

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

Naples, Florida, May 19, 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

ALSO PRESENT: Darcy Andrade, Director, 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

James Seabasty made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. There was a second and the motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes of the December 16, 2014 and March 17, 2015 Meetings

James Seabasty made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014 minutes and the March 17, 2015 minutes. There was a second and the motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

V. Old Business

2014-2015 Strategic Planning Top Ten List

Darcy Andrade provided an update on the Strategic Planning List as follows:

1. Three year pet licenses has been put on hold until 2016 by request of the County Attorney's Office.
2. Quarantine area for dogs is done and the cat quarantine area is in progress but requires the relocation of several offices and will take time to complete.
3. Foster program. There are 24 animals in foster care at this time and Volunteer Coordinator **Katie Sibert** is working to recruit additional foster homes.
4. The 6-4-2 meeting schedule has been successfully implemented for nearly one year.
5. Immokalee Shelter. The County is currently searching for land for a new shelter in Immokalee.
6. Revise and strengthen animal cruelty ordinances is on hold until 2016 at the request of the County Attorney's Office.
7. Satellite adoption locations. Planet Tails is the first satellite adoption location and 34 cats have been adopted from there and **Ms. Andrade** is willing to entertain other locations.
8. Health Guarantee. Adopters now receive 30 days for free pet insurance and DAS has received positive feedback on the use of this insurance.
9. Spay/Neuter assistance to the public. **Ms. Andrade** is looking at the reserves in the Spay/Neuter fund and the possibility of obtaining grants to assist with low cost spay/neuter services to the public.
10. Enhance/upgrade website, use of social media. There are currently three Facebook pages for DAS with different administrators. The website updates are ongoing.
11. Adjust/Add fencing and drain covers, remove landscaping from front fence to improve visibility, remove/trim trees blocking visibility of the sign/driveway. It has been determined that the yards in front of DAS are not the best idea for walking dogs due to safety concerns, but DAS is still

working on the possibility of allowing volunteers to walk dogs along Davis Boulevard. One tree has been removed and the other trimmed to improve the visibility of the sign. Landscaping along the front fence has been removed and the put-in cups advertising adoptions have been installed.

VI. New Business

A. Director's Report

Darcy Andrade announced that a total of 58 animals (30 dogs and 28 cats) were adopted during Adoptathon and that based on the success of the event it will be an annual or maybe bi-annual event. She thanked **Michael Simonik** for assisting during the event by providing cardboard cat boxes after DAS ran out of cat carriers. **Ms. Andrade** advised the Board that Morgan Woodward has resigned his position as Shelter Operations Manager and that the position is open and DAS is recruiting a replacement.

B. Managed Intake

Darcy Andrade stated that she is requesting a new position in the FY16 budget that will be an Intake Coordinator. That position will allow DAS to schedule intake during specific hours and will offer assistance and counseling to try to keep animals in the home. **Michael Simonik** remarked on the success of managed intake at Humane Society Naples and stated that nearly half of people that want to surrender animals find another home for the animal and do not return to the shelter. **Mr. Simonik** stated that he is in favor of DAS trying a managed intake program. **Ms. Andrade** mentioned that DAS holds all owner surrenders for 24 hours, should the owner change their mind about surrendering an animal.

C. Mega Adoption Event

Darcy Andrade discussed mega adoption events, where local animal shelters, humane societies and rescue groups come together to host one large adoption event. She expressed an interest in holding one in Collier County. **Michael Simonik** stated that HSN would be interested and that HSN may have someone available to assist in planning this type of event.

D. Monthly Statistics

The monthly statistics were displayed. **Marjorie Bloom** asked several questions about the numbers and stated that she believes that the numbers may be incorrect as she believes a larger number of animals were sent to other shelters. **Ms. Andrade** advised that she would review the reports.

E. Advisory Board Applicants

- a. Law Enforcement Representative. **Cpl. James A. Spartz** received a unanimous recommendation to fill this position.
- b. Animal Activist Group. **Michele Antonia** spoke about her previous service as a member of the Domestic Animal Services Advisory Board, her cat sanctuary and its 501(c)3 status and discussed that she is active in the

Immokalee community. **James Rich**, founder of For the Love of Cats stated that his group has sponsored 2000 cats for TNR in the 14 years they have been operating. He also mentioned his 40 years of business experience and his past service as a DASAB member. The Board voted by ballot to recommend **James Rich** for this open position.

VII. Public Comment

Tom Kepp made a presentation regarding creating a spay/neuter clinic in Immokalee. Mr. Kepp discussed his work in the community to spay/neuter dogs. So far this year, 60 dogs have received surgery this year. He stated that Animal Control Officers give a 15 day notice and then notify **Mr. Kepp** who can then assist with obtaining the required surgery. He believes that DAS and HSN need to find a way to fund spay/neuter surgeries in Immokalee. **Mr. Kepp** mentioned that he believes that a clinic can be equipped for \$50,000 to \$70,000 and could be staffed with volunteers. He was asking DAS to have a discussion about this possibility.

Bridget Bannon spoke on the same topic and stated that she has been working with **Mr. Kepp** and stated that there are animals all over Immokalee and there is a great need for this service. She said that she recently attended the Interagency Council Meeting with **Mr. Kepp** and that DAS may be able to get support for the clinic from the Health Department.

Darcy Andrade commented that one of the requirements for the new Immokalee shelter is a veterinary clinic.

Michael Simonik stated that the Humane Society of Naples is interested and the HSN Board voted to work on creating a spay/neuter clinic in Immokalee as many of the puppies and kittens they receive are coming from that area.

Steven Wright requested an update on Sunday adoption hours and information on the mutilated cats that were recently discovered. **Ms. Andrade** advised that DAS will have a one month trial period for Sunday adoption hours once the recently hired staff is fully trained. She advised that the investigation into the cat deaths is being handled by the Collier County Sheriff's Office and DAS was sending the cats out for necropsy.

VIII. Advisory Board Member Comments

Marjorie Bloom said that Adoptathon was great, but sadly, it didn't even make a dent in the number of animals at the shelter and is glad that DAS will continue to hold more Adoptathons. She also inquired if DAS was still planning to make the Stray kennel open to the public. **Ms. Andrade** advised that there is still a plan to relocate the security fence, pending the availability of funds.

James Seabasty moved to adjourn. Motion received a second and was carried 4-0.

The next regularly scheduled Advisory Board Meeting will be July 21st 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 7:35 PM.

COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES

Chairman Michael Simonik

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