

Animal Advisory Board Minutes

September 15, 2010

Call to Order

Chairperson Barrett called the September 15, 2010 AAB meeting to order.

The following members were present: Voting members: Chairperson Dianne Barrett, Brenda Simmons, Paulette Woods, Mark Speed and Dr. Elyse Goldman, DVM; ex-officio members: Franklin County Animal Control Director Graham Stallings, Franklin County Humane President Kelly Larson. Absent: Voting members Bess Nicholson and Jackie Oakley. Non-voting members: Commissioner David Bunn, and Dr. Kimberley Barth,

Members of the Public

Barrett recognized Past President Franklin County Humane Society and board member Ida Estep, President SPCA Franklin County Rebecca Rogers, Animal Control Officers: Wesley Denton, Maylon Edwards, Kathy Johnson and Cynthia Anderson. A sign –up sheet was passed for a complete listing of all in attendance.

Public Comment: Ms. Rogers voiced her concern about complaints she receives from the public concerning telephone calls to the Shelter. She stated that people call her to comment that they are treated rudely and are very upset and frustrated by the way they are treated on the telephone when calling the front desk. She stated that she receives such complaints at least once a month.

Stallings reported that any conversation can be tracked, but specifics are required so the AC director can go back to that conversation. Recordings are available for 6 months. Woods asked if anyone listens to the conversation. Stallings said yes he does and only the AC director has access. He can track the extension that was used and if he has the date he can find the conversation. A person coming into the Shelter is a different situation and if someone has a complaint they must speak directly to him. Stallings asked Rogers to provide specific information and she said she would try to do to that.

Correction to Statement: It was reported in the AAB August meeting that the Franklin County Animal Ordinance requires that food, water and shelter must be provided. The Ordinance does not state those requirements.

Motion to adopt the Minutes: Woods made a motion to adopt the Minutes with the above correction, Barrett seconded, and the motion carried to approve minutes of the August 25, 2010 meeting.

Old Business

1. Ordinances and fee structures from Franklin, New Hanover, Durham, Orange and Burke Counties were discussed. Stallings stressed the importance of going through the various Ordinances step by step. Plan is for everyone to acquaint themselves with the presented information and other Ordinances that may be applicable to the needs of the people in Franklin County.
2. Discussed animal cruelty, specifically chaining or tethering inappropriately, length of chain, length of time tethering would be allowed and difficulties of enforcement.
3. Woods stressed the importance of educating the public before any approved changes went into effect.

New Business

1. Stallings announced there is a mobile unit being renovated from an old Book Mobile to be used during a disaster (ex. the wildfires that occurred several years ago, or hurricanes etc.) and for animal adoptions.
2. Stallings announced that an ACO has completed the required training to become a Certified Euthanasia Technician (CET). It is the AC Director's intent to only use these services during an emergency to prevent animal suffering and only by the direct decision of the AC Director.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is Wednesday October 20, 2010 at 6:15pm in the Administration Building.

Motion to adjourn: Simmons so moved and Woods seconded, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Elyse Goldman, DVM

