

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

Naples, Florida, April 24, 2012

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
Marjorie Bloom
Sergeant David Estes
Tom Kepp, Jr.
Dan Martin
Jim Rich

ALSO PRESENT: Amanda Townsend, Director, DAS
Nan Gerhardt, Shelter Operations Mgr.
Kathlene Drew, Volunteer Coordinator, DAS
Dan Christenbury, Public Relations Coordinator, DAS
Ekna Guevara, Administrative Assistant, DAS
Steve Carnell, Interim Director, Public Services

I. Call to Order

Chairman Marcia Breithaupt called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

II. Attendance

Attendance was taken and a quorum established.

III. Approval of Agenda

Jim Rich moved to approve the agenda. Second by Marcia Breithaupt. Carried unanimously, 6-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes of March 20, 2012

Jim Rich moved to approve the minutes of March 20, 2012, as presented. Second by Dan Martin. Carried unanimously 6-0.

A correction was noted after the vote was taken.

Page 3 –first bullet item: ..., such as was proposed for in Quentin's case.

Page 3- third bullet item: Converting from a courtesy reminder system to a notice to comply system...

Page 4- Item B. 2^{na} paragraph – Jim Rich

Jim Rich restated his motion to approve the minutes of March 20, 2012, as amended. Dan Martin restated his second. Carried unanimously, 6-0.

V. Old Business

A. Directors Report

Amanda Townsend introduced Steve Carnell, the interim Public Services Administrator, who was attending as a guest to become familiar with DASAB activities.

Amanda provided an update on DAS activity for the past month:

- A \$53,000 savings, allocated to Workers Compensation, was realized due to employee safety record efforts. Staff was praised for their excellent safety record, considering the hazards in the type of work they all do.
- The Budget (with its 5% cut) will be presented to the BCC in late May and reported to the DASAB in late June.
- Marcia Breithaupt was presented with her 5-year pin and thanked for her service on the Domestic Animal Services Advisory Board.
- On April 15, 2012 Board member Marjorie Bloom organized a successful fundraiser at Audubon Country Club. A resident dog show, a parade and an auction was held. Over \$8,000 was raised at the fun-filled event.

(Marjorie noted - although no dogs were adopted, it raised both awareness of DAS and encouragement for other neighborhoods to hold similar events)

Marcia Breithaupt suggested submitting an article on line about the event to the Naples Daily News.

Daniel Christenbury will also put it out to other publications to give exposure to DAS.

- Amanda reported on the recently attended conference, describing some of the new capabilities the Chameleon data base will be able to customize with DAS's needs. She gave examples of added software which will allow better photos to be attached and uploaded to the data base.
- Sub-Committee meetings scheduling will resume as soon as possible; the chairmen to set up dates and times with Ekna Guevara, the Administrative Assistant. The Immokalee sub-committee will meet at the Immokalee Shelter and the Ordinance Revision sub-committee will coordinate time and date with their members.
- The Quarterly Statistics Report was reviewed on the overhead projector, and briefly discussed. The next quarter will reflect the Asilomar Standards reporting style.

Nan Gerhardt reported:

- The shelter had acquired two pigs and three horses; two of which have owners, and the third is quite sickly and being cared for.
- A battle with ticks in the shelter was being vigorously addressed.
- Cross-training in operations was ongoing.
- The inmate program continued to go well and was of great help to DAS.
- An Immokalee Shelter pet adoption of local pets on 4/29/12--11AM to 4PM

Kathlene Drew reported a on the number of volunteers and hours donated. She noted many of the winter volunteers had returned north; but, several new high-schoolers were in training. They now need 100 hours of community service credits instead of the 50 hours formerly needed. Summer camp and weekend activities would be continuing.

B. Underwriting adoption fees for hard-to-place animals (handouts)

Amanda Townsend addressed the issue, noting and commending the effort of volunteer Bob McKenzie in securing a \$5,000 donation to underwrite adoptions of adoptable cats (at least 6 months old) housed in the DAS Shelter for 4 weeks or more. They will be featured in various DAS promotions.

Fifty dollar gift certificates will be purchased for the adoptions. A letter of thanks was sent to Mr. McKenzie and one of recognition to the donor.

A letter of inquiry to Assistant County Attorney, Colleen Greene, as to the legal use of Donation Trust Funds for several of the DASAB priorities list items had been sent. Attorney Greene's response was indicated in a letter along with her notes beside each priority list item. DASAB members all received copies.

VI. New Business

A. Selection for Recommendation to fill Animal Activist Seat

Three applications for the Animal Activist position were presented for the Board's consideration. Two of the applicants were present and each spoke of their interest and qualifications.

Amanda Townsend read a letter to the DASAB from the third applicant, who was unable to attend.

The Board then voted by paper ballot, tallied by Administrative Assistant, Ekna Guevara. There was a split vote, 3 and 3 for two of the applicants.

Amanda Townsend stated the Board could vote again to break the tie or the vote could stand and the BCC could make the decision.

Amanda explained the DASAB makes the recommendation; but, the BCC makes the final decision.

Sgt. David Estes moved to recommend the split vote on the two applicants be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners for their decision. Second by **Tom Kepp**. Carried unanimously, 6-0.

The Veterinarian/Vet Technician seat will be re-advertised.

VII. Public Comment

A. Topic TBA (open discussion) - NONE

B. Individual Comments

Dr. Alberto Lopez, a local veterinarian, stated he had attended the meeting as an observer. Noted, was the difficulty in filling the Veterinary seat, since the person selected must be one who does not do business with Collier County.

VIII. Advisory Board Member Comments

Tom Kepp commended staff for instituting the Immokalee pet adoption event at the shelter in that town. He emphasized the need for more enforcement on animals running loose, creating more animals and ultimately more of them being euthanized.

Sgt. David Estes commented on the abandoned horse that he caught, on his own time. It was auctioned and bid on by the person who reported it. Sgt. Estes informed those in attendance that all types of livestock, fowl and all manner of wild, and sometimes injured, animals (not just dogs and cats) fall under his and DAS' responsibility.

As an Agricultural Officer, he juggles time 24/7, handling and containing dangerous animals. He cited a need for a better containment facility.

He and Nan Gerhardt expressed concern that auctioned animals may not go to a trained recipient, but just to the highest bidder.

Dan Martin had several questions:

1. How many different kinds of microchips could the scanner find?

Answer- Scans were done three times: on intake, every time the animal is moved and in surgery. Many times several chips were founds. The scanner company services the scanners on a regular basis.

2. What was the time lapse between intake and when an animal appears on the website?

Answer - Within one hour of intake

3. What was the cost efficiency of tick prevention and individual medicine?

Answer - Vectra spot treatment was applied on intake; then flea and tick collars. Ticks were removed individually.

Marjorie Bloom distributed a summary of the Audubon Country Club Pet Show fundraiser, which included the names of, and thanks to, the volunteer committee; the amount of funds raised and a list of seven items they would like to use the money for:

- “Permanent shelter structures in the yards – consisting of 4x4’s and metal roof built to code with a permit. The cost comes under \$500.00 each and three would be needed.
- Collars – fleas, tick and Martingale.
- Benches for the pens
- Hiring of a trainer to help train volunteers and dogs.
- Print advertising in the classified section of the newspaper to build awareness of DAS.
- Trim the trees that block the Domestic Animal Services sign.
- Purchase of Karunda beds for the dogs as necessary”

Amanda Townsend responded paid advertising on Happy Tails could bring awareness of DAS and hard-to-place animals. She suggested strategizing with Dan Christenbury on a plan. The landscaper will be contacted regarding the tree trimming. Karunda beds were all set at this time. Most of other listed items were doable.

Jim Rich announced it was his final meeting and he considered himself privileged to have served on the DASAB. He welcomed the opportunity to bring people together to get things done. He stated DAS and the Board could count on him for any assistance. He was thanked by all for his service.

Marcia Breithaupt commented on the good news, that the medical budget was not cut.

Next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2012 at the Domestic Animal Training Room, Davis Blvd., Naples, Florida.

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by the order of the Chair at 7:57 PM.

COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES


Chairman Marcia Breithaupt

These minutes approved by Board/Committee on 15th as presented my or as amended _____.