

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

Naples, Florida, September 20, 2016

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: Vacant  
VICE CHAIRMAN: James Seabasty  
SECRETARY: Marjorie Bloom  
James Rich  
James Spartz  
Mary Baker  
Aimee Leteux

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

**I. Call to Order**

**Vice Chair James Seabasty** called the meeting to order at 6:28 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 an addition to the agenda. The Humane Society position on the Board has been vacated.

*Marjorie Bloom made a motion to approve the agenda with changes, there was a second and the motion carried 6-0.*

**IV. Approval of Minutes of the July 19, 2016 Meeting**

**Jim Rich** requested an addition to the minutes to reflect that Board members were asked to take a tour of the shelter and bring their findings back to the Board for discussion.

*Jim Rich made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 19<sup>th</sup> meeting with the addition, there was a second and the motion carried 6-0.*

**V. Director's Report**

**Darcy Andrade** advised the Board that the Feasibility Study has begun. The study will evaluate the cost of retrofitting the facility to meet the Standards of Care. **Ms. Andrade** hopes to have the results available for presentation to the Board at the January meeting and advised that animal shelter design experts are participating in the study.

**Dr. Robin Fox** has resigned his position from the Advisory Board. **Patrice Worcester** from the Humane Society Naples is present at the meeting and will speak later.

**Ms. Andrade** informed the Board that the 'Purricane' promotion will continue through October and the Adopt-A-Shelter Dog promotion will run concurrently.

**Darcy** discussed public comments on agenda items and advised that speakers wishing to comment on a specific agenda item must register prior to the item being called; she then offered an opportunity for interested parties to register for items on the current agenda.

**Ms. Andrade** informed the board about the passing of **Karen Gomez**, a long time DAS employee who worked at the Immokalee location.

**VI. Old Business**

A. Spay/Neuter

**Darcy** asked the Board if they had received the information she sent from Palm Beach County about mandatory spay/neuter and asked if any of the members had looked at other counties. Mandatory spay/neuter can result in an influx to shelters. **Ms. Andrade** advised that she has reached out to other counties with mixed results. **Jim Rich** asked if Immokalee has the biggest need and advised that the Humane Society Naples offers free spay/neuter to Immokalee residents who are willing to travel. **Darcy** advised that more resources are needed and that she is researching options for Immokalee. She also advised that there needs to be low cost options in place prior to an ordinance change.

**Jim Seabasty** stated that the County needs to agree to the funding. **Marjorie Bloom** advised that it would be better to fund a storefront in Immokalee for low cost spay/neuter than to fund a new facility in Immokalee.

**Jim Rich** asked **Michele Antonia** to speak. **Michele** advised that a shelter is needed in Immokalee because there is a different perception of animals, a lack of transportation and a transient community. **Darcy Andrade** explained that the storefront would include a veterinary clinic, intake and vaccine clinics.

**Aimee Leteux** urged DAS to consider a spay shuttle/mobile veterinary clinic like the one that is offered in Palm Beach County. She also inquired if DAS could list other low cost spay/neuter providers on its webpage. **Darcy Andrade** advised that she would reach out to providers to determine if they wanted to be listed.

**Public Speakers:**

**Cheryl Kraus** asked if small shelter dogs can be spayed/neutered prior to going in to adoptions. **Kyra Lynch** advised that it is part of the shelter assessment and that she currently adds surgeries to the daily surgery schedule, but animals that have already been adopted and animals due to be returned to their owners are the first priority.

**VII. New Business**

A. Immokalee Drop Boxes

**Jim Rich** requested to hear public comment before making a recommendation. He stated that in the past, there was a lot of support for drop boxes in order to prevent abandonment.

**Michele Antonia** spoke in favor of the drop boxes.

**Darcy Andrade** advised that animals that have been left in the drop boxes have been neglected, emaciated and in bad shape. There were 46 animals left in the boxes when they were in Immokalee. She went on to explain that Animal Control Officers will pick up strays in the field, the public just has to call. **Darcy** advised the board that all rescue groups, including the Humane Society Naples, have had animals left at their facilities. She also advised the Board that Spanish speaking officers work in the Immokalee area.

**Jim Rich** stated that ultimately, it is DAS' decision and not something for the Board to vote on.

B. DASAB Vacancy

**Patrice Worcester** was invited to speak. **Ms. Worcester** advised the Board that she is the Operations Director at the Humane Society Naples and that she has been a resident since 2007.

***Jim Rich** made a motion to recommend **Patrice Worcester** to the Board of County Commissioners for the vacant position on the Animal Services Advisory Board, there was a second and the motion carried 6-0.*

**VIII. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**IX. Advisory Board Member Comments**

**Jim Seabasty** discussed an email that was received by Brad Estes and asked the Board to review the email, and if needed, add any topics to the next agenda.

**Jim Rich** stated that he was impressed with the tour of the shelter and the animals were clean and well cared for. He advised that the main play yard is hazardous and needs to be addressed.

**Marjorie Bloom** agreed that the front yard is a problem. She said that the air-conditioning is great, but the feasibility study is important. She questioned if there is even a need for the Animal Services Advisory Board.

**Jim Seabasty** agreed that there really isn't a need.

**Ms. Bloom** advised that she believes that Town Hall Meetings a couple of times each year would be better.

**Jim Rich** stated that the Board is a good sounding board and a liaison for the public.

**Mary Baker** advised that the Board is not here to run the show, it is here as a sounding board. She stated that she does see an advantage to having the Board to give feedback and advice.

**Jim Spartz** stated that the tour was very educational and that DAS is using its space very wisely. He also said that he was surprised by the cost of the temporary air conditioner.

**Aimee Leteux** asked if there is a tracking system for licensing. **Darcy Andrade** explained the 15 day notice and Animal Control Officer follow-up based on Rabies Certificates that are received. **Ms. Leteux** advised that many veterinarians are not happy because they feel as though they are giving out information on their clients. Both **Ms.**

**Andrade** and **Ms. Lynch** advised that submitting rabies certificates is required by state law.

**Jim Seabasty** stated that the facility is too small for everything that is being done at DAS and that he believes that staff is doing a great job.

**Marjorie Bloom** stated that she would like to see DAS put out of business through spay/neuter. She also stated that it might be more effective to have a “Friends of” group rather than a Board.

**Jim Rich** stated that during his past Board experience, TNR and other legislation was passed. **Mr. Rich** also advised that only eight states require microchips.

*Jim Rich moved to adjourn. Motion received a second and was carried 6-0.*

**The next regularly scheduled Advisory Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, November 15, 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 Vice Chair at 7:39 p.m.**

## COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES

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**Vice Chair James Seabasty**

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