

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

Naples, Florida, January 19, 2020

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, that the Collier County Domestic Animal Services Advisory Board in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 6:00 PM in REGULAR SESSION at Domestic Animal Services Training Room, Davis Blvd., Naples, Florida, with the following members present:

CHAIRMAN: Jim Rich
VICE CHAIRMAN: Sarah Baeckler-Davis
SECRETARY: Dr. Michael Gordon
Marjorie Bloom
Cpl. James A. Spartz
Mary Baker

ALSO PRESENT: Darcy Andrade, Director, DAS
James French, Department Head, Public Services Department
Kellie Carroll, Administrative Assistant, DAS

Prior to the meeting being called to order, Chairman Jim Rich introduced James French, the new Department Head for the Public Services Department, and newly elected Commissioner Rick LoCastro, who was in the audience.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Jim Rich called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Attendance

A quorum was established.

III. Approval of Agenda

Sarah Baeckler-Davis made a motion to approve the agenda, there was a second and the motion carried 6-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Sarah Baeckler-Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2020 meeting, there was a second and the motion passed, 6-0.

V. Public Comments

Kathy Rheaume spoke in favor of appointing **Sarah Norris** to the Animal Services Advisory Board.

Chuck Danielian spoke in favor of appointing **Kelly Hyland** to the Animal Services Advisory Board.

Patty Teulet spoke in favor of appointing **Sarah Norris** to the Board and read statements from several volunteers.

Susie Mehas asked for information on how the Working Cat program operates and stated that cats should be in homes. **Jim Rich** asked **Darcy Andrade** to explain the program. **Darcy** advised that Miriam and David Ross have been running the program for years with the Animal Compassion Project. **Mr. Rich** advised that he will contact Animal Compassion Project for more information. **Ms. Mehas** also asked about the Community Cat program and was advised by **Mr. Rich** that the program is always being assessed.

Tom Kepp handed out photos to the Board and asked if the Board thought they represented cruelty to animals. He stated that DAS is more than the shelter, there is also enforcement and that the Board needs someone like **Kelly Hyland**.

Jim Rich advised that he received eleven contacts, but he advised the people not to attend the meeting out of concern for social distancing. **Mr. Rich** read prepared remarks regarding other government departments and how they support DAS.

VI. Director's Report

Darcy Andrade advised there is a new building meeting at the end of the month.

Ms. Andrade discussed the Community Cat meeting that was held with DAS, Humane Society Naples, and Camp Many Paws to start holding monthly workshops to train interested people to trap cats.

Darcy also advised the Board of an upcoming meeting regarding the Seniors for Seniors cat adoption program sponsored by For the Love of Cats. The goal is to update the program and find new ways to market the program to the public.

Ms. Andrade introduced **James French** as the new Department Head and **Mr. French** spoke briefly about his background.

Ms. Andrade informed the Board the Standards of Care ordinance is still under review.

VII. New Business

A. Elect Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

*Sarah Baeckler-Davis made a motion to appoint **Jim Rich** as Chair, there was a second and the motion passed 6-0.*

***Jim Rich** made a motion to appoint **Sarah Baeckler-Davis** as Vice Chair, there was a second and the motion passed 6-0.*

***Sarah Baeckler-Davis** made a motion to appoint **Dr. Michael Gordon** as Secretary, there was a second and the motion passed 6-0.*

B. 2021 Meeting Schedule

Darcy Andrade presented the proposed 2021 meeting schedule to the Board and the Board agreed to continue meeting every other month on the third Tuesday of the month.

C. Advisory Board Top Three

Ms. Andrade presented a slideshow to the Board that outlines the functions, powers and duties of the Board and requested that each of the Board members submit three to five ideas by March 1, 2021 for programs and/or services. **Ms. Andrade** told the Board that she would compile their ideas and present them at the next meeting.

VIII. Old Business

At-Large Vacancy

Chairman Rich asked the applicants to speak. **Sarah Norris** provided background information on herself and her experience and she was followed by **Kelly Hyland** who did the same. **Mr. Rich** read prepared comments. **Mr. French** briefly addressed **Jim Rich's** remarks and said that he could not speak on behalf of the Board, but he did speak in favor of the County Attorney and the County Manager.

Mr. Rich read prepared remarks called 'Choosing the Right Board Member' prior to the vote. The vote resulted in three votes for **Sarah Norris** and three votes for **Kelly Hyland**. **Jim Rich** asked each of the Board members to discuss their thinking behind the vote.

Marjorie Bloom stated that **Sarah** is experienced, knowledgeable, honest, compassionate and knows the inner workings of DAS.

Mary Baker stated that **Sarah** brings a younger aspect and can reach out to different groups of people.

Jim Spartz said that he voted in favor of **Sarah** because of her experience at DAS and her education.

Dr. Michael Gordon told the Board that he likes **Kelly** and her association with Tom Kepp and SNIP Collier.

Sarah Baeckler-Davis told the Board that she agrees with everyone and stated that **Kelly** brings a different perspective.

Jim Rich stated that not enough people stick their necks out to elected officials.

Sarah Baeckler-Davis asked for a second vote. The vote produced the same results, so the vacancy will be sent to the Board of County Commissioners to appoint someone to the vacant position.

IX. Advisory Board Member Comments

Sarah Baeckler-Davis welcomed **Jamie French**, thanked **Rick LoCastro**, and advised that HSN has been able to accept some difficult cases from DAS.

Dr. Gordon thanked **Commissioner LoCastro** for attending the previous Board meeting and stated that he appreciates new management.

Cpl. Spartz stated that he appreciated that **Commissioner LoCastro** attended the previous Board meeting.

Marjorie Bloom thanked both Advisory Board candidates, **Mr. French**, and **Commissioner LoCastro**.

Mary Baker thanked everyone. She discussed Loci, a dog that received training at her facility and advised that he has made significant progress.

Jim Rich asked when the Board could expect an appointment and was advised by **Darcy Andrade** that it will be submitted and hopefully the Board of County Commissioners will appoint one of the candidates before the March meeting takes place.

Sarah Baeckler-Davis made a motion to adjourn, there was a second and the motion passed 6-0.

The next regularly scheduled Advisory Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Domestic Animal Training Room, Davis Blvd., Naples, Florida.

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was concluded at 7:13 p.m.

COLLIER COUNTY DOMESTIC ANIMAL SERVICES



Chairman Jim Rich

These minutes approved by Board/Committee on 3/19/21 as presented ✓ or as amended _____.