

Orange County Animal Services
1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
919-942-PETS (7387)

ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (ASAB)

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, August 19, 2015

Meeting Summary

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Miller, Beth Grooms, Michelle Walker (Chair), Warren Porter (Vice-Chair), Susan Elmore, Michael Stewart, Arthur Sprinczeles, Aviva Scully

MEMBERS ABSENT: Caroline Green, Molly Mullins, DeWana Anderson, Maureane Hoffman

STAFF PRESENT: Bob Marotto (Animal Services Director), Sarah Fallin (Program Coordinator), Jasmine Johnson (Veterinary Health Care Manager)

Agenda: Motion to approve agenda with addition of one housekeeping item passed and agenda unanimously approved

Summary of June 17, 2015 meeting: Reviewed and unanimously approved

General Public Comments on items not on the agenda: None

Introduction of Jasmine Johnson, Veterinary Health Care Manager

ASAB Affairs

- (A) ASAB unanimously recommends reappointment of current members Aviva Scully, Arthur Sprinczeles, Warren Porter, and Michelle Walker for reappointment to 3-year terms
- (B) Susan Elmore gave a summary of Potentially Dangerous Dog Hearings for 5 dogs; 2 designations were upheld and 3 designations were overturned.

Old Business

- (A) Report from Animal Research Subcommittee
 - DeAnna Rowan gave public comment and asked questions regarding the scope and details of any potential protocol for participation in research studies, including: (1) who would conduct the procedures and where; (2) who would be responsible for oversight of collection and compliance with protocol; (3) what standard would be followed to determine whether a procedure is non-invasive and avoids pain/suffering.
 - The ASAB raised additional questions for careful review by the Animal Research Subcommittee:
 - i. Make clear that no live animals would leave the shelter for research purposes
 - ii. How to address effect that protocol may have on operational procedures/decision making regarding humane euthanasia (i.e., whether an animal euthanized for purely humane reasons would be eligible for donation; if not, would the protocol have potential to discourage humane euthanasia?)

1. One suggestion was having identified criteria for humane euthanasia of potentially eligible animals specific to each research study
- iii. Development of standards for determining whether the research is not-for-profit (e.g., consideration of funding source for research even if conducted by an academic institution)
- iv. Development of standards for determining what procedures are acceptable as non-invasive and avoiding pain/suffering
 1. One suggestion was to specifically identify acceptable procedures
- v. Potential review of protocols of other model shelters nationally
- vi. In light of these questions/concerns, critical evaluation of cost/benefit of potential for participation in research

New Business

- (A) Eligibility criteria for Community Spay & Neuter Program
 - ASAB unanimously approved staff proposal to increase eligibility for Community Spay & Neuter Program from 150% of poverty level to 200% of poverty level
- (B) Animal Services Updates
 - Mr. Marotto and Jasmine Johnson provided updates regarding shelter statistics, positive impact of adoption specials, canine influenza, the newly opened dog play area, and AnimalKind Cares program in Orange County

Ongoing and Upcoming Events

- (A) Back to School Adoption Special during the month of August
- (B) Annual Dog Swim Sunday September 13 from 1-4 PM
- (C) Spay Neuter Day – Thursday, August 20

Meeting adjourned at: 8:15 PM

Name of Minute Taker: Michelle Walker