

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

Naples, Florida, July 10, 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
VICE CHAIRMAN: Marjorie Bloom
Cindy Harrold
Sergeant David Estes (excused)
Tom Kepp, Jr.
Dan Martin

ALSO PRESENT: Amanda Townsend, Director, DAS
Nan Gerhardt, Shelter Manager
Kathlene Drew, Volunteer Coordinator
Ekna Guevara, Administrative Assistant
Dana Alger, Animal Control Supervisor, DAS
Dan Christenbury, Public Information Specialist, DAS
Emily Pepin, Assistant County Attorney, Collier County

I. Call to Order

Chairman Marcia Breithaupt called the meeting to order at 6:34 P. M.

II. Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum established.

In attendance were media personnel from WINK News and several public citizens

III. Approval of Agenda

Marjorie Bloom moved to approve the agenda. Second by Marcia Breithaupt. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes: June 19, 2012

Marjorie Bloom moved to approve the Minutes of June 19, 2012, as presented. Second by Dan Martin. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

V. Old Business

A. Director's Report

Amanda Townsend began her report by extending to the Ordinance Revision Sub-committee, a huge thank you for the hours of work and dedication to detail on the revisions to the Animal Control Ordinance. Tom Kepp, Cindy Harrold, Dan Martin and Jim Rich were complemented.

She reported:

- Two of the newly hired Animal Control Officers were now working independently. The third Officer will finish his ride-along to complete the training.
- The Budget Workshop with the BCC resulted in DAS being in full compliance with budget stipulations; no item was questioned.
- Employee evaluations were ongoing

Nan Gerhardt reported:

- The shelter will auction a pony, a goat and a hog on Saturday, July 21.
- Donations from the Audubon Country Club Fundraiser totaled upwards of \$10,000.
- Benches were in and permanent shade structures were in the process of being ordered and installed.
- Announced it was her last attendance at the DASAB meetings prior to her August retirement from DAS.

Those present thanked Nan for her years of dedicated service, stating she would be missed and hard to replace.

Dan Christenbury reported on:

- A televised interview with Amanda Townsend on two news hours
- The Naples Daily News articles on the Volunteer Open House and the Starbucks promotion.
- A new video with Marjorie Bloom resulting in 2 two adoptions.

Cindy Harrold asked for an e-mail to be sent to the DASAB if and when media interviews will be scheduled.

Kathlene Drew noted:

- Forty nine new volunteers processed
- Take a Dog to Work event resulted in a County sponsor adopting the shelter dog they brought to work.
- Showing of dogs at the Saturday Farmer's Market on 3rd St. successes.

It was suggested dogs could be shown at the Farmer's Market at the County Complex on Friday mornings.

Amanda responded it would be a possibility if enough volunteers were available. She will first check with Facilities Management.

Amanda Townsend mentioned a Naples Daily News article about a one of the High School Volunteers at DAS being selected as the *Boys and Girls Club Student of the Year*.

VI. New Business

A. DSAB veterinarian application

Amanda Townsend stated the applicant, having been given the opportunity to accept the eligibility requirements, had not responded to calls made regarding her continued interest in the position.

The DASAB would need instruction from the BCC as to rectifying the lack of a veterinarian to fill that category and to maintain the required 7-man Advisory Board.

Amanda offered a possible solution, whereby the Veterinarian position would be changed to a non-voting position, adding another At Large position to retain a 7-man voting Board. Doing so would require an Ordinance change. A brief discussion followed and the DASAB welcomed that suggestion.

Dan Martin moved to recommend to the BCC an Ordinance change which would convert the Veterinarian position to a non-voting position; and, add a second At Large voting position to the Domestic Animal Services Advisory Board, in order to both maintain the 7-member voting Board and benefit from a veterinarian's advice. Second by Marjorie Bloom. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

B. Proposed revisions to the Animal Control Ordinance in redline form

Copies of the proposed changes and revisions to the Animal Control Ordinance, Article II, Section 14 (pages 1-20) were distributed. The various proposed changes, additions and revisions were reviewed with an opportunity for discussion.

Amanda explained there were basically three conceptual changes in the Proposal:

1. Strengthen abilities to assess penalties and consequences of non-compliance and nonpayment.
2. Permitting of kennels, pet shops, stables and rodeos; and, expand processes to capture hobby and commercial breeders including definitions and circumstances encompassing any

animal related entity and animal related event. Processes to provide more oversight and ability to regulate, including the use of signed affidavits.

3. Align portions of the Dangerous Dog section of the Ordinance with State law to avoid conflict with any State law provisions; and, including refined definitions of abuse and neglect.

Active discussion followed.

Dan Martin moved to recommend the proposed revision to the Animal Control Ordinance be sent to the BCC for approval and adoption as presented. Second by Tom Kepp. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

C. Proposed resolution to adopt a penalty schedule

In conjunction with the proposed amendment to the Animal Control Ordinance, there was a stipulation that the form of penalty issued required a Resolution of the BCC. The Resolution document was presented for the DASAB's consideration and recommendation. A brief discussion of the provisions followed.

Dan Martin moved to recommend approval of the proposed Resolution Establishing the Collier County Domestic Animal Services Penalty Schedule to be applied to violations of the Animal Control Ordinance. Second by Cindy Harrold. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

D. Request from Ordinance Revision Subcommittee to propose resolution outlining standards of care

Amanda Townsend pointed out the standard of care had not yet been written. The DASAB Ordinance subcommittee would take direction from the DASAB to create a resolution outlining the standards of care for submission to the BCC.

Dan Martin moved to recommend the DASAB delegate to the Ordinance sub-committee the proposal of a resolution outlining the Standards of Care. Second by Marcia Breithaupt. Carried unanimously, 5-0.

Dan Martin moved to recommend the BCC lobby the state government to elevate the aggravated violations of our Animal Control Ordinance to a criminal act. Second by Cindy Harrold.

Discussion revolved around the fact that:

- DAS could only enforce civil violations.
- The Sheriff's office handles criminal violations.
- Criminal Laws regarding animal abuse were already on the books.
- Use of the resources of Animal advocates to lobby the state government.
- Many more factors would be involved.

Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Amanda Townsend will write a letter for the September meeting.

VII. Public Comment

Stephen Wright asked for clarification on some of the issues discussed in the proposed Ordinance revision. He was assured animal sanctuaries and rescue groups would not require licensing. Also, the need for multiple-pet permits would be complaint driven only.

VIII. Advisory Board Member Comments

Dan Martin had two points to mention:

1. He asked for the kennel to be open on DAS meeting nights for a walk-thru.
2. The grass cutting schedule and inability to read DAS sign

Amanda responded a visit is possible with staff accompaniment when the building is open to the public, or prior to closing.

Facilities Management handles the grass cutting and DAS is working on obtaining one of the brown signs denoting a County facility.

Tom Kepp stated he would like to bring Humane Society members to DAS for a tour to show what DAS does, really does matter.

Amanda Responded tours can be scheduled with a phone call to set up a time.

Marjorie Bloom thanked Kathy Drew for the successful Open House. The Naples Daily News coverage encouraged several new volunteers.

It was suggested to combine the Open House with the Smooch-a-Pooch event.

Marcia Breithaupt inquired about the Donation Trust Fund progress.

Amanda responded she will check on it.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by the order of the Chair at 8:00 P.M.

The next meeting of the DAS Advisory Board is scheduled for September 18, 2012.

Collier County Domestic Animal Services

Chairman Marcia Breithaupt

These minutes were approved by the Board/Committee on _____ as presented, or as amended _____.