



MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

Meeting called to order at 5:10 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, Mary Creamer, , Dr. Hirsch, Karen Buckingham, Rick Eufrasio, Lizzy Holroyd, Jen Modica, Vilma Pombo Dawn Stimmel,

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Taryn Wilson

ABSENT: Suzann Callinan, Stefanie Facciolo, Chuck Marriner

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: JUNE 16, 2015

ON MOTION BY: Karen Buckingham

2ND BY: Vilma Pombo Approved by all

1) **Rabies Clinic** – Dawn Stimmel gave a presentation on how volunteers need to properly complete the Rabies Certificate forms at the free rabies clinic, which is to be held on September 26, 2015. Also spoke about line formation.

2) **Rethink Spay Neuter Program** - Decided to roll the money that had been set aside for low income Spay/Neuter back into the regular Spay/Neuter. Vote taken to approve.

On Motion By: Dr. Hirsch

2nd By: Mary Creamer Approved by all

3) Comments or Updates from all:

Vilma Pombo: Busy doing spay neuter. Thinks we have made a difference, but still more to do. Examples of outreach are 4-H Fair and local TNR. Had 2 mothers and 6 kittens in garage until Bill Candell could take to Spay/Neuter Clinic. One mother still out there.

Worked at Camp at the MLK Center. Spoke to 80 children in a 2 hour period...ages ranged from pre-school to 7th grade. Wore her out.

Madelyn McCarroll: Kids were appreciative of police returning their lost dogs. She would like to do something where police interact with the children and their pets. She also thanked Chuck Marriner for use of his tent for the Concerned Citizens function.

She is also working on an article for the League of Municipalities magazine. She would like to see other Animal Advisory Boards start up in other municipalities and across the country since our board seems to be the first of our type in the country. The more that get involved in animal welfare the better.

Madelyn announced that on September 28th at 4:00 was the Animal Shelter Board meeting.

Madelyn also stated that she got the paperwork submitted to hold a free microchip clinic if we should receive the grant (with an hour to spare). She expressed her thanks to Anne Garrison in her help. We have the go ahead from Burke Subaru to hold the clinic there if we do in fact receive the money. Will have to pick a date.

We voted a while back to do an Animal Cruelty team.

Asked if any ideas on how to proceed with a catastrophe, better to have a plan in place before something happens. We need to change the incident command responses.

Discussion on number of dogs and cats picked up by animal control
17% of dog calls are for multiple dogs running loose and calls are mostly for large dogs.

She is hoping she and Bill Candell can meet with Lt Nelson to compile a call type list.

She also did an application to be used by residents that may want to apply to be on the Animal Advisory Board for whenever we have an opening.

Madelyn also announced that one of our free rabies clinics next year will be held at the MLK Center.

Mary Creamer: Police are involved in bringing dogs home...she is probably more into getting them home than most officers. The police have a policy on handling all animal calls. She said they have an event

director to involve police with public. Shared Facebook contact information....would like to increase our following. We only have about 210 followers.

Lizzy Holroyd: Spoke of cat colonies and hot spots...we need to identify. A lot of work do to in that area. Bill Candell, ACO said AMI has many cats. Lizzy also said we need a holding center to hold cats that are trapped on Wednesday that are to be neutered/spayed on Thursday...the shelter can only hold a few. Bill Candell ACO said he could hold 8. Received \$150 donation from Bart Allison at Paw Pals to purchase Clavamox for cats. Wants to set up an appointment with Dr. Hirsch to discuss. Working on arranging meetings regarding stray cats for some time possibly in February 2016. Would like to network with other organizations and municipalities and possibly work as a group.

Dr. Hirsch: Questioned if possibly a county wide board might be better. He feels that it should entail a larger area than just Middle Township to achieve better results.

Hopes that things get approved for our microchipping clinic as this would be a great thing to have in our area.

He also asked about possibly having businesses sponsor wooden signs that would be put up by the Animal Board regrading different animal slogans.

Karen Buckingham: Said her daughter is a teacher of media and can get videos made by students doing different types of ads for animals. However, they would have to be approved by the School Board. Also, if board would approve, maybe Mary could also advertise on Animal Advisory's Facebook pages for students to make a video. Student could get grade credits for their videos. Maybe they could have the PTA put out a notice. Their notices are the only notices put on an orange paper, so if put in teachers mailboxes they will know it was from the PTA and info will be passed on to the students. She also said she thinks she can get us a free ad in the program for the school play that will be in the spring. That is usually the play that is the most attended.

She also feels that when tabling at functions maybe we could put up a sign "Like us on Facebook". Suggested maybe adding a Pet of the Month section where followers would vote.

Rick Eufrazio: Stated we need to get politicians on board with starting up Animal Advisory Boards in their municipalities. Said Upper Township did improve some of their animal laws via ordinances.

Said when he was putting up the "Friends Don't Leave Friends in Hot Cars" signs that a lot of people driving by were honking and giving a thumbs up.

He has not yet had time to work on the electronic sign for the top of a car. He hopes to start on that soon.

Would like to have signs put up on store fronts that animals are welcome. Said he spoke with the Chamber last year about businesses allowing pets in stores. He feels there are some stores in the area that would not have a problem with animals coming in with their owners when shopping, as long as they were restrained via a leash, sitting in the cart, being carried. We can explore different types of signs that could be used.

Bill Candell: Said that there has been a reduction by Middle on intakes to the Animal Shelter.

ADJOURN: ON MOTION: Jen Modica

2ND BY: Mary Creamer

6:32 pm