



**Kalamazoo County Animal Services & Enforcement
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Kalamazoo County Expo Center, Room C
Tuesday, July 11th, 2017 at 7:00 pm**

ITEM 1 – Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair at 7:02 pm.

ITEM 2 – Roll Call

Members:

Present – Sue Brodasky (Chair), Danielle Gray (Vice Chair), Aaron Winters, Dr. Christopher Rohwer, Samantha Cree, Debra Wall

Late Arrival – Commissioner Tracy Hall (7:04 pm)

Absent – Jonathan Morgan, Scott Thrasher, Commissioner Roger Tuinier

KCASE Staff:

Stephen Lawrence, Jenny McGinnis, Michelle Fruehauf

Guests:

Dave Rachowicz, Andrew Worden, Dr. Diana Newman (Michigan Pet Fund Alliance), Katie Timber (SPCA), Denise Corey (SPCA), Fred Statler (SPCA), Sara Singleton (SPCA), Alex Haase (SPCA)

ITEM 3 – Approval of Minutes

Motion made by C. Rohwer to approve minutes from meeting on June 13th, 2017. Motion seconded by A. Winters and carried unanimously.

ITEM 4 – Citizen’s Time

No one addressed the board.

ITEM 6 – Commissioner’s Time

Commissioner Hall apologized for running late.

ITEM 5 – For Consideration:

A. Chair’s Report – S. Brodasky

Chair offered a thank you to S. Lawrence for preparing this evening’s reports. She acknowledged that the project took a lot of work and felt that it was well thought out.

B. SOS Update – S. Brodasky

Chair distributed Mid-Season Adoption Statistics. Events have been very successful; adoption numbers are ahead of this time last year.

C. Project Schedule Update – D. Rachowicz & S. Lawrence

Formal bids for engineering and design of the new shelter are expected to go out this week. Next week, Phase 1 & 2 of environmental assessments will begin. The goal is to present engineering contracts to the Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners for approval at the August meeting.

D. New Shelter Operations – D. Rachowicz & S. Lawrence

a) County Comparisons Report

S. Lawrence handed out a packet comparing the operations and statistics of 17 surrounding counties' Animal Control services. The 7 page report explored topics such as: hours, offered services, budget, staffing, intake numbers, adoption prices/included services and shelter statistics. S. Lawrence talked about the trials and tribulations of compiling the report and gave his insight about each specific topic.

Board members were impressed at Kalamazoo County's license sales and transfer numbers, but felt that cat adoptions, in particular, could be improved. At the board's request, S. Lawrence will pare down the list (up to 5 of the most comparable counties) and delve into more specifics, such as how higher cat adoption numbers were obtained and the cost of dog licenses.

b) Discussion

Under D. Rachowicz' direction, specific services were explored and board members were urged to discuss their preference for the new Kalamazoo County Animal Services and Enforcement shelter in a 'perfect world' scenario.

Hours - It was agreed that the board would like to see separate office and adoption hours, expanded hours (evening, lunch hour and/or weekend) and that the hours be consistent and easy for the public to understand/remember.

Services – The need and profitability of responding to injured wildlife was addressed, but, overall, board members seem satisfied with current services. At the board's request, S. Lawrence will find out the number of wildlife calls that ACOs responded to last year.

Budget – The profitability of owner euthanasia services was explored. Board members would like to see the current budget increase once the new shelter is constructed to allow for proper maintenance and staffing levels. A millage will not be considered.

Staffing – It was agreed that the new shelter should offer expanded volunteer opportunities. The possibility of creating a new volunteer coordinator position was addressed; some board members feel that the position should include other duties, as well. Ideally, the shelter could employ a veterinarian and/or have vet students fulfill the role.

Adoption – The addition of FeLV/FIV testing and deworming is desired. Ideally, Kalamazoo County will be able to figure out a way to include all of the adoption services listed on the report.

ITEM 7 – Other

S. Lawrence distributed copies of the current Shelter Statistics. There were no questions.

ITEM 8 – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Chair at 8:17 pm

Minutes submitted by Kalamazoo County Animal Services & Enforcement Senior Administrative Assistant, Jennifer McGinnis