



MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OF AUGUST 19, 2014

Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM

Reading of Open Public Meetings Act Statement

I hereby declare that notice has been given to the Herald Times and posted on the bulletin board of the Middle Township Municipal Building, stating the time and place of the following meeting, as required in P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 of the State of New Jersey. (Sunshine Law).

Flag Salute

ATTENDANCE: Madelyn McCarroll, Dr. Hirsch, Captain Edwards, George Spadea, Vilma Pombo, Jen Modica, Rick Eufrazio, Stefanie Facciolo, Dawn Stimmel

ABSENT: Bill Candell, Suzanne Callinan, Chuck Marriner, Karen Buckingham

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Approval of Minutes – July 15, 2014

On Motion By: Jen Modica in place of Suzanne Callinan

Seconded By: Vilma Pombo

Approved: Unanimous

1.) Communications – None

2.) Unfinished Business

Pets in Hot Cars.

Pets in Hot Weather (shade, water, shelter, temperature)

Pets in Cold Weather (shelter, water, food, conditions, temperature)

Pets in Extreme Weather (blizzards, hurricanes, floods)

Much discussion held on getting changes in ordinance together to send to Committee. After Advisory Board gets info together for changing of

Ordinance, it will go to the Township Solicitor for review, then to the Committee for approval.

Madelyn McCarroll: Would like to get some ideas together tonight to start working on the changes the Board would like to see in the Township animal ordinance so that it can be sent to the Solicitor for his review and then presented to the Committee at the next Work Session. Feels it is best to use the Tuft's Scale (See Attachment B) as a guideline. She feels it is unreasonable to have an animal in a car when temperatures are above 70 degrees and would like to incorporate temperatures in the ordinance. Question she has is what happens to an animal after long periods of time spent in 85 degrees above or below 40 degree weather. Also feels we need something that is specific to larger animals such as horses. Main concern is temperatures in vehicles and also outside temperatures when an animal is kept outside, and making sure pet has fresh water and shelter. (See Attachment A)

Captain Edwards: It is difficult to legislate common sense and the Committee has to do what is reasonable according to health, breed of animal, age, whether short or long haired. He suggested that maybe doing 3 groups like the Tuft Scale. Educating animal owners is more important than an ordinance. The 2 should be compatible. Maybe do something along the lines of setting up a surcharge for barking dogs where that money can then be used for educating the public. Maybe we could piggy back getting information out when the emergency robo calls are made.

Rick Eufrazio: We can give parameters, but it should ultimately be Bill Candell to give the guidance we need. We should concentrate on extreme case scenarios. Situations differ in each circumstance and we cannot be too specific. Thinks we should develop our own brochures and flyers to be put in public places for educating animal owners. Maybe we could get businesses to make donations towards the Board doing brochures and flyers.

Dr. Hirsch: We cannot get all variables in an ordinance and we can't be too specific. We need to use a broad brush, use discretion and common sense. We can use guidelines but must remember that situations differ. People don't really read ordinances. We can use the Tufts Scale as a guideline. We need to be able to educate the public through getting information out there.

Jen Modica: Talked about spread sheet that she had sent to everyone in regards to changes we would like to make in the Township animal ordinance. In the last column was an area where we could write our

thoughts and kind of tweak it. She feels it would be good to incorporate the Tufts scale into our ordinance. In making the changes, we need to take into consideration different variables. In a lot of the cases that are reported to animal control there is the unknown, such as the condition of the dog, how long the dog has been in the car or left outside, if this is something that the owner does on a consistent basis or is it a onetime incident. There is a lot to consider.

George Spadea: Feels we should pick a baseline and start there. Agrees we can't really be too specific in what we put in our Ordinance. He questioned if there was any such thing as a thermometer that could be placed on a car window showing the inside and outside temperatures. Might be something we should consider looking into.

3.) New Business

**4.) Vote for Vice Chair (Rick Eufrazio) On motion By: Dr. Hirsch
Seconded By: Vilma Pombo Approved: Unanimous**

5.) Rabies Clinic, September 27, 2pm

Madelyn informed members that the Township will be holding a Free Rabies Clinic and that we would need volunteers. Discussed how we could possibly make it flow better, such as the best way to set up the sign up tables, and having someone outside to direct the people to the proper line for registration. We will discuss further at next meeting in September. It was also brought up about safety concerns at the clinic in regards to volunteers taking the information outside alongside the animals, as opposed to inside sitting behind a table.

6.) Whitesboro Reunion

Madelyn would like to have a table at the Reunion for handing out literature from the Advisory Board to educate people who own pets. She will get the info for the table and pass on to the members. She will also need volunteers for the table.

7.) Settings goals and creating a vision

8.) Brainstorming potential goals and actions

9.) Internet review (time permitting)

10.) Reports

Rick Eufrazio: Spoke about his presentation to the Chamber where he made them aware of the Animal Advisory Board. He said he handed out the Hot Dog poster and told them we were looking for ways to get our information out. All seemed very receptive to what we were setting out to accomplish and he feels we will get a lot of support from them.

Rick also spoke about the CMC Animal Shelter wanting copies of any summons's that Bill has issued through the year, but at this point he has not sent any to them. He asked John Edwards if he could check into this.

Madelyn McCarroll: Said she and Bill have 3 videos ready to be recorded, once they are approved by Connie. Once they are recorded, she will give to John Edwards to put on the police You Tube site.

She also informed the Board that the PetSmart Feral Cat Grant was closed out before the Township got the budget information they had requested. She said that Anne Garrison, in the Grants Department is trying to contact someone from PetSmart to see if they would put our application through for this year. Madelyn thinks that maybe a letter from our Board and possibly the Mayor might also help.

She would like to be able to do something through the Board where we could get funding to help with the spaying and neutering of animals in Middle Township. She would also like to eventually work on looking into licensing dogs for 2 years, and for residents being able to complete their application and pay on line for a license.

Jen Modica: Said that at National Night Out she, Vilma and Rick gave out 150- bags of doggie treats that were provided by Blue Dog Bakeries, along with a lot of educational information.

Meeting adjourned (time) 6:21 PM

ATTACHMENT "A"

SHELTER

MIDDLE:

(3) The pens or other enclosure shall include a soundly constructed, safely positioned and properly maintained doghouse. (4) Every doghouse shall contain bedding such as straw or other absorbent material in a sufficient quantity to provide adequate insulation for the dog(s) in the doghouse. Bedding shall be maintained in a dry condition and renewed or changed as necessary.

The shelter shall include a moistureproof and windproof structure of suitable size to accommodate the dog and allow retention of body heat. It shall be made of durable material with a solid, moisture-proof floor or a floor raised at least two inches from the ground. Between November 1 and March 31 the structure must have a windbreak at the entrance. The structure shall be provided with a sufficient quantity of suitable bedding material consisting of hay, straw, cedar shavings, blankets, or the equivalent, to provide insulation and protection against cold and dampness and promote retention of body heat.

Small animals such as rabbits and guinea pigs can become heat stressed when temperatures increase over 21°C so it is important that their enclosures are in the shade and that they have plenty of clean cool water

In Virginia "adequate shelter" means provision of and access to shelter that is suitable for the species, age, condition, size, and type of each animal...and protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse effects of heat".

MOTOR VEHICLE

MIDDLE:

C. No animal shall be left unattended in a motor vehicle without sufficient airflow or under extreme heat conditions as to render the animal susceptible to heat prostration or any other condition that would be caused by said behavior, including death.

USDA (heat stress or heat stroke): dogs in environmental temperatures more than 85° Fahrenheit; dogs in areas with relative humidity levels of more than 70 percent; obese dogs; older dogs; very young dogs; dogs with heart conditions; any debilitated dog; brachycephalic (short-nosed) dogs; dogs that are dehydrated; dogs without enough shade or potable water; dogs that were moved to hot and humid climates and are not yet acclimated.

American Humane - turning point for animals in vehicles is 70 degrees outside temperature

Tufts Animal Care and Condition Scales

Provide adequate protection from the cold and heat. When the outdoor temperature falls below forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit, all cats, small domestic animals and those dogs that cannot tolerate such temperatures without stress or discomfort (i.e., short-haired breeds, sick, aged, young or infirm), must be moved indoors or provided adequate heating to maintain temperature above forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit range. When the outdoor temperature rises above eighty-five (85) degrees Fahrenheit all dogs, cats, and small domestic animals must be provided air conditioning, a fan, or another cooling source to maintain the temperature in the shelter at or below eight-five (85) degrees Fahrenheit;

Shelter for equine, bovine, ovine and porcine normally maintained in outdoor areas must: a. Provide protection from the direct rays of the sun and the direct effect of wind and rain; b. Provide a wind break and rain break; c. Provide a solid roof; d. Provide protection from the elements at rs should be firmly fixed so they cannot overturn. They should be kept clean and should be designed and maintained to prevent injuries

In Virginia "adequate shelter" means provision of and access to shelter that is suitable for the species, age, condition, size, and type of each animal...and protects each animal from injury, rain, sleet, snow, hail, direct sunlight, the adverse effects of heat".

*Right Section
with the water
with a bowl*

WATER

MIDDLE: Nothing.

No owner, caretaker or handler shall withhold proper shelter, protection from weather, veterinary care and immune care to any animal. No owner, caretaker, or handler shall fail to provide his or her animal with sufficient food and ~~water~~ drinkable water on a daily basis. Food and water must be in an animal food-consumption or water-consumption-type container, feeder or waterer.

Use a plastic water bowl to ensure your pet's tongue does not get stuck to cold metal, and change the water often to keep it from freezing.

Always have access to clean water in a container which cannot be overturned

SHADE

MIDDLE: Nothing.

Shade from the direct rays of the sun, during the months of May to October shall be provided. b. Provide protection from the direct rays of the sun and the direct effect of wind and rain;

Provide a wind break and rain break.

Provide protection from the elements at all times.

TEMPERATURE

MIDDLE: Nothing.

Extreme weather conditions, including conditions in which: (A) the actual or effective outdoor temperature is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit; (B) a heat advisory has been issued by a local or state authority or jurisdiction; or (C) a hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued for the jurisdiction by the National Weather Service.

Fines for anyone who leaves a pet outside when the temperature drops below 32 degrees Fahrenheit or above 85 degrees or in extreme weather conditions like sleet, snow and or wind that could threaten the health or safety of the animal.

When a weather advisory has been issued or when outdoor environment conditions pose an adverse risk to the health or safety of such dog, unless the dog is outside for no more than 15 minutes.

The dog is not outside during a period of extreme weather, including without limitation extreme heat or near-freezing temperatures, thunderstorms, tornadoes, tropical storms, or hurricanes.

In extremely hot weather, don't leave your dog standing on the street, and keep walks to a minimum. Because a dog is much closer to the hot asphalt, its body can heat up quickly, and its paws can sustain burns or injuries.

Upper: In extreme weather below 32 degrees and above 95 degrees and in major storms where evacuation is recommended, all outdoor dogs and indoor/outdoor cats (with the exception of feral cats) must be brought indoors whether tethered or kenneled, unless the kennel is heated or air conditioned according to safety code. Indoors will include any area of the residence which is temperature controlled and garage and basement unless heated in cold or air conditioned in heat will not be considered adequate.

Provide adequate protection from the cold and heat. When the outdoor temperature falls below forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit, all cats, small domestic animals and those dogs that cannot tolerate such temperatures without stress or discomfort (i.e., short-haired breeds, sick, aged, young or infirm), must be moved indoors or provided adequate heating to maintain temperature above forty (40) degrees Fahrenheit range. When the outdoor temperature rises above eighty-five (85) degrees Fahrenheit all dogs, cats, and small domestic animals must be provided air conditioning, a fan, or another cooling source to maintain the temperature in the shelter at or below eight-five (85) degrees Fahrenheit;

ATTACHMENT "B"

IN PRACTICE *continued*

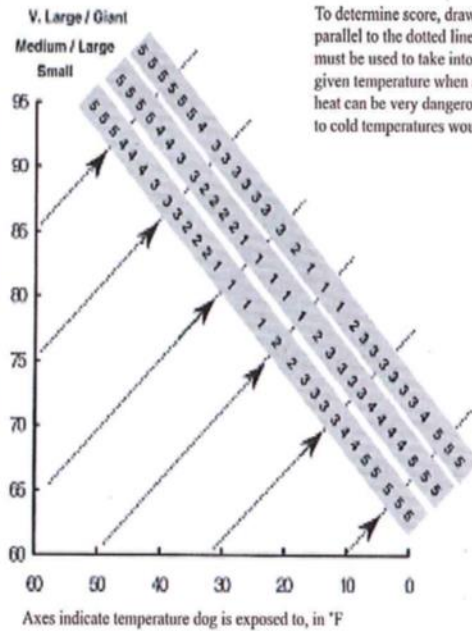
At first glance, the charts and scales on these pages may seem intimidating, but with a little practice, field officers can usually complete TACC scoring within a few minutes. The body condition scale on the previous page is self-explanatory.

To use the weather safety scale on this page, find the current temperature, then follow the diagonal line up to the grey box indicating the animal's size.

Once you've matched the animal's environmental and physical health with the descriptions provided, the assessment is complete. Bear in mind that averaging the individual TACC scores may not accurately reflect the animal's general condition because one or two factors alone may indicate neglect and a favorable scoring on another factor might skew the results. And of course, TACC scores are not intended to replace the definitive assessment of an animal by a licensed veterinarian. Still, the series of four numbers should help field personnel pursue the best course of action for the animal in question.

II. Weather safety scale

Read score off diagonal bars, by dog size:



To determine score, draw a line up from the current temperature and parallel to the dotted lines, and read score on bars. Common sense must be used to take into account the duration of exposure to any given temperature when assessing risk; even brief periods of high heat can be very dangerous, whereas a similar duration of exposure to cold temperatures would not be life-threatening.

In warm or hot weather:

- Subtract 1 pt. if water is available
- Subtract 1 pt. if dog is in a shaded area protected from full sun
- Add 1 pt. if dog is brachycephalic
- Add 1 pt. if dog is obese

In cool or cold weather:

- Add 1 pt. if toy dog
- Add 2 pts. if dog out in rain/sleet
- Subtract 1 pt. if dog is a northern or heavy-coated breed
- Subtract 1 pt. if dog has good shelter and bedding available
- Subtract 1 pt. if dog has been acclimated to cold temperatures

In all weather conditions:

- Add 1 pt. if dog is <6 months of age or elderly

III. Environmental health scale

- 5 **Filthy**—many days to weeks of accumulation of feces and / or urine. Overwhelming odor, air may be difficult to breathe. Large amount of trash, garbage, or debris present; inhibits comfortable rest, normal postures, or movement and / or poses a danger to the animal. Very difficult or impossible for animal to escape contact with feces, urine, mud, or standing water. Food and / or drinking water contaminated.
- 4 **Very unsanitary**—many days of accumulation of feces and / or urine. Difficult for animal to avoid contact with waste matter. Moderate amount of trash, garbage, or clutter present that may inhibit comfortable rest and/or movement of the animal. Potential injury from sharp edges or glass. Significant odor makes breathing unpleasant. Standing water or mud difficult to avoid.
- 3 **Unsanitary**—several days of accumulation of feces and urine in animal's environment. Animal is able to avoid contact with waste matter. Moderate odor present. Trash, garbage, and other debris cluttering animal's environment but does not prohibit comfortable rest or normal posture. Clutter may interfere with normal movement or allow dog to become entangled, but no sharp edges or broken glass that could injure dog. Dog able to avoid mud or water if present.
- 2 **Marginal**—As in #1, except may be somewhat less sanitary. No more than 1-2 days' accumulation of feces and urine in animal's environment. Slight clutter may be present.
- 1 **Acceptable**—Environment is dry and free of accumulated feces. No contamination of food or water. No debris or garbage present to clutter environment and inhibit comfortable rest, normal posture and range of movement or pose a danger to or entangle the animal.

"Environment" refers to the kennel, pen, yard, cage, barn, room, tie-out or other enclosure or area where the animal is confined or spends the majority of its time. All of the listed conditions do not need to be present in order to include a dog in a specific category. The user should determine which category best describes a particular dog's condition.