



CITY COUNCIL

Nominations & Appointments Committee

**Monday, December 7, 2015
Meeting Report**

Attendance: S. Marmarou, D. Sterner, M. Goodman-Hinnershitz

Others Attending: S. Katzenmoyer

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 pm by Mr. Marmarou.

I. Interview

Amy Crawford (appointment – Animal Control Board)

Mr. Marmarou stated that Dr. Crawford is not a City resident. Ms. Katzenmoyer explained that the Animal Control Board requires a veterinarian. She stated that an exception can be made in this case.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned if Dr. Crawford knows the main responsibilities of the Animal Control Board. Dr. Crawford stated that it is to oversee animal issues in the City.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that she lives in a very dense neighborhood. She questioned the specific animal issues in dense areas. Dr. Crawford stated that leash law enforcement, vaccinations, and noise limits are important in these areas.

Mr. Marmarou questioned why Dr. Crawford was interested in serving on this Board. Dr. Crawford stated that as a veterinarian she is very interested in animal issues.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if Dr. Crawford would be available to attend meetings. Dr. Crawford stated that she would. Ms. Katzenmoyer explained that currently the Board meets quarterly and that their next meeting is scheduled for this Thursday.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if Dr. Crawford was aware of any animal issues that need to be addressed. Dr. Crawford stated that rabies vaccinations are necessary as is enforcement of leash laws.

Mr. Marmarou stated that there has been a bear sighting in the Hessian Camp area of Reading. Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that there are also coyotes in East Reading.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted the increased feral cat population throughout the City. Dr. Crawford expressed the belief that residents get pets and then are not committed to their care. She noted the need for trap, neuter, release (TNR) programs.

Mr. Marmarou stated that Albright students often release pets in the spring before moving back home for the summer.

Dr. Crawford stated that TNR programs prevent feral cats from reproducing. She stated that she does work with several local TNR groups.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned where Dr. Crawford's practice was. Dr. Crawford stated that it is in Exeter Township.

Mr. Marmarou and Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted the experience and background of the candidate.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted the problem of animals in trash receptacles.

Mr. Sterner questioned how Dr. Crawford learned about the Board. Dr. Crawford stated that she works with the Animal Rescue League and also has a coworker who serves on the Board.

The Nominations and Appointments Committee recommends the appointment of Amy Crawford to the Animal Control Board.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that she will be reaching out to the Animal Rescue League about adding animals to the Reading Holiday Parade in 2016.

II. Potential Conflicts of Interest of applicants

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz suggested that Council request Advisory Opinions from the Board of Ethics when there are potential conflicts of interest. The Committee agreed.

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that she will request Advisory Opinions as necessary for applicants with potential conflicts of interest.

The Nominations and Appointments Committee adjourned at 3:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Shelly Katzenmoyer, CMC
Deputy City Clerk