

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

Naples, Florida, March 17, 2015

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: Michael Simonik
VICE CHAIRMAN:
SECRETARY:

Marjorie Bloom
James Seabasty
Mary Baker
Dave Estes

ALSO PRESENT: Darcy Andrade, Director, DAS
Morgan Woodward, Shelter Operations Manager, DAS
Kyra Lynch, Animal Control Supervisor, DAS
Katie Sibert, Volunteer Coordinator, DAS
Kellie Carroll, Administrative Assistant, DAS

I. Call to Order

Chairman Michael Simonik called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

II. Attendance

A quorum was established.

Kellie Carroll presided over the projector displaying the Agenda packet.

III. Approval of Agenda

Darcy Andrade requested that item V.C, Shelter Assessment, be moved to item V.D.

Dave Estes made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. *There was a second and the motion carried unanimously, 5-0.*

IV. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

V. New Business

A. Director's Report

Darcy Andrade provided a summary of the Town Hall meeting regarding feral cats and announced that a rescue group meeting, focused on cat rescue will be held in April. One of the topics will be the possible revision of the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) that expires at the end of the year.

Ms. Andrade advised that a meeting was scheduled with Facilities Management to discuss the new Immokalee shelter. She also mentioned several upcoming events including the Faithful Friends Garden of Memories groundbreaking on March 24th and the second annual Paws in the Park event that has been scheduled for December 5, 2015.

Play groups have been initiated at the shelter. Volunteer **Kathy Rheume** went to Lee County for training and she is working with Volunteer Coordinator **Katie Sibert** to start these groups.

Katie Sibert explained that dogs are assessed and then grouped by play style with up to four dogs playing together. She also advised that she is looking for additional volunteers to participate and she hopes to have the whole program run by volunteers in the future.

Darcy Andrade advised that cat adoptions are \$20.00 off during the month of March.

B. Upcoming Board Vacancies

Ms. Andrade advised the Board that two terms are expiring: **Dave Estes** and **Cindy Harrold**. **Ms. Harrold** has advised **Darcy** that she will not be reapplying

for a seat on the Board. **Sgt. Dave Estes** stated that he is waiting for approval from the Sheriff's Office to reapply and that the Sheriff's Office may prefer to ask one of their community engagement personnel to apply.

It is not required that the law enforcement position be filled by someone in the Collier County Sheriff's Office, it can be filled by a person from any law enforcement agency.

Darcy Andrade listed the term expiration dates for all members: **Marjorie Bloom** 04/2016, **James Seabasty**, 04/2018, **Mary Baker**, 04/2018, **Aimee Leteux**, 04/2016, **Michael Simonik**, 04/2016.

C. Adopt-A-Thon

Darcy Andrade advised the Board that the DAS Adopt-A-Thon is scheduled for May 2nd and 3rd. Adoption prices for cats will be \$10.00 and adoption prices for dogs will be \$25.00. The goal is to clear out the shelter. Special events will be scheduled during the Adopt-A-Thon hours to encourage people to come to the shelter. These will include a vaccine clinic, microchipping, live bands, etc.

D. Shelter Assessment

Darcy Andrade explained the purpose of the shelter assessment conducted by Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program and introduced **Dr. Cynda Crawford**. **Dr. Crawford** gave a brief presentation on the history of the program and the process of consulting and completing the assessment. The team reviews all operations related to shelter health and welfare, veterinary services, housing, sanitation, intake and animals leaving the shelter. **Dr. Crawford** explained that the team will compile their observations and set some immediate priorities at the end of the week, with the main goal being to increase the number of lives saved. **Michael Simonik** opened the floor to public comments during this time so that the public could ask questions of the assessment team.

The public inquired if the Immokalee shelter would be included in the assessment and were advised that the assessment team hoped to visit the shelter, but Immokalee was not specifically included.

Michael Simonik asked if budget items were included and **Dr. Crawford** advised that yes, budget items are included but some changes are not budget related. She also said that the team may recommend building improvements. **Dr. Crawford** explained that the final report would be tiered, with the first tier including items that can be addressed immediately at little or no cost. Building improvements would be included in the second tier and the third tier would be for more long term items. A full written report will be sent to DAS after the site visit was complete.

Mr. Simonik stated that the job of the Advisory Board to bring budget item recommendations to the BCC.

Marjorie Bloom inquired if the assessment also looked at enrichment such as toys and beds and she was advised that enrichment is part of the assessment.

A member of the public asked if there was a shelter that **Dr. Crawford** holds up as an example and **Dr. Crawford** cited Jacksonville, Florida as an example of success. Jacksonville has a 90% live release rate. She also stated that Miami-Dade is rapidly improving.

She was also asked if failing to spay/neuter was an economic issue or a cultural issue and **Dr. Julie Levy** stated that it is an economic issue and also one of access.

VII. Public Comment

There were no additional public comments

VIII. Advisory Board Member Comments

James Seabasty thanked the shelter assessment team and wished success to the veterinary interns assisting with the assessment.

Marjorie Bloom thanked the DAS staff.

Mary Baker thanked the assessment team and **Kathy Rheume** for initiating the play groups.

Dave Estes said that he thought ‘getting to yes’ is an important concept because barriers have always been an issue here. If we develop a ‘get to yes’ mentality in our community; we can cut down on intake. He also said that the most positive, smoothest operation of DAS has happened in the last year.

Michael Simonik congratulated **Kyra Lynch** on her work and said he has been hearing really good things about enforcement. He also advised the board that the Humane Society has transferred in 145 animals from DAS since January 1st.

Mary Baker moved to adjourn. Motion received a second and was carried 5-0.

The next regularly scheduled Advisory Board Meeting will be May 19th at 6:30 in 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 7:21 PM.

COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES

Chairman Michael Simonik

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