



MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

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: Jen Modica, Mayor Clark, Tarin Mason, Chuck Marriner, Madelyn McCarroll, Dawn Stimmel

ABSENT: ACO Candell, Karen Buckingham, Crystal Blackburn, Lissy Holroyd, Monica Sopuch, James Loftus

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: June 15, 2017

**On Motion By: Chuck Marriner 2nd By: Tarin Mason
Approved by all.**

OLD BUSINESS

Tabling Events: Jen spoke of our tabling events and the fact that we don't get too many volunteers to table. Tarin suggested sending out email to those that were not in attendance to see if they would be able to table at the Harvest Fest. If not able to table, see if any of those that had sent in applications to be on our board might be interested.

Madelyn said she will send out copy of manual again to all members to go over. Madelyn said she will volunteer to table at the Harvest Fest. Suggested raffling off bales of hay that people can pick up and use in their dog houses or cat shelters. Chuck said he would give us bales of hay for nothing. When tabling the Harvest Fest suggested we put out donation jar.

Functions we have tabled: 4-H, Concerned Citizens of Whitesboro Reunion, and the Harvest Fest. Talked about putting out information sheets at the MLK Center that people can pick up and not send anyone. Madelyn feels we should establish goals and that should be the material we hand out.

Talked about replacing the 2 members that we need, one to replace Rick Eufrazio and one to replace Dr. Hirsch. Suggested Dr. Grant to take Dr. Hirsch's place. Tarin is going to speak with Dr. Grant and let him know when our next meeting is.

Discussion on feral cats and how it is a contentious topic that no one seems to want to discuss, but is a topic that needs discussion. If you ask the people in the Township what the problem is, it is dogs, if you ask the people at the Shelter, it is feral cats. This is a big problem across the country. Also discussed whether or not the Cat Committee should continue since no meeting has been held in 13 months.

Discussion held on reports from Shelter. Madelyn said Judy stated there is going to be a new software program in January that will be more informative. Mayor feels Shelter should give us a little leeway since we are the municipality that houses the shelter, and we do a lot for the County. Instead, we get hit the hardest and blamed the most with basically little to no cooperation from the Shelter.

Discussion held on signs in store parking lots and whether there was permission or not to put them up.

Tarin said Dog Park is set to be at the new Rio Grande Park. Mayor said we should be hearing something soon about the starting of this park. Right across the street from the bike path.

Pet Smart Grant submitted, but have heard nothing. Madelyn stated Judy did go above and beyond with the Pet Smart Grant. We are paying \$42.50 and anything above that the Shelter will handle.

Madelyn said the County got some large grants and she got the name of one of the places the County got money from. Madelyn contacted them, but they said the money has run out for this year. Will try to apply at the beginning of the year. Also heard of another place that gives grants to Township's and she will get a letter out to them to get more info.

Discussion held on Free Rabies Clinics and to where to hold the first one for 2018. Thinking of changing back to public works. Madelyn made motion that we reconsider the location of the January Clinic. Tarin Mason seconded. All in favor. Will make recommendations to Committee. Everyone feels it is easier at public works...we have more room to put people inside if weather is bad, rather than make them stand outside.

NEW BUSINESS

Goals for 2018 is to rewrite Animal Ordinance. In rewriting ordinance, should incorporate rules for the dog park. Tarin is going to check and see what other Township's have in their ordinances for dog parks.

Motion to Adjourn

On Motion By: Chuck Marriner

2nd By: Tara Mason

Meeting adjourned 6:01 PM