

# FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION

## MINUTES

October 22, 2018

A regular meeting of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Animal Control Commission was held at the Borough Animal Control Facility, 2408 Davis Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Scott Chesney, Chair.

### A. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Chesney, Ronnie Rosenberg, Gail Gardner (excused at 7pm), Mary Ann Fortune, Link Olson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lindsey Heaney, Jamie Marschner, Alex Thornton

OTHERS PRESENT: Ariel Cunningham, Christine Nelson

### B. MESSAGES

Citizen's Comments –

1. Jamie Straatsma – Asked Animal Control Commission to help her communicate with Animal Control Officers regarding an inhumane care complaint against an animal owner. Ariel Cunningham explained that the best person to communicate with regarding the officers is herself, the Animal Control Manager and supervisor of the officers. Cunningham advised to call Dispatch tomorrow to ask about follow-up being done on the investigation. Cunningham also explained the limitations of the laws under which officers must operate, the greatest limitation being the vague and lax standards of care.

Disclosure & Statement of Conflict of Interest – None

### C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as amended made by Mary Ann Fortune and seconded by Link Olson. Carried without objection. New Business #1 and #3 were combined.

### D. MINUTES

Minutes from August 20, 2018. Motion to approve the minutes made by Ronnie Rosenberg and seconded by Gail Gardner. Carried without objection.

### E. REPORTS

1. Shelter Report presented by Ariel Cunningham – Ariel Cunningham reported on outreach events in October, staffing changes, needs and training.

2. Sled Dog Housing Committee Report presented by Mary Ann Fortune – Mary Ann Fortune is waiting on return phone calls.

**F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. None.

**G. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Animal Control Commission Resolution 2018-01 and ACC Clerk/Expectations –

Ariel Cunningham advised to not vote on the resolution due to the need for necessary edits. Christine Nelson explained the resolution is to meet the Borough requirement for commissions to adopt rules for testimony. She does not recommend testimony by affidavit. She expects the resolution to be ready to be voted on at the next meeting. Rosenberg thinks that there might be valid interested parties and there is a need to qualify child witnesses.

Christine Nelson explained the transition to a designated, professional clerk for the Animal Control Commission that will be employed in the Community Planning Department. The clerk will clerk regular meetings and quasi-judicial hearings. The clerk will serve as a conduit between testifying persons and the chair.

2. September Appeal Hearing and Canceled October 1 Meeting – Ariel Cunningham explained the 20-day appeal hearing timeline and the need for a quick reply from commissioners via email regarding appeal hearing date availability when applicable. Mary Ann Fortune, Gail Gardner, Link Olson and Scott Chesney requested phone calls from the new clerk.

3. Accessory Building – Ronnie Rosenberg stated that Sandy Hill, Shelter Operations Supervisor, wants to remodel the outdoor yard. Rosenberg would like to see a multi-use, moveable, heated building with water and drainage that is adaptable for multi species. She is concerned about the local movement towards increased farm animal populations. The goal for the building is less than \$1 million and would obtain grants as some of the funding. Ariel Cunningham stated that the shelter staff also desires a better outdoor solution. Rosenberg requested from the Animal Control Manager a breakdown of livestock species admitted to the shelter in the last two years.

Rosenberg would like to propose this idea to the new Mayor. Link Olson expressed concern about what information is needed to present to the mayor. Cunningham commented that it appears as if the commission needs increased communication and guidance from the mayor administration, because the commission does not seem to understand how to advise the Mayor or what level of detail is necessary when initially presenting advice. Scott Chesney stated that he would draft an invitation to the Mayor and Chief of Staff for a meeting in December or January.

4. Animal Control Commission Future Directions – Ronnie Rosenberg stated that the commission is up for re-authorization this year. She asked 1) Is everyone comfortable with the status quo? and 2) Do we want to ask the mayor for broadening responsibilities? Mary Ann Fortune requested that this topic be tabled to the next meeting.

**H. EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES**

Christine Nelson will distribute the schedule of meetings for November 2018 – January 2020.

**I. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

Chairperson's Comments – None

Commissioner's Comments:

1. Ronnie Rosenberg gave the Shelter Fund Report
  - a. Hari Om Indian Cuisine October 26 \$150 plus collection jars donated to Shelter Fund
  - b. Pet Photos with Santa first two weekends in December at Alaska Feed

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.