**DURHAM COUNTY**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Animal Welfare Advisory Committee**

**Tuesday, July 17, 2024**

**7:00 PM**

**[Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams]**

**Present:**

*Committee Members:*Shenell Little, Lt. Georgette Ray, Dr. Ashley Baines, Elizabeth Overcash, Marianne Bond, Jan Paul.

*Non-voting Members:*Captain Mark Manning, Shafonda Allen, Leah Santelli, Dakota Beck

*Community Members:* Sarah Reichman, Brian Mulligan, Donna Mitchell, Susan Teer, Kristin Lang

*Committee Counsel:* Nathan McKinney

*Sheriff’s Counsel:*

**Item I – Introductory Remarks**

Elizabeth Overcash called the meeting to order.

**Item II - Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the January 23, 2024, minutes by Marianne Bond and seconded by Shanell Little. There was no one opposed.

A motion was made to approve the May 2024 minutes by Marianne Bond and seconded by Shannell Little.

**Item III – Animal Services Report**

Captain Manning reported 967 calls, for month of June, and that response time is up from 10 minutes to 30 minutes. There were also 181 incident reports, 54 stray animals impounded, and 40 different animals for nuisance calls.

There were 11 rabies investigations, all bats, which all had negative results.

Please see attached Animal Service Report for further details.

**Item IV – Shelter Report**

Director Allen informed the committee about the shelter report. Please see the attached report for further details.

During this report a community member, Ms. Mitchell, asked about spay and neuter services in Durham instead of Mebane. She also asked about transport to the location in Mebane.

Director Allen said SNAP went out of business. They were based on donations for what a person could pay. Now they supplement the spay/neuter costs, but APS is currently over budget. Right now, there are two vets that are assisting with lower cost options and Peaceful Paws drives about an hour to meet in Mebane. Currently there are no other mobile services.

APS budgeted for 900 spay/neuter services for the year, and they have already completed 1000.

**Item V – Old Business**

Dr. Baines mentioned the number of people who are unable to afford to spay/neuter and that there needs more assistance for funding. The group discussed that there would have to be an official sub-committee appointed.

Jan Paul mentioned that any subcommittee should be made known to the public and they would report back to AWAC. The by-laws say the chair can appoint a subcommittee. The subcommittee would report back to the committee and then the information is passed on to the board.

Jan Paul mentioned that during the last meeting that there were concerns about the new community cat ordinance not being updated on Municode. Attorney McKinney said he emailed Mr. Carlton, at the County Clerk’s Office, and was advised the ordinance had been passed but Municode updates are completed by that company and would be uploaded by the end of the summer.

Dr. Baines asked if there was a location to find the by-laws and bio’s for all committee members. Currently, neither are posted and Jan Paul suggested having introductions at the next meeting.

Jan mentioned having introductions at the next meeting.

**Item VI – New Business**

There was a discussion on who to send the minutes and agenda to and if the voting members were the only ones to receive them. It was advised to send them to voting and non-voting members.

Marianne Bond confirmed that the non-voting members are as follows: Captain Mark Manning, Shafonda Allen, Leah Santelli, and Commissioner Carter.

It was suggested that the Animal Services Report be emailed to the secretary to attach to the minutes instead of transcribing that part of the meeting. The minutes would state to refer to the attached reports.

Dr. Baines said around Northgate Park part of the sidewalk was blocked off due to lead in the park and that was leading to dog-on-dog aggression. She said this was reported by a community member and there was a question about how long the area would be blocked off. Marianne Bond mentioned that Durham One Call could be contacted by the community to find out how long a sidewalk would be closed.

Sarah Reichman asked how she would get updates about the ordinance being posted and Attorney McKinney said to email him directly and he would inquire. Director Allen also said that they were seeing more dog on dog issues in the shelter as well.

Dr. Baines had a theory that maybe it was a tickborne thing or other disease.

**Item VII – Public Comments**

There were no public comments

Marianne Bond made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Jan Paul.