



MIDDLE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2017

Meeting called to order at 5:00PM

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, ACO Candell, Karen Buckingham, Tarin Mason, Chuck Marriner, Madelyn McCarroll, Kyle Lindholm, Jason Sweitzer, Dawn Stimmel, Monica Sopuch

ABSENT: Crystal Blackburn, Dr. Grant

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: NOVEMBER 27, 2017

On Motion By: Tarin Mason 2nd By: Madelyn McCarroll

Approved by all.

Board Manual – Jen wanted to know if any other corrections before voting on it, was it OK with tweaks that were sent out.

Motion made to accept the Manual.

On Motion By: Chuck Marriner

2nd By: Madelyn McCarroll

All in favor

Free Rabies Clinic – Saturday, January 27th from 2 to 3 at the Public Works Garage - Checked to see who would be at the Clinic to help out. Have Madelyn McCarroll, Vilma Pombo, Rick Eufrazio, Flo O'Donnell, Tarin Mason, Dawn Stimmel, Sara Stimmel, Bill Candell. Bill said Upper Township and Sea Isle City are having Free Clinics on the 27th also.

Madelyn has a County Shelter Meeting on February 23rd, wants to know if there are any issues the board would like presented – her concerns the constant attack on Animal Control....the constant warring between bids that puts Animal Control Officers on the whole and their community in a bad light....she feels this needs to be addressed on a higher level. Secondly with the new SPCA rules, everything is going to come through the Prosecutors Office...she feels we should have some discussion at the County Level of how to best input that...the County is going to be instituting a new record keeping program as of January 1, 2018...it is her hope that it would help

us coordinate so that we are all on the same page.

Karen brought up that, according to Social Media, people are so confused in all the towns on who to call for Animal Control. Bill said it is on his truck as to who to call. He could not have a phone number listed because he had done multiple towns when he got the truck and did not have room for all of the numbers....so it says call your Local Police Department. Karen feels the word needs to get out somehow to all of the municipalities on who they need to call. Madelyn does not know how many times we need to get this info out....it is in every Press Release, anywhere we speak about animals. Karen feels that people in other communities try to help each other out by telling them who to call, and it is usually the wrong person. Dawn stated that when giving out Dog Licenses, we are also handing out a copy of Bill's business card with the information. Madelyn questioned if we could put info in with the tax bills, such as the new State law. Bill said we should really wait for the State Department of Health to finish in conjunction with the Attorney General's Office...Section 7 of the law states that they have to come up with plain language that is going to be distributed by the Health Department as to what we give out. A lot of people are not going to make heads or tails out of this law. He has read the law 6 or 7 times and each time he reads it he finds something new in it. It is a requirement and the Department of Health is not finished with it yet....he spoke with Dr. Colin Campbell, who is in charge of Epizootic and Infectious Disease, which also oversees Animal Welfare for the NJ Department of Health...he said their legal department is close to getting it together. They have been working with the Attorney Generals' Office to put this out and this is what is to be handed out with the licenses. If we jump in too soon we could be off base with what the Attorney General's Office will approve and what the Health Department can distribute. The tax bills do not go out until the fall, so we have time.

Jen questioned Bill on the new statute for the housing...is it officially in the law? Bill stated it was passed and it was signed by the Governor, it can be enforced, however, he does not think that even Animal Control entities that are touting the law and saying how great it is even understand it yet because some people have been going ahead and seizing dogs when in actuality the first point of compliance is to write a correction notice....this gives people 7 days to correct the non compliance....Karen feels 7 days is a long time...Bill agrees but said there is a provision in there that if emanate harm appears to be and emanate means menacingly close, basically, if you are going to walk away, go home for the night, you are going to come back in the morning and find a dead dog, that fits the bill for emanate. Then you have the right to go ahead and seize it....but it is advisable to call a Judge for that....emanate, like where the dog appears to be bleeding to death, you do not need a Judge...you go ahead and seize the dog. This new statute has some great things about it, but not crazy about some of the things down...7 days is a long time, but it does give people with marginal violations time to correct them, which anyone would have the discretion to do anyway.

Jen asked Bill if he had gotten any of the supplies that he was going to get for shelters. He said he was having 2nd thoughts about it do to legalities that might put the Township in harms way. Rather than have a flap put on the door of a dog house, which could freeze and cause harm to a dog or could deter the dog from entering the dog house, he would rather see dog houses built with an extra wall that would block snow, wind and rain.....existing dog houses could be easily modified just by adding an extra wall.

Jen announced that Top Dog was presented at the Township Meeting and the owners of Rozzie were ecstatic with the basket and the award from the Mayor....pictures were

taken...they sent thank you via email.

Sub Committee Reports – Tarin is working on getting prices for the banner to display at our tabling events. She went to Sign-A-Rama to try to keep it local, but he never emailed or called her back. Vista Print has a 2 ½ feet by 6 feet, indoor vinyl with clear hangers for \$23.97 and \$6.99 shipping which comes to \$31.00...it is indoor vinyl, which is fine because it is not going to be kept outside...suggested to check with Staples also as they are in the Township's computer system as a vendor. She will need logo before she gets anything printed...will send Board members copy of what she comes up with before having it made.

Discussion on Dog Park, rules and regulations. Have time to work on that. Madelyn had sent some ideas of changes back. Will work on at a later date, anything we do will have to go through Solicitor before being allowed. Lots of questions that need to be answered. Discussion held on tags – is it one tag per dog or per family in case of multiple dogs – what type of vaccines are required – how does the 1 year pass work date wise, does it go from January 1 to December 31, or 1 year from date tag purchased – talked about insurance needed to use park – Madelyn feels that the violations should be stated more clearly – can you take toys for your pets – Madelyn feels the Animal Advisory Board should be removed as we have no authority and could be sued if anything should happen if listed on waiver – who is doing the cleanup and landscaping.

Tarin wants to order the banner but did not know procedure. Advised that anywhere we order from we need a W9 and a NJ Business Registration form. We do have Staples as a Vendor already in our system. Tarin is going to go there and check out the price for a banner there.

Took a vote on purchasing the banner from Staples for no more than \$35.00.
On motion by: Jen Modica 2nd by: Tarin Mason All in favor.

Discussion held on design for banner....Tarin will email all the design before going to print for approval by all.

Madelyn spoke about a Cruelty Team, but with disbandment of the SPCA that will change. They still need volunteers such as a volunteer secretary and volunteer photographer. Spoke about the National Link Coalition which is a stringent advocate for Animal Cruelty Issues – if anyone interested, let her know. She took the Webinar on Evacuation – spoke about number of animals that died during the fire in California – discussion held on what to do during evacuation. Discussion about multiple shelters and the CMC Zoo and are there evacuation plans....Tarin going to check with a friend of hers that works at the Zoo to see if they have an evacuation plan.

Madelyn said after she went over to the County Shelter and went over the “Other” animals that were taken, she requested that Middle Township make some suggestions as per our agreement with the Shelter. She is asking them to communicate that we want animals that are picked up on County property, such as the jail, the schools, the zoo, that animals picked up in those areas and all other County owned property, that the animals be charged to the County and not to the Township. Regarding the record keeping, it seems that there was a problem with TNR cats that are turn arounds verses other animals that are staying....there should be a clearer category on their record keeping. Also, they do not provide contact information on people who are bringing in other animals like they do with people who

adopt or relinquish....the "other animals" are ones that we have an issue with. We need to have the PD and the Dispatchers get on record that these animals are at the Shelter, especially when we have people that are out of the County and out of the State bringing an animal to the Shelter and saying it is from Middle Township....we need more info than what they have over there.

NEW BUSINESS - None

Motion to Adjourn 6:00

On Motion By: Madelyn McCarroll

2nd By: Tarin Mason

Meeting adjourned 6:09 PM

FREE RABIES CLINIC
SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

VACCINES GIVEN

DOGS - 54

CATS - 17

DOG LICENSES SOLD

24

12 - 3 YEAR LICENSES

DONATIONS

\$0