

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2016

Present:

Committee members: George Webb, Tim Deck, Jenny Campbell, Shafonda Davis, Shannon McCabe, Cathi Hines, Susan Teer, Joyce McKinney, Susan Thompson, Sue Darling, , Brittany Edwards, Kay Bishop, Marie Inserra
Community member: Sarah Reichman

Next meeting:

5/24/2016 at 7:00pm

Notes recorded by

Jenny Campbell

I. **Approval of Minutes:** The Committee approved the September 2016 and the January 2016 minutes without changes.

II. **Animal Services Report (Deck)**

Officer Deck shared February statistics with the Committee. Animal Services responded in an average of 30 minutes. The Healthy Animal Response Initiative continues to return animals to owners in the field rather than bring them to the shelter. The Sheriff's office recently approved the renovation of a van to be used as a "Mobile Response Unit" for rescues and seizures, mobile rabies clinics, and temporary animal housing. They are waiting on a contract to get kennels built for the vehicle. Lt. Deck met 2 weeks ago with Shafonda Davis, Amanda Arrington and Laurie???? From Coalition to Unchain Dogs. They plan to continue meeting once per quarter to coordinate services and outreach efforts.

III. **Shelter Update (Davis)**

February 2016 statistics were reviewed by the Committee. The shelter received more animals this February than in 2015 but there were fewer euthanasia outcomes and more owner returns. Shafonda provided a report on the Safety Net program for the month of February 2016. The new program, fully funded by APS of Durham – is working to keep more animals at home rather than surrendered to the shelter. It provides funds for low cost spay/neuter, medical care, and pet redemption fees when animals end up at the shelter. Tyson Veterinary Hospital is providing some spay/neuter and low cost veterinary services for this program. Both Animal Services and the shelter are collecting supplies (food primarily) to be on hand for distribution by Animal Services and shelter staff. Other collaborators – SNAP NC, Coalition to Unchain Dogs (see note in Animal Services report above).

IV. **Old Business (Campbell)**

The committee briefly discussed changes to county ordinance related to free roaming and feral cats. Members voted to have Marie Inserra draft changes related to the subcommittee's recommendations to present at a future meeting.

V. **New Business (Campbell)**

Lt. Deck asked about flexibility on the animal shelter redemption policy, specifically requesting that we consider the possible option of a sliding scale for lower income citizens in

order to get animals re-homed more quickly when possible. Shafonda Davis, Tim Deck, and Marie Inserra will research this issue and report at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.