



Forsyth County Animal Services Advisory Board

January 21, 2021

6:00 - 7:30 PM
5570 Sturmer Park Circle
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Mitch Cromer, Chair
Priscilla Ivester, Vice Chair
Terry Jessup
Amy Pugh, DVM
Cristina Griffin
P.J. Lofland
Joseph Chrobak
Chad Griffin
Erin Turner
Michelle Connelly

Members Present

Erin Turner	Michelle Connelly	Rick Borucki
Amy Pugh	Cristina Griffin	Chad Griffin
Mitch Cromer	Priscilla Ivester	

Staff Present

Capt. V. Loveland
Tonya Ward

CALL TO ORDER

- The Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Mitch Cromer. The meeting was held virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Approval of meeting minutes November 19, 2020
MOTION: Rick Borucki made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Erin Turner and the minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- As the meeting was held virtually, there was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

- ***PDD/DD Preventative Measures Pending Appeal***
Captain Loveland let the Board know that appeals for PDD/DD declarations are caught up and current. He stated he can put together some language for potential presentation to the Commissioners. There was discussion of concerns regarding dogs declared PDD or DD pending appeal. Mitch Cromer asked if

dogs could be held at the facility pending appeal if the bite was severe enough and Captain Loveland pointed out that is already an option per County Code. There was discussion of financial hardship caused by the order, citizens building a fence or obtaining an insurance policy. Captain Loveland reiterated that he will draft language and present it to the Board for potential changes to the ordinance. Priscilla Ivester pointed out that Damon Sanders-Pratt had already written something and Damon Sanders-Pratt responded that his was not specific to changing the wording of the ordinance. Captain Loveland said he would review what was previously written.

- ***Repealing Differential Licensing***

Mitch Cromer stated that he would like to see language regarding public safety and financial hardship to low income communities added to what the Board had previously discussed. He stated he and Priscilla Ivester would work on a statement to have available at the next Board meeting. He also stated he would add a “focus on rabies enforcement” to the statement.

- ***Rabies Reporting by Veterinarians***

Captain Loveland advised the Board that Animal Services has been receiving more reports from local veterinarians. He stated he plans to compile a comprehensive list. Amy Pugh added that the NC Veterinary Association meets at least quarterly. Captain Loveland reminded the Board that the current ordinance states that rabies vaccines are required to be reported but makes no mention of what manner or how often the reporting is done.

- ***Statistics***

Priscilla Ivester asked if an item could be added to the next Advisory Board meeting agenda regarding both bite statistics from Animal Services and statistics from Forsyth Humane Society. She stated she would like more information on the number of animals coming into the facility, being reclaimed by owners, adopted, transferred to rescue groups, and euthanized. Captain Loveland replied that he would be glad to compile statistics regarding animal bites from Animal Services. He pointed out that he had previously discussed adding FHS statistics to ASD numbers for the purposes of County Measures. He said that FHS preferred to keep their own numbers and publish as they need to. Priscilla Ivester stated that the Board has had trouble obtaining numbers from FHS since the partnership began in 2018. Captain Loveland said he understands and that FHS has the option to control their own statistics. Rick Borucki said that, as an FHS volunteer, he was aware that a bimonthly newsletter was sent out at one time to volunteers which did contain some of this information. He stated he would look into that. Erin Turner also pointed out that FHS held meetings prior to the pandemic and would provide information at those meetings as well. She went on to say that the 2019 numbers are available on the FHS website. Priscilla Ivester said that she specifically was interested in the number of animals being transferred to rescue groups.

- ***Rabies Requirements and Laws in NC***

Mitch Cromer said he would like to see compliance with current state laws enhanced. He went on to say his concerns are for low income communities as well as for law enforcement. Captain Loveland said ASD has an excellent outreach program via the Sheriff's Office. He reminded the Board how well the drive up clinics worked and suggested that perhaps ASD would hold a clinic out in the community after the pandemic has abated somewhat. There was discussion of how that would work, the portability and

Mitch Cromer said the Board should keep thinking about this issue. Priscilla Ivester asked how people would be made aware of this and Captain Loveland replied that ASD will heavily promote with a media blast.

NEW BUSINESS

- ***Hearing Tribunals***

The docket and members for the Tribunal Hearings scheduled for February 18th were discussed. Priscilla Ivester, Rick Borucki, and Michelle Connelly said they were available to serve.

- ***Rabies Clinics***

Staff stated that the first Drive-Up Rabies Clinic for 2021 will be held in March. An exact date has not yet been determined.

ADJOURN

MOTION: With no further business Mitch Cromer asked for a motion to adjourn. Rick Borucki made the motion, which was seconded by Amy Pugh. Mitch Cromer adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.