

Fairbanks North Star Borough
Animal Control Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday April 11th, 2016, 6:00pm
Animal Control, 2408 Davis Road

Minutes

1. Call to Order – 6:00 PM
2. Commissioner Roll Call – Ronnie Rosenberg, Susan Parsons, Becky Fuller, Gail Gardner, Scott Chesney & Jamie Marschner.
3. Approval of Agenda – (Fuller, 2nd Parsons) Approved

The following citizens testified: Linda Cook, Kirsten Genter, Tamara Reid and Mike Messing, regarding the proper procedures for found animals for all citizens including rescue groups holding strays.
4. Approval of Minutes – (Parsons, Fuller 2nd) Approved with correction.
5. Shelter Report –
 - a. Staffing - Besser stated that the Animal Tender position has been re-advertised. The ACO position has been filled by Debra French-Hanson. Recruitment for a Front Desk position will begin shortly. The Managers position was a failed recruitment and will be re-advertised also. Brad Paulson, Manager of Emergency Services will be Acting Manager of Animal Control for the present time. Besser will be available for help with training the new Manager.
 - b. Medical Care –With the help of the Shelter Fund, medical care has been provided to pretty much any animal in need. Including severely injured animals that in the past would have been euthanized and giving them the ability to be adopted. In the last seven years the euthanasia rate has dropped from 25% to 5% overall.
 - c. Community Outreach Events – Many happen in the summer. A favorite is Kids Safety Day, which is very interactive with animals. Teaching children how to avoid dog bites and how to interact in a way that helps to develop sensory memory to be used later when needed. Besser stated that it has been an absolute pleasure to have worked at Animal Control for her last seven years with the Borough.
6. Old Business
 - a. FY 17 Budget – Besser and Paulson will be participating in the budget work session on Saturday April 14th. Besser met with the Mayor and recommended an increase in the adoption fee for small reptiles and hedgehogs to help to ensure proper care when adopted. There was a reduction in the amount set aside for spay/neuter of adopted animals to match actuals spent.

- b. Animal Licensing – Continued discussion on edits for draft of ordinance.
- c. HB 147 – Rosenberg stated that on April 7th it made it out of Judiciary and through Finance and now sits in House Rules. A new measure was introduced dealing with a state wide dangerous dog classification. Bite dogs and those presenting a safety risk.
- d. Barn – No news form the Mayor’s office, still in a holding pattern.

7. New Agenda Items

- a. Discuss changes to Title 6- Duty to report process for found animals- The Commission will draft up guide lines for a duty to report process. Besser and Gardner will attempt to meet with legal before Besser leaves.

8. Commissioner Comments

- a. Rosenberg gave an update on the Shelter Fund.
- b. Parsons thanked the citizens and rescues who came, and appreciates the community involvement.
- c. Fuller echoed her thanks for the community involvement. She would like to work on the image and public awareness of the shelter.
- d. Gardner also expressed her thanks for the community involvement.
- e. Chesney echoed his thanks, and thanked Besser for being an asset to the community, setting a positive tone for the shelter and staff and looking out for the wellbeing of the animals rather than just focusing on enforcement.

9. Announcements – A special thanks was given to Besser for her years of service and all of her hard work. She will truly be missed.

10. Adjournment – 7:20PM