



Forsyth County
Animal Control Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2009

Lori Sears,, Chair
Julie Magness Vice-Chair
Joe Redman
Dr. Tim Strickland
Jennifer Tierney
Jerry Canady
D. Ritchie Brooks
Charles Cahill
Marsha Crumpler
Priscilla Ivester

Members Present:

Julie Magness
Lori Sears
Joe Redman
Ritchie Brooks
Dr Tim Strickland
Jennifer Tierney
Marsha Crumpler
Priscilla Ivester

Staff Present:

Tim Jennings
John Day
Matt Smith
Drake Parrish
Judy Blevins

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lori Sears at 6:00 P.M. Staff advised Jerry Canady and Charles Cahill had provided notification they could not attend.

- *Minutes*

A motion was made by Julie Magness to approve the June 18, 2009 minutes and seconded by Dr Tim Strickland. Minutes were approved.

- *Welcome New Board Members*

New members, Priscilla Ivester and Marsha Crumpler, were introduced to board members present. Tim Jennings met with new members to update them on items that have been discussed. Tim also reported that Terry Idols was nominated to the board but has since passed away, his position will be filled by County Commissioners at their meeting September 28, 2009.

Public Comment

Mitch Cromer advised he would like to see the board have more discussions, i.e kennel size and tethering before making any hasty decisions.

New Business

- *2009 Work Plan*

Lori Sears advised the board that she and Tim Jennings had met regarding the ambitious work plan adopted. She has received feedback from members and staff that there has not been sufficient discussion of the impacts of the code sections under review. A revised work plan was provided to members and Tim explained the schedule. There was general consensus to accept the revised plan.

- *NC Legislative Bills*

Staff advised board member that the last of the legislation being tracked, Commercial Breeding/puppy mill bill has been tabled. The anticipated cost for the NC Department of Agriculture to enforce it appears to be the key concern and issue for this action.

- *Colorado Dog Bite Survey*

Priscilla Ivester provided a survey for dog bites in Colorado from July 2007 to June 2008. Priscilla also handed National Pet Owners Survey done from 1996 to 2008 on how dogs and cats were obtained. There was discussion of bite reporting from various sections of the country and how the existence of rabies effects the reporting.

- *Code Proposals: Cruelty*

Proposals discussed were various definitions addressing adequate food, water and shelter. There was discussion about shelter for animals not to include metallic barrels, it was also discussed if done properly i.e. flap on front, attached a roof to keep the rain out and proper bedding. Dr Strickland advised that some hay may have mites in it and some dogs are allergic to shavings. Members agreed that the bedding needs to be dry at all times. Tim requested members read over the definitions for further discussion at the October 2009 meeting.

- *Public Outreach*

Staff advised the October meeting will have significant outreach aspect regarding the code sections the Advisory Board has reviewed proposing a scoop requirement, mandatory lost and found reporting, agent pet licensing and an additional spay/neuter incentive. Staff outlined the process of public service announcements and paid advertising to solicit feedback. A telephone line and voicemail will be dedicated for comment as well an email address. The proposed code sections will be available on the department webpage.

Old Business

- *Statistical Report*

Tim Jennings reported that 15,261 complaints were reported to the Patrol Division from July 2008 to June 2009 and that licensing was down by 2% but July and August had increased over last year. Matt Smith reported that intakes are up by 9%, adoption up by 10%, Redemption up by 1% and euthanasia was only up by 8.7%. Lt John Day advised that bite cases and quarantine were up by 16%. The continuing analysis of Forsyth County's dog bites is at 9% of the bites are by dogs primarily confined by tether.

- *Hearing Tribunal: September 17,2009 Schedule*

The next hearing tribunal has a full schedule of 7 appellants. There was discussion of how the hearings are progressing at a faster pace and some of the steps taken by the tribunal members that have enhanced the process. Lori Sears, Jennifer Tierney, Priscilla Ivester volunteered to be at the next hearing tribunal. The hearing will be held at 6:00 PM on September 17, 2009. Julie Magness and Marsha Crumpler also volunteered if needed.

Adjourn

Lori Sears motioned to adjourn the meeting, Doctor Strickland seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next meeting will be held October 15, 2009.