

# FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION

## MINUTES

FEBRUARY 19, 2019

A regular meeting of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Animal Control Commission was held at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 907 Terminal Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Scott Chesney, Chair.

### A. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Chesney, Ronnie Rosenberg, Mary Ann Fortune, Link Olson, Jamie Marschner, Alex Thornton

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lindsey Heaney, Debora Gail Gardner

OTHERS PRESENT: Sandy Hill, Sharon Wittenkeller, Michelle Gutierrez

### B. MESSAGES

Citizen's Comments –

1. None

Disclosure & Statement of Conflict of Interest – None

### C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by **Commissioner Fortune** and seconded by **Commissioner Thornton**. Carried without objection.

### D. MINUTES

Minutes from January 22, 2019. Motion to approve the minutes made by **Commissioner Fortune** and seconded by **Commissioner Thornton**. Carried without objection.

### E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Shelter Report presented by Sandy Hill –Sandy reported on the shelter orientation for the Commissioners, interviews for a casual position, casuals are on call and help to fill-in as needed. There are 5 casuals staffed. Officers are moving into their offices at emergency ops, located on Peger Road, they're utilizing the paid space. There is work on the visiting room, a large window will be added. The window will help to open up the space to discourage inappropriate behavior from the public towards the staff which has happened on occasion. Cabinetry has been ordered for the front office, this will open up a large space in the garage. The new space will be used for additional animal care space. The budget is moving along as scheduled, unknown still how the State budget will affect the overall outcome. Animal population remains on the medium range.

Adoption rate is steady. A couple of small groups of tours are planned. Children will read to the animals later in the week. The web Chameleon rep came to do training on the program. Alaska Animal Control Association is having a meeting in Anchorage on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 3 officers will be attending. Sandy would like to plan to present the Web Chameleon program to Commissioners at a future meeting.

2. Sled Dog Housing Committee Report. **Commissioner Fortune** presented a draft proposal letter to be presented to the Mayor to request assistance from the Borough for the newly proposed warm animal shelter. Commissioners discussed the letter, made suggestions and changes. The letter will be presented to the Mayor at the next meeting on March 19, 2019.
3. Budget- No information.
4. Legislative bill or activity of interest – None.

**F. EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES**

None

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

Chairperson's Comments – The Mayor plans to attend next month's meeting.

Commissioner's Comments:

1. **Commissioner Olson** asked if there are any planned PSA's to help minimize the increase in bunny population around the Easter holiday.
2. **Commissioner Rosenberg** responded that she is working on bunnies. They have received the Holland America grant. When the funds are available there will be a down town event; Hop to it Fairbanks. There will also be a bunny hop to the bars. These events will help to raise education and awareness about keeping the bunny population down.
3. **Commissioner Thornton** thanked Sandy for the shelter tour. During the tour there was discussion about a Costco grant to help obtain supplies, such as shelves. He offered to volunteer to help set up shelves.
4. **Commissioner Rosenberg** stated she had spoken to Costco and they do not donate to animal shelters. It is their national policy. There was further discussion on how to obtain shelves with donations or by purchasing them with shelter funds.
5. **Commissioner Thornton** is interested in looking into ways to encourage responsible sales of exotic animals from pet stores who sell these animals but do not stock the supplies to care for the animal. He doesn't want to prevent the sales, just to encourage responsible sales and ownership, by educating buyers about the supply needed of that animal and knowing the options of getting those supplies, and to reduce spontaneous purchase of these animals. There was further discussion about banning the purchase of certain exotic animals.
6. **Commissioner Rosenberg** stated they are number one in the Interior for Pick.Click.Give. for January. There were a few substantial donations. Our endowment has increased.

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.