



Forsyth County
Animal Control Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2009

Lori Sears,, Chair
Julie Magness Vice-Chair
Joe Redman
Mitch Cromer
Dr. Tim Strickland
Jennifer Tierney
Thurman Dillon
Jerry Canady
Sandy Mayberry
D. Ritchie Brooks
Charles Cahill

Members Present:

Julie Magness
Lori Sears
Thurman Dillon
Joe Redman
Charles Cahill
Dr Tim Strickland
Jennifer Tierney
Mitch Cromer

Staff Present:

Tim Jennings
John Day
Judy Blevins

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lori Sears at 18:02 P.M.

- *Minutes.*

A motion was made by Lori Sears to approve the April 16, 2009 minutes and seconded by Julie Magness. Minutes were approved.

Public Comment

Debbie Clark advised committee members that she lives in a small subdivision where she is having problems with a neighbor that has about 30 pens and kennels. She advised that the owner has about 30 adult dogs. The animals are well cared for but are a nuisance. The noise is unbearable anytime of day. She wanted to know is there can be a limit on number of animals that anyone can own or if a change could be made to the ordinance. Owner has been taken to court and the animals are suppose to be inside her house from 10 pm to 7 am, since her husband passed away the dogs are left outside. Lori advised that no decision will be made by the board at this time but it is in our work plan to have a public meeting to give more citizens to voice their opinion.

New Business

- *2009 Work Plan – Spay/Neuter Plan*

Tim Jennings reported to board members that the pilot program for low cost spay/neuter has been implemented with Spay/Neuter Clinic and they have agreed to reduce the cost on sterilization and vaccines to citizens who adopt or redeem and animal from the shelter. Also Animal Control Officers have the discretion to issue vouchers for the reduce fees. Sterilization will continue to be done at Forsyth Veterinary Hospital and Spay/Neuter Clinic.

Tim Jennings reported that the NC Legislative Bills the Advisory Board has been tracking, including the tethering ban, did not pass the crossover date in the legislature. This means they will not be passed this year.

There was discussion on code proposals such as Tethering, Breeder Permits and Pet Limits. Lori Sears made a motion to proceed with tethering, looking at anti-tethering posed to proceed with it in the form of public comment in August 2009 along with the breeder permit and pet limits and to do that in a public comment session. Thurman Dillon made a motion to put off the code proposals for 2 to 3 months to give new board members time to see what Advisory Board is doing. Lori Sears proposal was revised to proceed with public comment to be in October 2009 instead of August 2009. All members agreed and approved the motion.

Tim Jennings gave kudos to Julie Magness and Ritchie Brooks for the excellent job at the May 21, 2009 Appeals Hearing. Six out of eight appellants were present and the hearing was completed in one hour and ten minutes.

- *Hearing Tribunal: July 16, 2009 Schedule
Hearing Recommendations*

The next hearing tribunal has a full schedule of 6 appellants. The purpose of hearing tribunal is not to debate someone's opinion, but to evaluate the facts leading to the citation.

Lori Sears, Jennifer Tierney, Julie Magness have volunteered to be at the next hearing tribunal, to be held at 6:00 PM on July 16, 2009. Mitch Cromer also volunteered if needed.

Old Business

- *Rabies Clinic*

Charles Cahill advised that the April 2009 rabies clinic broke a record number of 750 vaccines given.

Dr Strickland advised board members that there would be a rabies clinic June 27, 2009 from 10-2pm in downtown Yadkinville.

Annual Report

Tim Jennings reported that the Commissioners received the annual report on Monday.

New Advisory Members will be appointed on July 6, 2009.

Lori Sears thanked Thurman Dillon and Mitch Cromer for the work they had done on the board.

Thurman Dillon asked why livestock is no longer placed up for auction. Tim advised that he requested the County Attorney review the state statute outlining the 50 day holding period for livestock and then auction. The County Attorney advised that the state statute was not a mandated method of processing livestock and the County Code was stronger for disposal of all animals. The shorter hold and transfer, or adoption, is a more cost effective for the County.

Adjourn

Lori Sears motioned to adjourn the meeting, Doctor Strickland seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM. The next meeting will be held August 20, 2009.