



**MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2016**

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, Chrystal Blackburn, Rick Eufrazio, Tarin Mason, Lissy Holroyd, Chuck Marriner, Jen Modica, Dawn Stimmel,

ABSENT: Dr. Hirsch, Officer Creamer, ACO Candell, Karen Buckingham

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: February 23, 2016

**On Motion By: Jen Modica 2nd By: Tarin Mason
Approved by all.**

Madelyn spoke about the "Calls for Service" data. She collected information from 2014 and 2015. We did fewer calls in 2015 than in 2014. There was a 3% drop in dog calls from 2014 to 2015. Cat calls were up. Dogs killed went from 7 to 5. She would also like to do a power point for the committee at the April meeting. Most animal calls come from the Court House, Rt 9, Rt 47, Parkway, Rio Grande and Whitesboro corridors of Middle. We should consider targeting 1 area each year.

She would also like to see Bill out on the street for licensing. Officially, the State does not require a dog canvas anymore. Our licensing is behind what it was last year at this time. We need to implement a late charge for dogs not licensed by the end of January. Was looking at GIS map for areas where there are licensed dogs and areas where there are unlicensed dogs. When Bill picks up a loose dog, he leaves a license application with the owner. She also has a meeting with ACO Candell, Chief Leusner and Lt Nelson to see if there is an easier way for Bill to do reports. She feels his hours could be better spent. Possibly move to an excel document with a formula.

We discussed adding a late charge to our Ordinance for those who do not

license in the required time. Lower Township has a \$5.00 late charge for residents who do not license by May 1st. It was requested that a copy of Lower Dog Ordinance be available for board to look at.

We should also consider adding a section to our Ordinance on Living with Wildlife. This is a topic the public needs to be educated on. We will be obtaining books on this subject which will be put on our Website.

Another area discussed to be added to our Ordinance was dangerous dogs. We also need to look at special ways to deal with people who have multiple dogs or a "pack".

We need an Overall Purpose in Articles 1 and 2 of our ordinance so that it can expand to be an umbrella. When we start working on changes, we will start with definitions such as explaining "running at large." We also need to work on enforcement.

We are in the process of working on 3 grants: 1. Feral Cats; 2. Spay/Neuter; 3. Chipping.

The 2016 Top Dog, Brealey, will be attending Monday's March 21st meeting to receive his certificate.

Madelyn thanked Rick for getting the sign up on Rt 9 about bringing dogs inside during cold weather.

The Township does not have an agreement with the Animal Shelter yet. There is a disagreement with the money and with the funding of the spay/neuter clinic. Madelyn and Connie will be meeting with Freeholder Thornton to discuss the shelter contract.

The Township is charged for dogs that people bring in off the street claiming to have found them in Middle. Rick felt that possibly registering people that do actual rescues might help solve the problem. Chuck said people should have to show an ID and that is the area the animal should be charged to.

Summer is coming up and we need to get ready for our "Dog's in hot cars" campaign. It was suggested that we obtain 2 metallic signs and put in the worse locations in the Township where people leave their animals in their cars, especially while shopping. We should also consider signs on poles that are put in public right of ways.

The Board members will be visiting the MLK Camp again this year to speak to the children attending about the proper care of animals. We may do possibly 2 to 3 days. It was suggested that maybe something could be arranged to have the children tour the Animal Shelter. Last year they had displays, handouts and a lot of educational information. Jen will order some coloring books to take along this year.

It was suggested that maybe we could possibly do a walk in the park the morning of the Harvest Fest to raise money for the Board. Madelyn also announced that we received a \$100 donation from a resident. Bill also got a call from a woman that wanted to donate insulated igloos.

Question was brought up as to why the Township cannot put fences up on North Wildwood Blvd. to prevent turtles from crossing. It was stated that it is a state highway and the state says no, they feel it could cause an accident.

Madelyn stated that April 26th is "Help a Horse Day". She plans on doing a press release.

COMMENTS: On Motion By: Chuck Marriner 2nd By: Chrystal Blackburn

ADJOURN: 6:15 PM