



MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 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, Dr. Hirsch, Karen Buckingham, Suzann Callinan, Rick Eufrazio, Stefanie Facciolo, Chuck Marriner, Jen Modica, Vilma Pombo, Dawn Stimmel

ABSENT: Bill Candell, Officer Creamer, Lissy Holroyd

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: September 15, 2015

On Motion By:

2nd By:

- 1) **Harvest Festival – October 24, 2015** – Madelyn noted that a lot of people are ill with a URI and we may not be able to man the table at the Harvest Fest. However, we ended up getting table covered for the day.
- 2) **Shelter Stats:** County pays the largest portion to maintain the shelter. The balance is split among all of the municipalities in Cape May County. Madelyn said we are right where we should be this year. She wants to find out what the “other” category means (See Chart). She also said Middle residents are reclaiming their cats and dogs when animals are lost and taken to the shelter.
- 3) **NJ Nature Donation Jar:** Discussion was held on putting out a donation jar for Steve Serwatka. Was wondering if the Township would mind a donation area set up somewhere in the Township building such as the Tax Assessors office. After much discussion, it was decided best to do when tabling at events. It was put to vote: Motion made to put donation jar at tabled events for NJ Nature – On Motion By: Chuck Marriner – Seconded By: Dr. Hirsch – All voted in favor.

- 4) **Board Application:** (Attached to back of Agenda) Madelyn had made this application up for people who may wish to apply to be members of the Animal Advisory Board for whenever there was an opening. They would remain on file for 3 years. We could also possibly call on them to volunteer occasionally if they would like at certain events. After review of the application, it was decided to remove some of the info requested, such as voting district/education, as some felt they were not really relevant to applying to be a board member. Madelyn is going to go over application and redo it to meet the board's needs.
- 5) **Top Dog:** Madelyn would like to restructure the press release for our Top Dog contest. We need to rethink how we want to handle it this year. Suggestions were to put on Facebook where the actual voting should take place....however, people can only vote once. Suggested we have something at our table for the Harvest Fest for people to like our Facebook page. Madelyn thought maybe we could link up with WIBG to get people to our page. Would like to start advertising by November 1st with selection made by December 15th. Dog would receive License #1 and would be awarded a Certificate at the 2nd January meeting of the Committee.

Develop Flow Chart for Cruelty/Hoarding Team: We need to start working on this....would like to see finalized by November. We need to make someone the Commander. All agreed they would like to see this become an effort throughout the County with participation by the County and other municipalities. We really need to educate the prosecutor's and the judge's about how important animal cruelty cases are. Madelyn asked us to look at the NH Program for the Animal Cruelty team, which is 130 pages in one of the emails she had sent us.

- 6) **New Concerns:** Madelyn would still like to see something done in the hallway by the courts with the information about caring for animals. She thinks we should also think of some sort of a contest for cats.

Karen Buckingham suggested maybe doing a pet/owner lookalike contest. She also passed around a card she had been working on to pass out at the schools regarding children and pets. She will bring to the next meeting so we can go over better and add to.

Rick Eufrazio said the rabies clinic was a success. The Subaru Grant we applied for was denied. He would like to draft Court House the Cat as our Mascot.

Stephanie Faccioli said she read some good articles on feral cats and saw some good things that we could apply.

Madelyn is working on a tri-fold for the standard care of feral cats, which she plans to put on the tables at the events we table, and give some to

Animal Control to distribute. She said Lizzy has identified new locations with feral cats. Once we come up with a program it will have to be approved by the Committee. She would also like to invite the County in on the discussions to help get people to consider having a board in their own community. She also wants to put out a press release to get someone to come and speak to the board about microchipping.

Dr. Hirsch spoke about Lori Young who does radio and TV. She is trying to get a program in Atlantic County and possibly members of the board could go on her show and share what our board has accomplished and what our long range plans are. We could speak about the spay/neuter program, a microchipping clinic, etc.

Madelyn also spoke about getting leashes to put in our police cars as they are not equipped to properly handle animal control calls when they get them.

Jen Modica said she had reached out to some companies regarding the purchasing of leashes and she can get us a 10% discount.

A discussion ensued about the type of leashes we should obtain. Some felt that the metal ones would be too harsh, that we should get the ones that had a cloth strap. However, it was pointed out by Dr. Hirsch and Chuck Marriner that the metal ones are only used on problem dogs. Chuck said the metal one really came in handy during a motor vehicle accident where they had a dog trapped in a car that was scared. If they had not had the metal type leash, they would not have been able to get the dog out of the car. Dr. Hirsch is going to see what kind of deal he can get for these leashes (also known as rabies poles) through veterinary supplies. It was decided that we should need at least 10 of them to put into the police cars. Chuck said he is going to see if they would like one on one of the firetrucks.

Madelyn stated that Suzann had suggested we have shirts made up for when we table events that shows our table is manned by the Middle Township Animal Advisory Board. She felt they would be expensive and had brought along lariats to show that we could hang around our necks that would identify us as board members. She thought they would work and be much cheaper to purchase. There were several different kinds. One had a larger holder that Madelyn felt we could perhaps put pictures of adoptable animals from the shelter in. We will discuss at a later date.

She would also like for the board members to come up with some ideas by January that we can present at the NJEA Conference.

Rick Eufrazio said he has a friend in Pa. that does the Justice Rescue who will come to one of our meetings to speak with us. He said the group

works well with the police in their area, they are all Animal Control Investigators and they do a great job.

ADJOURN: ON MOTION: Chuck Marriner

2ND BY: Dr. Hirsch

6:10 pm