

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

Naples, Florida, May 22, 2018

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 6:00 PM in REGULAR SESSION at Domestic Animal Services Training Room, Davis Blvd., Naples, Florida, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: James Spartz
VICE CHAIRMAN: Marjorie Bloom
SECRETARY: Vacant
James Rich
Mary Baker (Excused)
Dr. Michael Gordon
Daniel Rheume
Sarah Baeckler Davis

ALSO PRESENT: Darcy Andrade, Director, DAS
Kyra Lynch, Shelter Operations Manager, DAS
Dan Grossi, Field Operations Manager, DAS
Kellie Carroll, Administrative Assistant, DAS
Emily Pepin, Assistant County Attorney

I. Call to Order

Chairman James Spartz called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. Attendance

A quorum was established.

Kellie Carroll presided over the projector displaying the Agenda packet.

III. Approval of Agenda

Jim Rich made a motion to approve the agenda, there was a second and the motion passed 6-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes of the January 16, 2018 Meeting

Dr. Michael Gordon made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2018 meeting, there was a second and the motion passed 6-0.

V. Director's Report

Darcy Andrade advised the Board that temporary air conditioning began in three (3) buildings on this date. **Ms. Andrade** also advised that DAS has had a recent meeting with FEMA and is waiting for approvals to have the marquee sign replaced. DAS has received one (1) quote of nearly \$3,000 for a banner to cover the sign, but stated that the funds are needed for other things and DAS will not be purchasing a banner.

Darcy notified the Board that the Foster Program is changing and that Fosters will no longer be required to go through the regular volunteer training program, since Fosters do not come to the shelter to volunteer. She also advised that a new Foster page has been set up on the DAS website.

The June adoption promotion will be Certified Pre-Owned Cats and that cat adoptions will be \$10.00. She mentioned that this promotion ran several years ago and was very successful. There will be a second Cat Yoga event on May 31st. There is no cost to attend the event, but participants must pre-register.

Ms. Andrade informed the Board that there have been changes to the Pet Friendly Shelter process. Pre-Registration is no longer required. Current Collier County License and vaccinations will be considered sufficient as registration. As in the past, entrance to the Pet Friendly Shelter will be on a first come, first served basis.

The topic of the June Town Hall Meeting will be emergency preparation for pets and the Pet Friendly Shelter requirements.

Dr. Gordon inquired about costs associated for caring for foster pets and was advised by **Ms. Andrade** explained that there is no cost to the Fosters; DAS provides all food, supplies and veterinary care.

A new volunteer orientation will be held on May 23, 2018.

Kyra Lynch advised the Board that she is continuing to work on the removal of breed names from Kennel Cards. She is waiting for information from Pet Harbor to be sure that the change won't affect the descriptions of animals that are posted on that site and hopes to have that change made next week. She also told that Board that that there are currently five (5) openings on the Operations team.

Jim Rich asked about the type of training that will be given to new Fosters. **Ms. Lynch** said that the training will depend on experience. **Darcy Andrade** stated that Phyllis Estes from VSA has already taught a couple of Bottle Baby classes at DAS.

VI. New Business

A. New Advisory Board Members

Jim Spartz welcomed two new members to the Animal Services Advisory Board.

B. Animal Control Ordinance Revision

Darcy Andrade presented a slide show on proposed changes to the Animal Control Ordinance and advised that the recommendations came from three groups: The Animal Services Advisory Board, the University of Florida during the Shelter Assessment and staff recommendations. **Ms. Andrade** stated that the Advisory Board voted on their recommendations at the November 21, 2017 meeting. She also stated that the University of Florida recommendations are in keeping with the Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters, produced by the Association of Shelter Veterinarians.

Jim Rich asked if the Memorandum of Understanding for the Trap, Neuter and Return Program will no longer be required, if it will still be necessary to register cats and was advised by **Ms. Andrade** that it will no longer be necessary.

Marjorie Bloom inquired if traps are marked to indicate that they belong to Domestic Animal Services and was advised by **Ms. Andrade** that currently they are not, but if the Ordinance is changed, they will have to be marked.

Sarah Baeckler-Davis asked if seasonal residents who reside in Collier County for more than thirty (30) days will be required to obtain a Collier County License for their pet(s) and was advised by **Darcy Andrade** that they will be required to do so.

Jim Rich asked if people will be required to report found animals, stating that in the past, his rescue group have not provided reports and photographs, but they will be able to do so going forward. **Sarah Baeckler-Davis** asked if there is currently a mechanism in place for found animals to become the legal property of the finder and was advised by **Ms. Andrade** that there is not. **Dan Rheume** stated that the law considers property to be a chattel and a found chattel becomes the property of the finder after thirty (30) days.

Marjorie Bloom stated that it can be difficult to determine if cats in colonies have been sterilized and **Darcy Andrade** informed her that sterilized colony cats should be ear-tipped. **Ms. Bloom** asked about people who allow their cats to roam. **Ms. Andrade** advised her that cats are not allowed to run at-large and that cats should be micro-chipped.

Dan Rheume asked what happens if levied fines are not paid and was advised that they are sent to Collections.

Jim Rich reported that his organization took in a cat as a safe-keeping approximately three (3) months ago and asked at what point can a new home be found for the animal. **Darcy Andrade** stated that if the animal was at DAS, the hold time would be 240 hours. **Kyra Lynch** recommended that **Mr. Rich** consult an attorney as Rescue Groups are a bit of a gray area.

Dr. Gordon asked how often the issue of DAS being unable to micro-chip due to the lack of an on-site Veterinarian occurs. **Ms. Lynch** mentioned that it has occurred daily for the last four (4) months and is always an issue on Saturdays. **Darcy** advised that she is on the Florida Animal Control Association Board and they are working to change the language in the State Statute.

Ms. Bloom asked if there are many instances of a problem during the micro-chipping process and was advised that there are not. **Dr. Gordon** said that it was a shame that the language reads the way it does because he could teach anyone to implant a micro-chip in an hour.

Darcy Andrade discussed the Licensing section of the Ordinance, which not listed on the slides. She advised the Board that one of the proposed changes was to change the name from Collier County License to Collier County License and Rabies Tag. She also stated that Veterinarians and Licensing Agents can sell tags. **Ms. Andrade** stated that DAS will be able to issue a three (3) year tag to go with a three (3) year rabies vaccine.

Dan Rheume asked why the proposed changes weren't done a long time ago.

Sarah Baeckler-Davis asked when the marked-up copy will be available and stated that she isn't comfortable voting on whether to recommend the proposed changes without seeing the marked-up copy.

Tom Kepp asked about what recourse is available if people don't want to surrender puppies; can he call for an Animal Control Officer to deliver a breeder packet and he was advised that he could. **Mr. Kepp** also discussed fines and stated that it isn't DAS' fault, but there is no way to collect fines. He stated that he had tried in the past to get DAS teamed up with Code Enforcement. **Mr. Kepp** also mentioned that there are no low-cost spay/neuter services available in Collier County on Saturdays.

Michelle Antonia stated that Animal Compassion Project would like to continue being a resource for cats and asked how to a community cat from an owned cat. **Darcy Andrade** stated that if a cat is free-roaming, it is a community cat. **Ms. Antonia** reported that she witnessed Collier County Sheriff's Deputy pick up a kitten that had been hit by a car and place it on the side of the road without providing additional assistance and advised that it should be addressed. **Darcy Andrade** stated that there had been a similar issue several years ago with animals left in cars and she met with the Sheriff's Office to provide education. **Ms.**

Antonia asked for clarification on the proposed Ordinance changes as they relate to poison. **Ms. Andrade** read both the current and proposed language. **Michelle Antonia** asked how she can work around the trust issue in Immokalee if she calls DAS to make a report. **Darcy Andrade** referred her to the board of County Commissioners policy on anonymous complaints.

Jim Rich stated that if the proposed Ordinance changes were not voted on during this meeting, the changes would be postponed by several months and that he was ready to vote.

Dr. Gordon stated that he understood that a previous Board had already reviewed this in November and he was ready to go forward.

Jim Spartz stated that the revisions have already been reviewed by the County Attorney's Office.

Jim Rich made a motion to recommend the proposed changes to the Board of County Commissioners, there was a second and the motion passed 5-1.

Sarah Baeckler-Davis stated that the proposed changes sounded good to her, but she was not comfortable voting as she has not seen the marked-up copy of the Ordinance.

VII. **Public Comment**

There were no additional public comments.

VIII. **Advisory Board Member Comments**

There were no additional comments by the Advisory Board members.

Dr. Gordon made a motion to adjourn, there was a second and the motion passed 6-0.

The next regularly scheduled Advisory Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 17th, at 6:00 in the Domestic Animal Training Room, Davis Blvd., Naples, Florida.

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was concluded at 7:35 p.m.

COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES

Chairman James Spartz

May 22, 2018

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