

Durham County Animal Control Advisory Committee

January 22, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Amanda Arrington presiding

Minutes from previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

Animal Control Update: Officers will be undergoing training for local and national certification; along with that they will also refresh skills on report writing, capture and control of bats, and CPR. Due to safety concerns, officers are being fitted for bulletproof vests. Lt Duarte explained weekend duty protocol for animal control officers. She also reminded the committee that Officers also serve as certified rabies vaccinators and are currently administering vaccines on Tuesdays and Thursday by appointment for \$8 (1 year vaccine).

Shelter Update: Intakes over the last six months are similar to the same time period last year. As usual, space is a major issue. Adoptions have decrease 2%, while returns to owners have increased 9.7%. The staff is establishing a plan to upload photos for lost and found pets to a website to further increase the number of lost pets reunited with owners. That process should take approx 1 month to get underway.

Chaining Ordinance Update: Marie recommended changes to current language due to concerns over constitutional rights. Amanda and Marie agreed to make final adjustments over the next month to present to the committee. Becky commented on enforcement of the ordinance and the impact on the low-income population.

Old Business: Discussion on slaughter of farm animals in the city limits -- Animal Control has no authority to enforce. There is presently a law on the books stating the livestock cannot be held within city limits.

New Business: Beth Livingstone presented information on the \$20 Fix program. Becky presented a concern regarding panhandlers in Durham exposing their pets to harsh outdoor conditions. Ultimately it was decided that no laws are being broken if the animal is attended.

Next Meeting: March 25, 2008

* Add in that Animal Control trucks do not have computers but Lt. Duarte will send reasons for getting them to Becky Heron