

7/26/2011 Minutes submitted by Jenny Campbell

Durham County Animal Control Advisory Board Meeting

In attendance: Cindy Bailey, Fran Foster, Martha Ann Traylor, Joyce Arcus, Evelyn Nicholson,

Absent: Marie Inserra, Joyce McKinney

Minutes from May are approved.

Animal Control Update (Cindy Bailey):

- See handouts for a summary of Animal Control activity.
- Vicious bites are up compared to last year. More adults than children.
- Dangerous dog appeals pending.
- Full staff – new staff members continue to acclimate.
- New dispatcher started yesterday (Spanish speaker).
- Case from January – woman shot dog after bite – resolved. Woman had felony charge reduced to two counts of violating the tethering ban, a considerably lesser charge.

Shelter Update (Shafonda Price):

- See handouts for a summary of shelter activities for May, June, and this year to date vs. last year.
- More animal disposals as request from public – listed as disposal. This category is distinguished from “euthanasia requests” where owners bring in live animals and request euthanasia.
- Note “escape” category – approximately 300 “other” species (rodents) count as escaped.
- Note error on date – 2010

Old Business:

- Update on dog shooting during Peter Moses arrest.
- No real progress on training for Durham Police officers’ training during police raids although HSUS did get a verbal agreement for help with the training.
- Durham Police does call Animal Control sometimes when there is opportunity to remove animals from the scene.
- New bylaws:
 - Copy of our original in the minutes – extremely brief
 - Copy of Granville County by-laws also brief
 - Copy of Forsythe County Animal Control Advisory Board By-Laws – 6 total pages. Duties and mission are far more comprehensive.
 - No mission statements from other boards.
 - We do have a mission statement and vision that were approved – Cindy will provide.
 - Many other counties don’t have advisory committees.
 - History of Durham Co. committee – inception because of an impending rabies epidemic.

- Cindy Bailey would like to see a stronger, more progressive Advisory Board. And we don't know how big a loss Becky Heron's retirement will be to this issue.
 - We should expand to 9 members – we should add them to the new by-laws.
- Motion made and seconded to rewrite/update our by-laws with a subcommittee.
 - Subcommittee volunteers: Cindy Bailey, Fran Foster, Jenny Campbell, Evelyn Nicholson

New Business

- 45 day hold on livestock. Is there any way to “get around” statute 68-18.1?
 - Marie Inserra is researching a potential loophole.
 - Other shelters (verbal communication with Shafonda) do not abide by this NC state statute.
 - Past 20 years – no one has reclaimed their livestock later than immediately after pick up – most often they are never reclaimed.
- Feral cat update
 - No real change on this.