

Reading Animal Control Board

Minutes of Meeting on March 25, 2009

The Reading Animal Control Board met on Wednesday, March 25th, 2009, at 7:00pm in City Council Chambers.

Members in attendance were: Barrie Pease (ARL), Harry Brown (ARL), George Schutt (member), Margaret Davy (member), and Dennis Straub (Alternate)

This was the first meeting with the Animal Rescue League representatives, who have a five-year contract with the City of Reading for all the city's animal welfare.

Barrie Pease was nominated Chairman.

Margaret Davy was nominated 'temporary' Recording Secretary.

There were discussions of who is / is not on the board, whose terms are about to expire, and if 'Alternates' are automatically appointed to the board if there be an opening.

Dr. Richard Detwiler (Veterinarian) has resigned. A new Veterinarian has been asked.

Richard Rosato (Alternate) hasn't attended in some time, his 3-year term expires in June 2009. Margaret Davy offered to drop a letter off at his residence asking if he does / does not wish to be re-appointed.

George Schutt's term expires June 2009. He has indicated that he did not want to be reappointed, but did state that he would continue to serve until a replacement is appointed.

Margaret Davy's term expires April 2009. She has expressed interest in being re-appointed.

There is at least one applicant that has applied to be a member of the Board.

There is some confusion about if an Alternate automatically becomes a Board member if there is an opening. Barrie was to ask Linda Kelleher about this.

There is a need for all Board members to look at Reading's current Animal Control Board Ordinance, go over the State (PA) Dog / Cat Laws, and see where the Board can make Reading's Ordinance better. Reading's Ordinance also needs to be updated to reflect the change from Humane Society to Animal Rescue League. All updates / changes will be discussed at the next meeting.

There was some discussion about Reading's Ordinance limiting the number of "pets" in a city's household. And discussions of Cat Colonies within the city of Reading, if any protection can be written into the Ordinance, and the pros & cons of the Trap-Neuter-Return Program. No decisions nor lengthy discussion on either topic.

It was also noted that there were three 'exotic animal permits' granted at the Reading Animal Control Board meeting of July 24, 2007. They are:

– Linda Linderman of Linden Street, Reading, - renewal of permit to keep a Serval for a 3-year period. *That period would be up July 2010.*

– Megan Fellenbaum of 542 Lancaster Avenue, Reading, received a one-year permit to keep a 6-foot albino python. *That permit expired July 2008.*

– Dylan Heckart of Union Street, Reading, received a one-year permit for a miniature pot-bellied pig. *That permit expired July 2008.*

It was agreed by all that the Animal Control Board would next meet: Wednesday - April 29th - 7pm – in City Hall

The meeting was adjourned.

Margaret V. Davy
'Temporary' Recording Secretary