



Forsyth County
Animal Control Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2006

Jack Sprinkle
Mitch Cromer
Dr. Tim Strickland
Whitney Lamb
Jennifer Tierney
Thurman Dillon
Julie Magness
Jerry Canady
Sandy Mayberry
Larry Bunn
D. Ritchie Brooks

Members Present:

Jack Sprinkle
Mitch Cromer
Whitney Lamb
Jennifer Tierney
Thurman Dillon
Julie Magness
Larry Bunn
Jerry Canady
D. Ritchie Brooks

Staff Present:

Tim Jennings
Judy Blevins

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sandy Mayberry at 6:00 P.M.

Tim Jennings advised the board members Dr. Tim Strickland had notified the department of conflicts and that they would not be in able to attend this meeting.

Mitch Cromer proposed changes to the minutes where it stated he objects to having animal licensed, he stated that he disagrees with Differential Licensing and its financial impact on pet owners, he is not against licensing. Julie Magness made a motion to accept the minutes of September 21, 2006 as written with changes to Mitch Cromer's comments and second by Jerry Canady and approved by members present.

Public Comment

Keith Murphy spoke to the committee about the role that the Fur-Ever Friends organization and positive financial impact it has made on Forsyth County, presenting statistics on the number of volunteer hours and estimated cost saving to the County. He advised that Fur-Ever Friends was a non-profit 501C3 corporation staffed by volunteers. The organization was started in early 2003.

Guest Presentation

Lori Sears, Forsyth Humane Society Adoption Center Manager, spoke to committee members about programs that FHS provides to citizens of Forsyth County i.e., sterilization for low income families, adoptions, sterilization for feral cat colonies, help low income with sick/injured animals, help with rabies clinic (volunteers and microchipping). She outlined available resources and criteria utilized when determining low income status. FHS is also utilizing some spay/neuter resources to assist other animal welfare organizations in their spay/neuter efforts.

Old Business

Appeal Hearings – Tim reported on his meetings with the County Manager & County Attorney regarding the boards request for an amendment to the by-laws allowing a written only appeal process. After general discussion by Appeal sub-committee members and staff, it was determined hearings could best be scheduled afternoons on a regular monthly basis.

Staff recommended, and received positive response from sub committee members, scheduling three appeals for January 2007. Staff will contact sub committee members to establish the best day for future scheduling.

Sub-Committees – Mitch Cromer initiated discussion of the use of sub-committees. The determination outlined in the September minutes was read and discussed. Jerry Canady made a motion for Jennifer Tierney to be Chairperson of a Code sub committee, second by Jack Sprinkle. The motion was approved. Eight members voted yes, two members voted no.

Work-Plan – Larry Bunn requested staff prepare a work-plan for the board to review. Tim Jennings stated he will review the one presented to the advisory board at its initial July meeting and bring to the November meeting. Ritchie Brooks stated that direction is needed and requested Tim contact each member to identify their interests, issues, suggestions and potential agenda items.

2003 HSUS Consultation Report - Jack Sprinkle advised committee that he had met with Tim. He disagreed with the HSUS report regarding volunteer programs and felt they were very important to the department. He stated that licensing should be enforced, but self assessment will not provide revenue. It is time to be creative to find support for animal services.

New Business

Tim Jennings presented a sample annual report and strategic plan for board members background as samples he had worked on in the past and identified sample plans from other departments available for review.

Members were advised of the upcoming rabies clinic and need for volunteer support. The number of rabies cases Guilford County is seeing this year could easily be occurring in Forsyth County.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next meeting will be held November 16, 2006.