



Forsyth County Animal Services Advisory Board

March 18, 2021

6:00 - 7:30 PM

5570 Sturmer Park Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Mitch Cromer, Chair
Priscilla Ivester, Vice Chair
Terry Jessup
Amy Pugh, DVM
Cristina Griffin
P.J. Lofland
Joseph Chrobak
Chad Griffin
Erin Turner
Michelle Connelly
Rick Borucki

Members Present

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|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Erin Turner | Michelle Connelly | Rick Borucki |
| Amy Pugh | Cristina Griffin | Chad Griffin |
| Mitch Cromer | Priscilla Ivester | Terry Jessup |

Staff Present

Capt. V. Loveland
Tonya Ward

CALL TO ORDER

- The Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Mitch Cromer. The meeting was held both in person with safety precautions and virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Approval of meeting minutes January 21, 2021
MOTION: P.J. Lofland made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Amy Pugh and the minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

OLD BUSINESS

- ***Forsyth Humane Society Statistics***

Guest Speaker: Sarah Williamson, Executive Director of Forsyth Humane Society

Sara Williamson discussed Forsyth Humane Society's partnership with Animal Services. She stated that the goal of FHS is to increase the save rate of shelter cats and dogs in Forsyth County to 90% by the year 2023. She went on to discuss what measures were in place to meet that goal. Following that, she delved into the differences 2020 brought and how the pandemic affected intake, adoption, transfers, and euthanasia – with all categories dropping from 2019 to 2020. She discussed the consolidated operations plan and "closed door" procedures which required citizens to make an appointments. In 2021, she stated the main

goals for FHS are to rebound from the pandemic, including picking back up on their very successful transfer partnerships with both in and out-of-state rescue organizations as well as working with Humane Solution on continuing to trap and neuter feral cats which has been shown to reduce shelter populations. She concluded her presentation with a success story of a dog who received medical care from FHS staff and was adopted after coming into the facility in very poor condition.

- ***PDD/DD Preventative Measures Pending Appeal***

Captain Loveland brought up the potential changes to Forsyth County Code 6-57 dealing with appeals of Potentially Dangerous and Dangerous Dog Declarations. Currently there is a stay of enforcement which makes it impossible for officers to cite for violations during the appeal period. There was discussion of the changes proposed.

MOTION: Priscilla Ivester made a motion to accept the proposed new language and present it to the Commissioners, Erin Turner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- ***Repealing Differential Licensing***

There was discussion of the proposed language of a recommendation of ending Pet Licensing which would be presented to the Commissioners. Rick Borucki suggested changing some of the wording. This was discussed and accepted. There was discussion of the next step which would be meeting with the Commissioners.

MOTION: Priscilla Ivester made a motion to accept the statement with amended wording. Michelle Connelly seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- ***Hearing Tribunals***

The docket and members for the Tribunal Hearings scheduled for April 15th were discussed. Cristina Griffin, Rick Borucki, and Mitch Cromer said they were available to serve.

- ***Statistics on Animal Bites***

Captain Loveland discussed the statistics he had previously sent to the Board via email. There was discussion of animal bites/reporting and rabies vaccinations being paramount to community safety. Further discussion reiterated that rabies reporting is crucial and should take precedence over pet licensing. Captain Loveland let the Board know he is working on the Annual Report and will send it to the Board as soon as it is complete.

ADJOURN

MOTION: With no further business Mitch Cromer asked for a motion to adjourn. Rick Borucki made the motion, which was seconded by Michelle Connelly. Mitch Cromer adjourned the meeting at 7:06 pm.