dan Martin** suggested the Board mail issue's pertinent to DAS to the Florida Legislature.

*Amanda offered assistance with the creation and forwarding of a DASAB legislative agenda to present for the 2012 Session.*

### **3. Dan Martin's List of Suggested Projects**

A brief review of two of the Projects to be addressed followed.

- Tree trimming at the entrance to DAS for visibility of the sign to be requested of the Boys and Girls Club.
- Medical Foster Program  
Amanda gave a listing of the animals that were fostered; then, either adopted by the fostering party or put into public adoption.

## **VI. New Business:**

### **A. Report of Six-Month Bordetella Vaccination Trial (handout)**

**Dr. Karen Brown** provided a 3-year case list of upper respiratory cases both prior to and after using the 3-way Bordetella vaccine application to compare the benefits over a 6 month trial period. It was found the effectiveness was minimal in relation to the harsh chemical used and the expense of the vaccine. After much information provided by Dr. Brown it was decided to use up the balance of the current supply and to conduct an additional 6 month trial in November, using the straight Bordetella.

## **VII. Public Comment**

**Lisa Hoppensteadt** commented on:

- The Bordetella topic, stating environmental allergies may have the same symptoms as upper respiratory infection and should be considered when treating.
- Education of potential adoptees on that breed of pet's requirements –provide brochures and/or fact sheets

*Amanda responded education was provided by the shelter staff and books on pet care were available. She will reinforce with staff.*

- Requesting pet stores to obtain pets from rescue groups and shelters instead of buying from puppy mills.
- Convince pet stores to better care for conditions pets are kept in.

*Amanda responded DAS does inspect pet stores but where they get them from would be better taken up by an advocacy group than a government agency.*

- Passing a breeder's law and breeder licensing.

*Amanda responded there was a Pet Lemon Law on the books and the Breeder issue was a DASAB topic of interest.*

## **VIII. Topic TBA (open discussion) -None**

## **IX. Individual Comments**

**Lisa Hoppensteadt** asked about the Matching Lost & Found website and the process involved.

*Amanda responded there were multiple websites and a myriad of sources that could be utilized. Until a retooling to include all matching process websites, the project will be a manual time consuming, but rewarding, task for a volunteer.*

## **X. Advisory Board Members Comments**

**Tom Kepp** stated the difficulty in tracking where animals come from. The paper trail was usually covered up. He also noted there was a pet law on the books, but no means to enforce it. Citing the ACO activity statistics, he stated the number of calls, citations and money collected was miniscule with no provision for enforcement. He saw no need for more laws; just to enforce the ones we already have.

**Dan Martin** inquired about the dining event Fundraiser for Camp Bow Wow. *Kathlene Drew provided the particulars.*

He also asked about the use of an area at DAS for an exercise yard.

*Amanda will check into it for safety and security issues.*

**Dr. Ruth Eisele** told of a client from New York who received a letter stating they were late on their pet's rabies and licensing and they would have to go to court if it wasn't rectified - an example of enforcing a law. She also announced the Canine Cops will be neutering the dogs.

**Marjorie Bloom** asked about a sign stating what people can and can not do at the shelter; some sort of sign for rules to follow – washing hands, not opening cages etc.

*Amanda will be working on instruction signs.*

**Marcia Breithaupt** reported she attended the Collier County Focus Group. Pet-friendly areas at all parks and a dog beach were brought up to the group.

**The next meeting of the DAS Advisory Board is scheduled for June 21, 2011.**

**There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by the order of the Chair at 8:15 PM.**

## COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES

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**Chairman, Marcia Breithaupt**

These minutes approved by Board/Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ as presented \_\_\_\_\_ or as amended \_\_\_\_\_.