

Durham County Animal Services Advisory Board

Minutes of the Meeting of March 27, 2018

Present: Committee Members; Sue Darling, Heidi Carter, Joyce McKinney, Willie Darby, Kate Bremser, Shafonda Davis, Tim Deck, Cathi Hines, George Webb, Shannon McCabe, Susan Teer.

Community Members: Sarah Riechman.

Next Meeting: May 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm at APS Shelter

Minutes taken by Sue Darling

Item I - Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of September 26, 2017 and of November 28, 2017 were approved. January's meeting was canceled.

Item II - Animal Services Report

Lt. Deck reported the Sheriff's Office received 810 calls for animal services in February. There were 178 animals impounded with an average response time of 35 minutes. This is down from the usual number due to the snow and because the Sheriff's office is down three people. There is a new person starting in the field on Monday, a second in training for a month, and a third to start in two months.

It has been reported that the emergency and dispatcher telephone numbers on the web site are confusing. Sheriff's Office will check on this and make any necessary changes.

Item III - Shelter Update

The Shelter took in 284 animals in February this year; 173 were adopted or transferred. This year so far 2,676 animals were taken in, down from last year, 1756 of which were adopted or transferred. Chips are helping to return animals. Also helping is a new lost and found page on the web site.

Pints for Pups is set for April 14 at the Beer Festival. The Walk for the Animals is set for May 19. All animals must come to the shelter first.

Item IV - Old Business

Mr. Darby from the County Attorney's Office is present, replacing Marie Inserra. He informed the Committee that the Commissioners have not been receiving copies of the Minutes of the Meetings. Sue Darling will forward all approved minutes to Michelle Parker-Evans.

Item V - New Business

A discussion was had regarding the necessity for all strays to be brought to the shelter. Lt. Deck indicated that we need to increase public awareness on this point.

Discussion was had regarding the use of remote control electronic shock collars for controlling dogs. The law defines restraint as; 1) an electronic device strong enough to restrain, 2) enclosure on property, and 3) an attended leash. Voice command is not restraint. Further discussion to follow at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.