

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING AND WORKSHOP OF THE  
COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES  
ADVISORY BOARD**

Naples, Florida, February 18, 2014

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

**CHAIRMAN:** Marcia Breithaupt  
**VICE CHAIRMAN:** Marjorie Bloom (excused)  
Sergeant David Estes  
Cindy Harrold (excused)  
Dan Martin  
Michael Simonik

**ALSO PRESENT:** Darcy Andrade, Interim Director, DAS  
Melissa Shyan-Norwalt, Shelter Operations Manager  
Teri Wides, Workshop Facilitator, Human Resources  
Kellie Carroll, Administrative Assistant, DAS

**I. Call to Order:**

**Chairman Marcia Breithaupt** called the Meeting/Workshop to order at 6:32 P.M.

**II. Attendance- Establish a Quorum:**

Attendance was taken and a quorum established after Michael Simonik arrived at 6:35 PM.

**III. Approval of Agenda:**

*Dan Martin moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Michael Simonik. Carried unanimously, 4-0.*

**IV. Approval of Minutes: December 17, 2013**

*Sgt. David Estes moved to approve the minutes of December 17, 2013, as presented. Second by Michael Simonik. Carried unanimously, 4-0.*

*Marcia Breithaupt moved to approve the minutes of January 21, 2014, as presented. Second by Dan Martin. Carried unanimously, 4-0.*

**V. Workshop:**

*It was requested that Public comment and/or questions be held until the end of the Workshop in order to facilitate the process.*

**Darcy Andrade** introduced **Teri Wides**, Career Development & Training Manager under the Collier County Administrative Services Division's Human Resources, the facilitator for the Workshop.

**Teri Wides** then reviewed the *DAS Mission Statement* and the 2011 Project List. A handout was provided listing the *DAS Project Prioritization for 2014*, along with a proposed *DAS Public Input Forums (6-4-2)*, discussed at the last meeting. Prior to the meeting each of the DASAB members submitted ten goals/projects with the purpose to narrow the list to ten. The lists were reviewed to determine if it was a Goal or a Project. The projects were then put to a vote on the highest to lowest priority; along with any obstacles. Items were to be chosen by the following criteria:

- Specific
- Measurable
- Achievable within 2 years
- Reasonable
- Time-bound

Prioritization was determined by:

- A. Impact on customer (Residents) (Animals)
- B. Need to Improve
- C. Alignment to Mission

Next, the DASAB reviewed all the Projects to be considered, combing some where feasible, separating them by categories; and, placing them in the above A-B-C

priority sections. Projects scoring 3 votes or more were put on the new Priority List. Those eleven items were:

**Ordinance related:**

1. (a) Revise and strengthen our animal cruelty ordinance and give better definitions to allow for better enforcement actions. Implement strict penalties for animal abandonment.  
(b) Implement better ordinances for issuance of citations to animals that are a public safety issue but don't qualify as dangerous; an Ordinance addition providing for a declaration of a *Potentially Dangerous Dog*.
2. Have licenses and rabies vaccinations with the same expiration date; and, allow for purchase of a three-year license.

**Adoption related:**

3. (a) Foster Care Program  
(b) Increase adoptions; decrease euthanasia  
(c) Focus on lowering owner surrenders to DAS and implement a counseling process to try and keep pets in their homes.
4. Satellite Adoption Location; Incentive adoption pricing and more promotions of the animals through a better website and advertising.
5. Provide better support to adopters of shelter animals by providing health guarantee within a certain time (7 days) after adoption.

**Spay/neuter related: (These items would require ordinance changes)**

6. (a) Free Spay/Neuter Fund for Pet Owners  
(b) Provide assistance for spay and neuter to people in the community on public assistance or initiate a program to offer sterilization for all bully breeds.  
(c) Create a compliance fee for NTC issued. Setting up a fund with the fees collected for spaying and neutering of dogs in the community. Or, setting up a fund from existing spay/neuter funds to provide for assistance with spay or neuter for the public.

**Public Education related:**

7. (a) Pet Hot Line; Social Media awareness; Website Presence  
(b) Update *collierpets.com* to allow for more information and education to the public and make it user friendly.
8. Implementation of the 6-4-2 annual meeting model (six Advisory Board meetings, four Town Hall meetings, and two Animal welfare meetings)

**Physical Environment related**

9. (a) Trim/remove ivy, trees and other plants from the front fencing to allow full visibility of the yards/sign/driveway by passing traffic (scheduled upkeep)  
(b) Adjust/Add fencing and drain covers to allow volunteers to use the front yards with the dogs.
10. (a) Improve livestock handling capacity/safety at the Immokalee Shelter.  
(b) Explore the feasibility of Improving/Expansion of the Immokalee Shelter.
11. (a) Creating a true quarantine area for shelter animals with upper respiratory infections and/or kennel cough.  
(b) Create a less stressful environment for the shelter animals.

The Workshop topics and priority selections will be put into a clean copy and provided to DASAB at the next meeting.

**VI. Public Comment**

*The following speakers signed up to speak on the DAS Priority List.*

**Colleen MacAlister** had concerns about the Notice to Comply for renewals as being offensive and irrational, in that it implied one was already guilty of something when it actually was just *reminding one to comply*. She contended the wording was accusatorial.

Colleen's second comment was in regard to not identifying a breed specific dog when advertising on the website; to just leave the *kind* of dog off the description. Her explanation was that pre-conceptions by some people of the characteristics of certain breeds may hinder their adoption; even though the dog may be a well-mannered animal. *Mike Simonik disagreed, stating several breeds weren't allowed in some neighborhoods.*

The third item brought up by Colleen MacAlister was about obstacles to the animal cruelty law, in that court cases have priorities and the State Attorneys set its priorities and goals. If they are not on board with the case, it will not go anywhere. *Sgt. David Estes provided background information regarding the Civil side (DAS) and the Criminal side (Sheriff's Dept.) of the Animal Control Law. He noted the difficulty in obtaining solid cases, witness testimony and priorities of the Court system. He stated DAS works in partnership with the Sheriff's dept. in determining the best way to proceed in individual cases involving animal care issues.*

*Dan Martin argued for Civil violations always being issued in order to have something to fall back on if a Criminal case was acted upon.*

**Kelly Hyland** signed up to speak but stated her issue was already covered.

**Stuart Wisong**, the author of "Angel Come Home", distributed a pamphlet about the book and told about the Angel Come Home Living Legacy organization, through which proceeds from the book have benefitted the Humane Society, the SPCA and other Domestic Animal Welfare Organizations throughout the country. Both he and **Ryan Hadlock**, the Project Manager for "Angel Come Home Living Legacy" spoke briefly to familiarize everyone with their organization.

**Tom Kepp** complimented DAS in reference to a recent newscast.

## VII. Advisory Board Member Comments

**Dan Martin** offered to point out to Darcy Andrade the exact landscape areas and trees mentioned in the Priority List. He explained the trees block the sign for DAS when traveling in either direction.

*Darcy responded she had met with a landscaper on Friday and was informed that much of the offending bushes would be cut down in the finalization of the ongoing road widening project. She will check on the tree situation.*

**Marcia Breithaupt** thanked Teri Wides for her expertise in presenting the Workshop in a concise and orderly manner. The DASAB concurred with a round of applause.

## VIII. Adjourn

February 18, 2014

**There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by order of the Chair at 8:07 P.M.**

**The next meeting of the DAS Advisory Board is scheduled for March 18, 2014.**

**DOMESTIC ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING and WORKSHOP**

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**Chairman Marcia Breithaupt**

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