



MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OF February 24, 2015

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, Bill Candell, Karen Buckingham, Suzanne Callinan, Stefanie Facciolo, Dawn Stimmel

ABSENT: Captain Edwards, Dr. Hirsch, Rick Eufrazio, George Spadea, Chuck Marriner, Jen Modica, Vilma Pombo

MINUTES OF JANUARY 20, 2015

On Motion: Karen Buckingham

2nd: Bill Candell

Approved by all.

Madelyn started the meeting by reading some of our 2015 Goals for the Board, those being to create an animal cruelty team, increase spay/neuter, hot car, park sign and Officer Bill video.

Bill Candell, Animal Control Officer spoke about his plans for the first video, which has to do with animals and the cold.

Madelyn stated that Middle Township sent 15% of the cats, and 22% of the dogs to the County Shelter last year, which is much lower than previous years. She also said we pay 22% of the County Shelter Budget. Of those Middle has taken, 15% of the cats were reclaimed, and 85% of the dogs were reclaimed. She said she cannot stress enough that animals need to get to the Shelter in order to be reclaimed, but many people are hesitant to contact the Shelter.

Madelyn said she had asked the County if they had applied for any grants, but they have not. She said that currently we cannot select who attends the Board Meetings at the Shelter. She also stated they have no dialogue on budgeting or hiring during the Shelter meetings.

Madelyn is working on getting the newsletter ready to go out. She thinks she has solved the problem of how to get it out to multiple people.

Madelyn also spoke of an incident where dogs were chained at a business in this cold weather.

Bill said he had followed up on this and that the man had dumpsters turned on their sides with dog houses in them for the dogs, he could do more if we had a temperature to go by in our ordinance. Bill said he would also like to see the Township possibly get a trailer to convert into an emergency shelter to be used during the cold.

Members did not feel this was enough, but the temp will be included in our new ordinance. Madelyn had been told by Rick Eufrazio in a prior conversation that he would like to see a Code Blue initiated for animals.

Stephanie stated she feels that all animals should be chipped that would be a big help in finding their owners.

Bill said the Shelter will chip an animal for \$15 for residents.

Karen thought that maybe a neighborhood watch regarding lost animals might be something to think about.

Karen also stated that her daughter was hired at the high school as their Drama Coach and that she could possibly help with any videoing that we might want to do. She also suggested possibly including the children from the schools in a video. We could give them 10 of our topics that they could pick from and do their own little video. Maybe make a contest out of it. Everyone thought this was a good idea.

Suzanne said that she had spoken with someone regarding the 4H Fair and that she was excited of several groups going together. There is no charge and we would qualify as educational group. We could either be inside or outside. She is going to write a letter, on behalf of the board, to all of the County animal organizations to see if they would like to participate in sharing space and time. She would also like to do a demonstration on trapping cats.

She also said that maybe we could possible parade some animals that are up for adoption.

Suzanne said the estimate for the sign to be placed at the Zoo is \$300. She has been working on what to put on the sign. She showed several that she was working on. Everyone liked the idea of the Stop "littering", Spay/Neuter your pets, with pictures of animals.

Adjourn: 6:10 PM