

September 15, 2009

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COLLIER COUNTY  
DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Naples, Florida, September 15, 2009

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, that the Collier County Domestic Animal Services Advisory Committee in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 6:30 PM in REGULAR SESSION at Domestic Animal Services Training Room, Davis Blvd., East Naples, Florida, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Michele Antonia  
Marcia Breithaupt  
Dr. Ruth Eisele  
Sergeant David Estes (Excused)  
Tom Kepp, Jr.  
Sabina Musci  
Jim Rich

ALSO PRESENT: Amanda Townsend, Director. DAS  
Nan Gerhardt, Shelter Operations Manager  
Hailey Alonso, Administrative Assistant, DAS

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Michele Antonia called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

**II. Attendance**

Attendance was taken and a quorum established.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

*Sabina Musci moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Second by Jim Rich. Motion carried unanimously, 6-0.*

**IV. Approval of Minutes of August 18, 2009**

*Change V. E. First Paragraph to "Mission Statement was not appropriate"*

*Marcia Breithaupt moved to approve the minutes of August 18, 2009 as amended. Second by Jim Rich. Motion carried unanimously, 6-0.*

**V. Old Business**

**A. Directors Report**

**Amanda Townsend** reported

- Starting October 1<sup>st</sup> "Open to Public" hours for DAS will be 9 am to 6 pm; Monday through Saturday.
- Adoption hours start at 11:00 am.
- Animal Control Officers will be working shifts to provide service 24 hours 5 days a week.
- "On call" hours will be 11 pm to 7 am; Saturdays and Sundays the Sheriff Dispatcher will take calls.
- DAS received a stray Ram.
- A horse was left behind by the owner and DAS is working with new buyer of the property.

**B. Departmental Statistics and Reports (See attached)**

Statistics were reviewed and discussed.

- Animal Intakes are down 10% from last year.
- The majority of "Return to Owners" is dogs.
- Clinic has increased the number of Spay and Neuter surgeries.

It was noted DAS has opened a Purchase Order to utilize Collier Spay & Neuter Clinic services as needed.

Discussion ensued on implementing the collection of fines and penalties on unpaid citations by attaching the fees to driver licenses, boat licenses or by placing liens on property.

**Amanda Townsend** stated she has contacted the legal department for legal services and noted DAS already has "Graduated Penalties" built in Resolution No. 2008.

**C. 2010 DAS Potential Projects**

**Jim Rich** distributed a priority list of 2010 DAS Projects Report and DASAB July 2009 Meeting Worksheet, a concept on upcoming projects. (See attached)

He recommended each Board Member rank the projects listed on the 2010 DAS Potential Projects and number 1 through 10 for the next meeting.

*Jim Rich moved to postpone discussion until the next board meeting when Board Members will submit their project rankings from 1 through 10. Second by Marcia Breithaupt. Motion carried unanimously, 6-0.*

**D. Microchip Research Policy**

**Amanda Townsend** reported the Staff is currently working on the project.

**C. 2010 DAS Potential Projects – additional items were discussed.**

**Michele Antonio** asked for clarification on actions of the Community Cat Collation.

**Amanda Townsend** responded they will Petition the BCC at the October 27 meeting to add TNR (Trapment, Neuter and Return) to the Animal Control Ordinance. Other issues to be addressed at the Public Forum are anti-cruelty and revising portions of the Dangerous Dog Hearing process from a Panel Hearing to Special Magistrate to avoid any conflict of interest issues.

**E. Role and Procedure Clarification**

**Amanda Townsend** provided the Advisory Board with an example of a “Procedures for Advisory Committee.” (See attached) She recommended they review and discuss them at the next meeting.

**VI. New Business**

**A. Change to Fee Policy**

**Amanda Townsend** recommended the following revisions to Resolution No. 2008 as follows (See attached)

- Impound Fees and Daily Board Fees will be waived for cats and dogs reclaimed before the end of the second business day after impoundment when the animal is wearing a current County license at the time of impoundment.
- Unaltered dog or cat license fee of \$60 will be refunded to the \$10 spayed or neutered fee rate when the animal owner presents proof of spay or neuter within 30 days of purchase.

Discussion ensued on changing fees to give the Public incentives to purchase licenses and/or spay and neuter their animals with the ability to change the Fee Policy back if the incentive programs do not work.

*Jim Rich moved to amend Fees (By Resolution) as proposed. Second by Tom Kepp. Motion carried 5-0. Marcia Breithaupt opposed.*

**B. Partnerships with local non-profit organizations**

**Amanda Townsend** announced the Staff composed a Memorandum of Understanding with expectations, rights and responsibilities for each Rescue Group to be executed with DAS and has been submitted to the County Attorney's office for approval.

Any Rescue Group or Non-profit Group that would like to become involved with post-disaster assistance for the County will need to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the County to be included in the Disaster Master Plan in which one of the benefits would be to receive FEMA Reimbursements.

Discussion ensued on waiving the adoption fees to Rescue Groups and was decided the rescue fee would not be waived.

**VII. Public Comments**

**Janet Rossano** asked the costs for euthanasia on cats and dogs.  
*Staff responded the costs are less than 50 cents per dog or cat.*

**Steven Wright** commended the Staff for changing the "Open to Public" hours and increasing the number of cats on display. He asked the Advisory Board to review the Procedures for Advisory Committees carefully and take into consideration public input as some of the items severely restrict public participation.

**Ann Dee Yurick** stated she is a Licensed Breeder and wants the public to know there are responsible breeders in the business that want to be represented with the breeder licensing.

**Nancy Reyelt**, business owner directed the following questions to Amanda Townsend.

Q. She asked how long an adoptable animal is held at DAS before they are euthanized.

*Answer - It depends, the Animal Control Ordinance requires a minimum of 120 hours on stray animals or upon surrender.*

Q. She asked if Ms Townsend is still against adding "Adoption" to the Mission Statement.

*Answer - Yes.*

Q. If the animal is not healthy enough for adoption, is it rehabbed or is it euthanized.

*Answer - It would be handled on a "case by case" basis.*

Q. What is DAS's definition of a "Rodeo?"

*Answer - Staff could not answer but said it was defined in the Animal Control Ordinance.*

**Michele Antonio** commended the Staff citing their many accomplishments and how easy it is to work with them.

**Ali O'Connor** addressed comments made at the August 18, 2009 and expressed appreciation to DAS by reading a statement.

**VIII. Advisory Board Member Comments**

**Marcia Breithaupt** asked Staff to breakdown on the number of animals rescued by Rescue Groups and intake by surrender vs. trade vs. confiscated for cruelty on the Shelter Report.

Staff responded the request could be done with the computer software in place.

**Tom Kepp** stated he agreed with the praise Michele Antonio gave DAS. He also stated if the fee changes do not work, he will want the Fee Policy reversed.

**Jim Rich** asked Staff if the DAS 2010 Potential Projects were available online. He suggested the public review the projects and contact one of the Board Members with their thoughts on ranking the potential projects for the Board to take into consideration.

**Dr. Ruth Eisele** suggested Staff keep track on the public coming through the door for another 6 months to monitor how the system is working.

**Speaker**

**Sandy Steinkopf** stated she was a breeder, showed dogs and commented the AKC does not allow dogs to be judged if they are not intact.

**Michele Antonio** recommended the Breeder Regulations be placed on the November Agenda.

*Next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2009 at the Domestic Animal Training Room, Davis Blvd., Naples, Florida*

**There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by the order of the Chair at 8:13 PM.**

**COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES**

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**Chairman Michele Antonia**

These minutes approved by Board/Committee on \_\_\_\_\_,  
as presented \_\_\_\_\_ or as amended \_\_\_\_\_.