

Animal Control Board
Thursday, October 8, 2015
Penn Room

Members Attending: R. Rosato

Others Attending: S. Katzenmoyer, L. McCauley, C. Manella

Ms. McCauley called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

A quorum was not present. Ms. McCauley explained that no official business could be conducted this evening.

Ms. McCauley explained that Ms. Rudy resigned her position due to personal reasons. She introduced Mr. Manella and stated that he is in the appointment process.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public present.

Election of Officers

Ms. McCauley stated that the election will take place at the next meeting. She suggested that Mr. Rosato serve as chair as he was a member of the Board in the past. Mr. Rosato agreed to serve as chair.

Ms. McCauley suggested that Mr. Brown serve as Vice Chair. She stated that a secretary is also needed.

Approval of Minutes

There was a brief discussion about a mandatory spay/neuter program for Reading. It was determined that this would be difficult to enforce and that the problems generally are not from responsible animal owners, but rather strays. This would not address that problem. Ms. McCauley described a voucher program used in other municipalities to help offset the costs for residents with trap, neuter, release (TNR) of stray animals.

Mr. Manella questioned the funding source for the voucher program. Ms. McCauley stated that it is a line item in their budget. She suggested that a presentation be made at a future meeting.

Animal Control Agency Report

Ms. McCauley reviewed the report distributed at the meeting. She stated that she was recently at a convention and learned that of the shelters represented at the conference, only two facilities have a 24 hour a day, seven day a week drop off building and the Animal Rescue League is one of them.

Mr. Rosato questioned the funds raised at the annual gala. Ms. McCauley stated that it is approximately \$65,000 per year. She stated that this year's event is November 7 and is casual. She stated that there are other smaller events every weekend.

Mr. Rosato noted the amount of cats that pass through the shelter monthly. Ms. McCauley stated that it is very sad that they can't all be adopted but that there are just too many.

Mr. Rosato questioned the City's breed specific dog regulations. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that they are no longer in effect as they were ruled illegal. Ms. McCauley agreed and stated that municipalities that try to enforce them spend much time and money in court and ultimately lose. She stated that dangerous dog and reckless owner regulations are much more successful.

Mr. Rosato questioned who compiled bite statistics. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that she will follow up and obtain a report.

Next Meeting

Mr. Rosato suggested that the Board meet again before the end of 2015.

Ms. McCauley will circulate dates via email.

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

*Respectfully submitted
Shelly Katzenmoyer
Deputy City Clerk*