



MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OF JANUARY 20, 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, Captain Edwards, Dr. Hirsch, Karen Buckingham, Suzanne Callinan, Vilma Pombo, Jen Modica, Rick Eufrazio, Stefanie Facciolo, Dawn Stimmel

Also in attendance was Mary Krammer (who will be replacing Capt. Edwards) and Melissa Holroyd

ABSENT: Chuck Marriner

Madelyn started the meeting with asking the board members what we want our vision to look like. Said she will be putting a list on Google Hang Out for the board members to view. She also suggested putting signs around Middle Township pertaining to kids and pets being left in hot cars. WE could possibly get old signs from prior elections and paint over them.

Bill Candell said we would need permission to put signs out, but that we could possibly get a waiver that would allow us to put them up and keep them up during the summer months.

Rick Eufrazio spoke about the fact that we are in the process of getting a Dedicated Trust and that we are just waiting for approval from the state. He said the digital sign will cost about \$2,000 and once the Dedicated Trust is set up for the board he will begin soliciting. He will also have a letter of support with him from the Police Chief when he does start his solicitations.

Suzanne Callinan said that she has gotten permission from the Zoo to put some signage there regarding animals. The location would be in the park area towards the zoo. It had been suggested that perhaps something could be done along the lines of a photo op type presentation where there would be a cut out for the children to put their heads for a picture with the sign, which would have pictures of cats on it. It was suggested that maybe we could get some funding from other sources to have the signs made. Also talked about possibly doing something in 3D to be used.

Bill Candell and Rick Eufrazio, attended the Shelter meeting earlier this month. They stated that the kill rate at the Shelter has gone from about 20% down to 5%. They stated the predominate issues at the Shelter are the number of cats and Pit Bulls being housed there.

Madelyn stated that our contract is coming up for renewal and at our March meeting we will discuss what we want to present to the Shelter to hopefully improve the contract. She will be sending the Board Members a copy of the prior contract to go over and see where we feel changes would be necessary.

Madelyn also stated that Chris from WIGGET did a great job on the Top Dog Contest. An 18 month old Collie, named Flash, was the 1st Middle Township Top Dog contest winner. He (his owners) will be presented a Certificate and a basket of goodies at the Township meeting on January 21, 2015.

Much discussion held on the spay/neuter fund. Board members would like to see a \$10 Voucher offered to those who cannot afford to pay the \$50/\$60. With the \$10 Voucher, the Township would pay the additional \$40/\$50 to the Vets. We would not have to renegotiate with the vets if we did it this way. We need to look at targeting people who really need it. It was decided we should take half of the \$9500 and put in a fund for the \$10 voucher. Dr. Hirsch said he will send the information needed to be provided by the resident to be eligible for the \$10 voucher.

Pet Smart Grant Application has been sent. Hopefully we will get a grant to help out with feral cats. With the last grant the Township did 500 cats. Hoping to do the same with this grant.

Bill stated that the Animal Alliance has raised the price per cat. It was also noted that they are expanding their facility. They are bringing in a large modular to be used.

Discussion was held on doing some type of program to help people in the area locate lost pets. Facebook was brought up as a possibility. Would need someone who could act as the Administrator. Captain Edwards said that we could also utilize the MTPD Facebook page to be used for lost pets. It was

also suggested to maybe speak with Judy at the Shelter about the posting of lost animals. If social media is used, once the pet is returned to its owners, then the picture would come down.

Madelyn said she is working on putting something together to help people ID their cats in case the cat is lost. She will have something available by Saturday for the Free Rabies Clinic. She is also working on the newsletter, which she has changed the name of to the "Middle Township Animal Guardian. She has also been sending out press releases. She would like to have someone go speak at the Homework Club and Mask Programs at the schools regarding proper care of your pets.

Discussion was held on how many people must be at a meeting to pass a vote without having a quorum. It was decided and voted on that if there were 5 people present, then the vote would count. However, would need a quorum if voting on something very important.

Motion made for votes to count, without a quorum present, if 5 people were in attendance at a meeting
Motion made by: Vilma Pombo.
Seconded by Dr. Hirsch.
Passed unanimously.

Discussion held on what type of events we should set up tables with informational flyers. It was decided to only do MT events. Maybe do 4H in conjunction with Animal Alliance. Captain Edwards said that if we just wanted to place some flyers on a small table, we could do that under the police tent that they have at the Fair.

Madelyn would like to discuss in the future:

- Setting up a team for animal cruelty
- Goals for the board
- Creating a vision statement

Madelyn had hung 4 lists of goals for the board to consider. At the end of the meeting, the board members voted by placing sticky notes next to the tasks they felt were the most important. Madelyn will announce most important via email.

Motion made to allow Dawn Stimmel, Secretary, the right to vote.
Motion made by: Suzanne Callinan
2nd by: Rick Eufrazio
Passed unanimously.

The board voted on accepting calendar for the 2015 meetings.

On Motion: Jen Modica

2nd By: Dr. Hirsch

Passed unanimously by all.

5.) Adjourn: 6:36 PM