



VOLUSIA COUNTY
ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
JULY 19, 2017

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER – CATHY DRIGGERS

ROLL CALL – OFFICER MANAGER – SHARI WILLIAMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (MAY 17, 2017)

OAK HILL CONTRACT – SERGIO PACHECO

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON CHANGES IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE – CATHY DRIGGERS

TNR SURGERIES UPDATE – SERGIO PACHECO

NEW BUSINESS

SET DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

ADJOURN

VOLUSIA COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

JULY 19, 2017

PRESENT: CATHY DRIGGERS
KAREN K. CLARK
NICHOLAS MONGELLO
DIANE FERGUSON
DR. PAUL REHME
ROBERT BAIRD
JEANNINE COLLETTI

SERGIO PACHECO, VCAS DIRECTOR
DEE FERGUSON, VCAS FIELD SUPERVISOR
SHARI WILLIAMS, VCAS OFFICE MANAGER

The meeting was called to order at 9:02am. Alexander Penalta, Pat Mihalic, and Judy Malone have excused absences.

Cathy Driggers calls for approval of the minutes of the May 17, 2017 meeting.

Ms. Clark makes a motion to approve the minutes as submitted.

Mr. Mongello seconds the motion.

None opposed. Mrs. Driggers carries the motion.

Mr. Pacheco thanks the board members for being flexible in the rescheduling of the meeting.

Mr. Pacheco announces that the Oak Hill contract is official and Volusia County Animal Services (VCAS) will be doing animal control for the City of Oak Hill starting October 1, 2017. The contract will be year to year. VCAS will be having an additional work load without hiring and additional animal control officer.

Mr. Pacheco asks if there are any questions. No questions were presented.

Mrs. Driggers continues the previous discussion regarding the changes in the zoning ordinance and presents board members with minutes from previous meetings in order

to catch the newer board members up on the discussions of the zoning ordinance. Zoning has had a change in staff and hopefully the process will be speeded through. Mrs. Driggers stated she had met with Mr. Walsh who requested to put the proposed changes in a letter. The letter was sent without a response. Mrs. Mihalic and Ms. Clark have agreed to go to meetings due to Mrs. Digger's work schedule. Mrs. Driggers stated the need to find out who is the new person in zoning. Once the changes have been agreed upon then zoning must present them to County Council. Mrs. Driggers will present the handout to the absent members. The goal is to take the Hobby Breeder Ordinance out of zoning and back into animal control instead of both places.

Mrs. Clark stated the zoning department was in agreement with the changes.

Mrs. Driggers stated she did not know how the new person feels about the changes.

Mrs. Driggers reviews the Hobby Breeder Ordinance (see attached) and changes that are needed to stop different interpretations of the wording; specifically the wording that only one species was allowed; with the interpretation that a hobby breeder could not have dogs and cats or other species. The ordinance was originally written in the 1980's. Mrs. Driggers has spoken to some of the original authors of the ordinance and that this was not the intended interpretation.

Officer Ferguson stated some hobby breeders will have five different breeds of dogs and that constitutes a puppy mill. So, the original ordinance wanted to keep it to one breed of dog instead of various breeds to keep the puppy mill population out.

Mrs. Driggers states she is a hobby breeder and she has more than one breed of dog. These other breeds fall under the 6 personal pets that are allowed and are not part of the breeding program. This was clarified with Joie Alexander who was the County Council Chair at that time.

Mrs. Driggers reviews the implant scanner portion of the ordinance.

Mrs. Driggers requests the board members to contact her with any questions or additional changes needed before presented to County Council.

Mr. Pacheco encourages the board members to take the time to review the information. In the mean time they will need to find out who the new Director of Zoning is and invite him to attend a meeting.

Ms. Clark stated Mike Nelson is the new director and presented Mrs. Driggers with his phone number. She does not see the changes meeting any resistance from zoning.

Mr. Pacheco and Mrs. Driggers discuss ordinances involving animals and zoning.

Mrs. Driggers discusses the portion of the ordinance pertaining to land acreage and breed size restrictions.

Ms. Clark states page 2 (see attached) of the handout discusses that and then reads from the handout.

Mrs. Driggers: The next item is the TNR surgeries update.

Mr. Pacheco: Ok, folks in your folders there is a graph that was put together by our office staff that shows you the fiscal year counts and how the TNR, return to field, free roaming cats, and the public surgeries have come along (see attached). If you go across, the year of 2014-2015 has the actual break down with the grand total. The first year we started these programs it was at 1,970 surgeries and as you can see the following year it increased. We are still in 2017, so that number of 1,699 is going to increase. This program definitely has helped out. It has saved animal lives and tax payers dollars. That is the bottom line for these programs. I am happy to say this year so far we have not even spent, at the humane societies, \$100,000. Normally before these programs came along we were budgeting \$275,000 for humane society fees to kill animals each year. It has decreased tremendously and we are happy and very proud of the programs. Grand total so far for three fiscal years, almost 6,000 animals that have been spayed or neutered. Times that by how many litters these cats could have had, we have saved a lot of animal lies and a lot of tax payer's dollars.

Mr. Pacheco discusses the importance of the need for fosters for kittens that are too young to get spayed or neutered.

Mrs. Driggers: This is something she can bring up at her club.

Ms. Clark: But they would still be able to get spayed or neutered?

Mr. Pacheco: Correct.

Mrs. Colletti discusses problems fostering in the past.

Mr. Pacheco: These kittens are brought in by our officers and Dr. Goldstein evaluates these kittens before fostering. We have an advantage with the veterinarian and the clinic and did not have this years ago.

Mr. Pacheco discusses past kitten seasons.

Mr. Baird: Email something to me from the office with a contact phone number and I will send it out and put on Facebook.

Mr. Pacheco stated the office staff would take care of that.

Ms. Clark discusses utilizing nursing homes, assisted living facilities, drug rehab centers, and veteran's home as fosters.

Mr. Pacheco, Mr. Baird, and Mrs. Colletti discuss concerns with legalities and risks.

Mr. Pacheco discusses how some fosters may want to keep the kittens and would still be spayed or neutered through the clinic at no charge.

Mr. Pacheco asks the board if they have any questions about this program.

Mr. Baird discusses the income requirements to use the program.

Mr. Pacheco states that the TNR program has no income requirements and asks if there are any other questions.

Mrs. Driggers: Does anybody have any new business?

Mrs. Ferguson leads a discussion about an incident where a dog died in a car at a hospital.

Mrs. Driggers: Let's bring this back so we can set the next meeting.

Ms. Clark and Mr. Pacheco discuss the Pet Vet Cruiser's schedule and eventual phasing out at an unknown time.

Mrs. Driggers: Anybody else have anything?

Ms. Clark: I have one question. Jeannine you wanted to bring something up?

Mrs. Colletti discusses having the law changed about tying a dog outside and how a dog is considered property.

Mrs. Driggers: If there is something you do want to change then bring that ordinance in with the changes you would like to make. Ask that it be put on the agenda for discussion. At that point we would discuss it, have a vote on it, and then present to the County Council who can make a change to the ordinance here in Volusia County.

Mrs. Colletti: That is what I am looking to do now. To bring that up in the next meeting as to the word property and to the ordinances.

Mr. Pacheco: My understanding of the word property. When you are trying to seize a dog from inside a house or a yard. When they put property into the laws, meaning you cannot go into that fence to pick up or take an animal. I think they use the word property; not literally property like a car, but that the animals considered property. In order for you go on someone's property and seize property you need to get a search warrant.

Mrs. Colletti and Mrs. Driggers continue discussion of dogs being property and tied to trees.

Mrs. Driggers: We will definitely bring that up just come prepared with your paperwork.

Ms. Clark: I do have people in Glenwood that want to say thanks to Charity and the other dark haired officer.

Mr. Pacheco: Officer Lisa Voorhees

Ms. Clark: Wonderful absolutely wonderful. They should get combat pay.

Mrs. Driggers discusses and sets the next meeting for September 13, 2017. ***

Ms. Malone: I will be having surgery and will not be able to attend.

Ms. Clark advises meetings can be attended via telephone.

Mrs. Driggers adjourns the meeting.

***This meeting was cancelled due to Hurricane Irma