

Animal Services News

June 15, 2016

TETHERING ORDINANCE & FENCE BUILDING

- *Leaders for the Orange County Chapter of the Coalition to Unchain Dogs are planning to move away from the area in the coming year*
- *Discussions with the founder and executive director for “the Coalition” have indicated a commitment to continue to build fences for residents who are in violation of county tethering ordinance according to Animal Services*
- *Discussions are continuing about*
 - *Number of ordinance violations and Animal Service referrals*
 - *Renewal of human resources for the Orange County Chapter of “the Coalition”*
- *Recall that residents who are in violation of the county tethering ordinance have 30 days to get on the Coalition’s fence build list, and doing so suspends enforcement*
 - *Not having this alternative would mean more undesirable outcomes*

COMMUNITY SPAY & NEUTER

- *We are continuing to work with various community partners to issue spay and neuter vouchers for qualifying individuals and households*
 - *Residents receiving public assistance qualify*
 - *Residents whose household income is less than 300 percent of the federal poverty level qualify*
 - *Our AnimalKind agreement has been amended so residents in either group receive a “no cost” voucher for their pet(s)*
- *There is an opportunity to partner more directly with the Coalition to Unchain Dogs in providing spay and neuter services to residents who are having a fence built*
 - *Staff is in favor of doing so given that reimbursement is less of an issue than ever before and because of the value of the partnership*
 - *Recall that fences are only built for dogs that are spayed and neutered*
- *AnimalKind appears to be revisiting its strategic vision in combination with some personnel changes*
- *Animal Services staff will be exploring options for continued low-cost spay and neuter services that ensure that the county program is sustainable*

ODDS & ENDS

- *Open House went very well and it was very well attended!*
- *Fourteen microchips were implanted and 109 vaccinations were administered at our June 11 Microchip and Rabies Vaccination Clinic*
- *Animal Services will host a seminar in the latter part of July with Amanda Arrington and Lori Hensely on Pets for Life and the Coalition to Unchain Dogs*
 - *We want to continue to refashion our own culture of animal welfare and services*
 - *Provide an opportunity for residents to become involved in fence building in Orange County*

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- *Learn about some of the most innovative and exciting programs in the field*
- *Our conversion of stainless steel cat “cages” so that adjacent enclosures are connected by a pass-through with a door will be done later in the year*
 - *The contractor was not available to do the work during the spring and our feline holding areas are now at capacity*
 - *Everything is ready to go later this year when the contractor is available*
- *Kitty foster home recruitment is underway for neonates and young kitten to ensure that they thrive and receive the socialization they need*
 - *Applications are attached and guidelines are being finalized*
 - *There will be an orientation in the near future.*

STAFFING & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

- **Vacancies**
 - *Ashley Ray was promoted to our Animal Care Supervisor. She was a veterinary health care technician and previously she was herself an Animal Care Technician.*
 - *We in the process of filling two permanent Animal Care Technician positions and also hiring a temporary Animal Care Technician for the summer season*
 - *We are in the process of filling a vacant Animal Control Officer position*
- **Training and Development**
 - *In June, two Animal Control Officers will be attending an Animal Cruelty & Fighting Investigations offered by The Humane Society of the United States and sponsored by Warren County Animal Control*
 - *In July, our Animal Control Manager, Training & Lead Animal Control Officer and another officer will be attending Humane Animal Handling 101 offered by the North Carolina Animal Federation*
 - *Staff are engaged in a series of team building training sessions offered by Human Resources for staff and managers and program personnel*

CURRENT & COMING EVENTS

- *Participating in Grand Opening for Cedar Grove Community Center, 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, June 18, 2016*
- *June is Adopt a Cat Month and \$50 is the fee for all feline adoptions (with an additional \$25 for a registered microchip)*
- *Our next low-cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic will be held from 3 to 5 pm, Thursday, July 21st at the Animal Services Center*

*Prepared by Bob Marotto,
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