

# Cleveland Animal Shelter Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes  
April 1, 2015

## Opening:

The meeting of the Cleveland Animal Shelter Advisory Board was called to order at 1:10 PM on April 1, 2015 in the City Council Room of the Municipal Building by Dr. Sally Poston.

## Present:

Dr. Sally Poston; Jill Barrett; Kathy Kinder; Teresa Anderson

## Absent:

Dr. James Lane

## A. Approval of Minutes

Kathy Kinder motioned to approve the minutes as written. Jill Barrett seconded. All approved.

## B. Director's Report

- 1) Director Smith reported that there were fewer animals being handled by Animal Control. There were only 60 handled in February.
- 2) Renovations on the kennel have been completed. Director Smith passed around pictures of the completed kennel for the Board to view. Dr. Poston asked how much the construction cost. It was \$6800 and was done by Ross Construction. The animals that were hanging on the front of the building were hung on the fence, but not sure how much longer they will last. It was brought up that some more could possibly be done by Cleveland State since they made the last ones or a church youth group since summer is nearing using the old ones as a template.
- 3) Tyler Hall was hired as a new employee/Officer. He started on March 16<sup>th</sup>. City Manager Janice Casteel said that the job description for the Officer position had been updated to make it where the new Officer hired would have more computer skills so that he or she would be able to do e-ticketing, cover lunch breaks, vacations, etc.
- 4) A call was received by Animal Control regarding deworming after adoption. The adopter said the clinic did do a deworming for round worms and hook worms but not for tape worms. Animal Control personnel were under the impression that it was all worms. Dr. Poston said that it was a quandary. She said that since most of the animals that were brought in were young, the drug that was usually used was Strongid and it only took care of hook worms and round worms. She also said that if it was an older dog, they would sometimes have whipworms and it would not take care of that, but so few of them have it. Under number 4, *Items covered by the Adoption Fee*, it was decided to add "for hook worms and round worms" to the "one de-worming" part contract for cats and dogs. It will be put on the next Council agenda for approval.
- 5) Director Smith asked a question regarding the treatability of heart worms and Parvo. Animal Control has been telling people that they are treatable. Dr. Poston said that heartworms are treatable and definitely not a reason for euthanasia. Director Smith said people were being told that and that we don't give any refunds and if they are in the county we aren't taking the animal back. However, if the veterinarian says the animal is not suitable for adoption and it needs to be euthanized, then as long as the vet sends us something back saying that, then we will honor that. Ms. Casteel asked if at that point, do we offer them another animal or a refund or what do we do. Director Smith said yes, if the vet says it's unadoptable. It was stated that usually it was a money thing as far as treating the animal goes. Dr. Poston said that especially heart worms you don't have to spend the \$800, they can be started on heartworm prevention and that it may not be the best medicine, but it isn't a death sentence. Dr. Poston said that she wasn't trying to turf it back to the City, but she felt like that was the City's decision. Ms. Casteel said that if we start taking animals back, she didn't feel like there would be an end to that. For a medical reason, we are glad to refund or give them another animal.

6) Officer John Bivens was promoted to Senior Animal Control Officer. He took David's place.

### **C. Old Business**

- 1) A check was received from the donation that was given from the estate of Mr. Zucker. The check was for \$16,000 and there could possibly be more. Director Smith didn't know if Ms. Casteel would want to place that in the adoption fund to compensate for paying the vets. Board member Teresa Anderson and City Manager Janice Casteel had had a conversation about the money the City has now that is supplementing the fee for adoption. City Clerk Shawn McKay checked on that and said that just over \$900 a month was on average being paid out, so there should be about 2 ½ more years of funds. Ms. Casteel said that a monthly update could be given if one was wanted. Ms. Anderson asked if the \$16,000 was earmarked for anything specific. Ms. Casteel said it depends on the donor. The City tried to make sure they honored what the donor wants done. Board Member Jill Barrett made a motion that a minimum of a \$24,000 be kept in reserve from donated funds in order to maintain the spay/neuter cost where it currently is. Kathy Kinder seconded. All approved.
- 2) Director Smith brought up that Janice Casteel had mentioned at one time about getting a capacity on Animal Control. Ms. Casteel asked what Animal Control's capacity was. It was stated that it wasn't really known and some animals are being held over month and we typically held them as long as they were not getting sick. Director Smith stated that there were 19 runs, but it depended on the temperament of the animal as well as its size as to how many could be put in a kennel. Dr. Poston suggested that it be brought back up at the next meeting with a recommendation, whether Dr. Taylor helps or it is just reviewed from worst case scenario. Dr. Poston also said she thought the harder decision in the recommendation would be the length of time to hold an animal. Director Smith said he was going more on the health of the animal right now as to whether they would continue to be held. He also said he would come up with something for the next meeting.

### **D. New Business**

- 1) There was one violation found when the State Veterinary Inspector came to inspect. Animal Control Officers are now verifying the death of animals with a stethoscope and marking them on the sheet with an "ST."

### **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 PM by Dr. Sally Poston. The next general meeting will be at 1:00 PM on June 3, 2015 in the City Council Room of the Municipal Building.

Minutes submitted by: Jennifer Rogers