



Forsyth County Animal Services Advisory Board

July 15, 2021

6:00 - 7:30 PM
5570 Sturmer Park Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Priscilla Ivester, Chair
Chad Griffin, Vice Chair
Amy Pugh, DVM
Cristina Griffin
P.J. Lofland
Joseph Chrobak
Erin Turner
Rick Borucki
Bill Cowan

Members Present

Erin Turner	Michelle Connelly	Rick Borucki
Amy Pugh	Cristina Griffin	Chad Griffin
Priscilla Ivester	Bill Cowan	Joseph Chrobak

Staff Present

Capt. V. Loveland
Tonya Ward

CALL TO ORDER

- The Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Priscilla Ivester.
- Approval of meeting minutes May 17, 2021
MOTION: PJ Lofland made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Erin Turner and the minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- As the meeting was held with strict restrictions, there was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

- ***Repealing Differential Licensing***
Priscilla Ivester let the Board know that she, Chad Griffin, and Bill Cowan met with Captain Loveland to discuss going forward as a Board. They determined that most important issue was Pet Licensing. Captain Loveland stated that he had spoken with the Forsyth County Budget Office and had sent them information on licensing. This information showed the continuing decrease in compliance. He went on to say that running current numbers on licensing is somewhat problematic as Animal Services is working between two computer systems. The Budget Office is putting together a memo for the County Commissioners on licensing. He discussed some of the history involved including the limited partnership with Datamax which did not achieve its intended goal of increasing compliance as well as the fact that licensing does not generate a large revenue and Animal Services keeps none of the revenue.

- **Status Update on FCC 6-57**

Captain Loveland asked if the Board had submitted the proposed wording changes to the Commissioners. Priscilla Ivester responded that the only issue brought to the Commissioners so far was licensing. There was discussion of the language being submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Board Member Ideas for Future Actions**

Priscilla Ivester opened the discussion of priority issues for the Board, stating that licensing is the number one issue followed by having more local veterinarians send in their rabies reports. Chad Griffin said this goes hand in hand with no longer having pet licensing so Animal Services would not be inundated. Bill Cowan brought up the statewide issue of how rabies reporting is handled. There was discussion of a statewide system. Priscilla Ivester also brought up the issue of Certified Rabies Vaccinators being allowed to administer 3 year vaccinations. Bill Cowan said the statewide laws were last reviewed in 2018 and not scheduled to be reviewed again until 2028. There was further discussion of the purposes in only allowing veterinarians to administer 3 year vaccines and discussion of spay/neuter programs. Chad Griffin brought up the current tethering ordinance and suggested a discussion of revisiting the subject. There was discussion of what the current ordinance entails as well as legitimate cases of an owner tethering could still result in charges if changes were made. Bill Cowan let the Board know that there is a new bill being discussed in the NC State Senate regarding dogs removed from fighting rings being not automatically declared dangerous. There was discussion of this proposal and several members pointed out that not all dogs removed from this type situation are dangerous. Captain Loveland then let the Board know that Animal Services would like to move forward with building a small stable on the property. He stated that there were plans for one when the shelter was originally built and Animal Services feels it would be very beneficial to have one. He plans to push for the land and budget and the Board agreed this was beneficial.

- **Hearing Tribunals**

The docket and members for the Tribunal Hearings scheduled for August 19th were discussed. Erin Turner, Rick Borucki, and Bill Cowan said they were available to serve. Amy Pugh said she would be available as an alternate if someone was not able to serve.

- **Question Regarding Dog in Public Parks**

Erin Turner said she had some questions regarding dogs being allowed in public parks. She said she understood leashed dogs were allowed in most parks but referenced an incident in which someone was asked to leave by a police officer. Captain Loveland said he would speak to Winston Salem Police Department for clarification on how these situations are handled.

- **Animal Services Open House**

Captain Loveland let the Board know that Animal Services would be hosting an open house for first responders on July 21st. The event information has been shared with WSPD, local Fire and EMS, as well as security for all local colleges and universities. He also invited Board members to attend but explained that the event is not open to the general public and is intended to educate first responders on the myriad of services provided here.

ADJOURN

MOTION: With no further business Priscilla Ivester asked for a motion to adjourn. Rick Borucki made the motion, which was seconded by Bill Cowan. Priscilla Ivester adjourned the meeting at 7:12 pm.