

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8, 2015

Meeting called to order at 5:05 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, Officer Creamer, Dr. Hirsch, Karen Buckingham, Suzann Callinan, Rick Eufrasio, Stefanie Facciolo, Lissy Holroyd, Chuck Marriner, Vilma Pombo, Dawn Stimmel

ABSENT: Bill Candell, Jen Modica

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: September 15, 2015 On Motion By: Vilma Pombo 2nd By: Stephanie Facciolo Approved by all.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20. 2015

On Motion By: Vilma Pombo 2nd By: Stephanie Facciolo Approved by all.

- **Cancelled Christmas in Court House:** Did not table at this event as it was canceled.
- Board Application: Madelyn made changes on application as discussed at last meeting. Votes taken for approval of application as it stands with corrections.
 On Motion By: Chuck Marriner 2nd By: Suzann Callinan Approved by all.
- Approval of Cruelty Team Flow Chart: This is a work in progress. Any names anyone would like to add, just let Madelyn know. These are things that we will need under Animal Control. One of her thoughts was a Pre Trial Intervention Program where animals could be relinquished beforehand so they are not locked away for any great length of time.

- Breeding Tax Laws and Approval of Plan of Action:
- **Top Dog:** We have 9 dogs entered into the Top Dog Contest for 2016. Voting is on our FB Page. Mary said that our views have increased from 220 to 280.
- Approval of Community Cat Handout Got Notch: This is a flyer to educate people feeding feral cats on responsible care. Madelyn asked if anyone had anything else to add. Lizzy felt maybe having pictures of the cats with their ears notched, which signifies that the cat has been neutered or spayed. She also thought there should be arrows between fixing and feeding of cats. The flyer was put to vote.
 On Motion By: Mary Creamer 2nd By: Vilma Pombo

On Motion By: Mary Creamer **2nd By**: Vilma Pombo **Approved by all.**

- Approval of 2016 Calendar: Madelyn presented a copy of the calendar for 2016's meeting dates for approval. She spoke of tabling events and that when we do them that Board Members would have to volunteer. She would like to hold some kind of an event each time we table at a function, such as a give away basket, Events that are planned to attend in 2016 are the 4-H Fair, the Whitesboro Reunion, Harvest Fest, possibly Earth Day, as well as going to the MLK Center and speak to the homework club. She would also like to see if we could get a year round table to set up at the MLK Center that we could put educational information on regarding maintenance and care of animals. A vote was taken to approve the calendar meeting dates for 2016. On Motion By: Chuck Marriner 2nd By: Suzann Callinan Approved by all.
- **Goal Setting for 2016** Madelyn asked that everyone review the Goal Setting List she handed out and be ready at the January meeting to discuss goals we would like to work towards.
- **Grant Applications:** Have been having problems getting approved for grant applications. Have been turned down twice by the PetSmart Grant. Has been trying to coordinate with Animal Alliance, who gives lower prices to other organizations, but refuses to give the same prices to Middle Township. They agreed to come down somewhat in the price, but that would not include the shots normally given and which is given to other organizations at cheaper prices. Madelyn has also found several other places where we can apply for grants. She still wants to apply for a microchipping grant in November through the Subaru Grant. Advised we have also done a press release asking for donations for micro chipping.
- **Fund Raising Ideas:** Would like for everyone to think of some ideas we can use to do some fund raising.

- New Concerns: Shelter: The Township is in the process of renewing its contract with the County Animal Shelter. The price given to the Township for the new contract is horrific, extremely high. It makes sense to look at the needs in our community and the fact that we have brought the numbers down. We have a continuity of service in our animal control, unlike many of the other municipalities. If any of the members have any ideas on how to bring the price down on the Shelter contract, let Madelyn know. We should stick with the 22% figure in negotiating the contract. Middle addresses animal issues better than other communities. Did notice that there were multiple calls for coyotes lately.
- Code Blue: During cold weather of 32 degrees or below, would like to put out a public service announcement of a Code Blue call for animals to be taken inside. Discussed with board members and put to vote.
 On Motion By: Mary Creamer 2nd By: Chuck Marriner Approved by All.

Discussion held on breeding locations that are causing problems within the Township. We need to pass a breeding law and we need to think carefully about limiting breeding, something we can do without putting dogs in jeopardy. It is important as to how we approach this and how we handle it.

One of the things we can do, because the selling of dogs is considered a Kennel, they must be inspected by the County. Another way to approach it is through Zoning. From speaking with the State, if a dog is gifted or sold, the selling agent must have a State ID and pay taxes. It is imperative that they comply with the States Taxation Laws. We should maybe consider doing a press release educating people on this and explaining the laws for people who are into breeding. Our most important responsibility in this is to make sure that no animals are put in any kind of jeopardy.

ADJOURN: ON MOTION: Chuck Marriner 2ND BY: Dr. Hirsch 6:18 pm