

Hampton Animal Control Advisory Committee

-Community Development Conference Room-

Meeting Minutes – January 3, 2019

Present: Jim Thornton, Andy Anderson, Melanie Paul, Shelly Keller, Gordie Brightbill, Steve Bond, Angela Taylor; (Staff) Annette Oakley [City Manager's Office], Olivia Wiggins [City Attorney's Office]; (Guest) Deborah North [Interpreter], Mayor Donnie Tuck

Call to Order & Welcome

Chairman Thornton called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed newly appointed members. He asked everyone to please introduce themselves. Chairman Thornton wished everyone a Happy New Year!

Review Agenda & Approval of Minutes

Chairman Thornton reviewed the agenda. Melanie Paul has items to bring up under New Business. Chairman Thornton then called for a motion to approve the agenda.

ACTION: Andy Anderson made a motion and Melanie Paul seconded. A vote was taken and motion passed.

Chairman Thornton stated the draft minutes from December 11, 2018 were distributed for review in advance of the meeting. There being no changes, he called for a motion to approve.

ACTION: Andy Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Melanie Paul seconded. A vote was taken and motion passed.

City Manager's Report

Steven Bond stated the City Council took a tour of the Peninsula Regional Animal Shelter (PRAS) during their last meeting. Mr. Isles gave an overview of operations and the numbers are on a positive trend. He stated it is a regional project that is working well, and it was a great field trip. Mr. Bond also gave an update on the new department head hires; Gary James as the Assessor and Wayne Davis as the Chief Information Officer (formerly called Information Technology Director). Chairman Thornton encouraged the new members to visit the regional shelter.

Animal Control Report

Angela Taylor gave some background on Hampton Animal Control, as well as the PRAS for new members. She stated the Animal Control monthly reports are posted online, as well as yearly reports. She stated the December report should be posted by the 5th of January and the yearly report around January 17th. Chairman Thornton also encouraged new members to review the website for Animal Control information as well. Ms. Taylor mentioned Animal Control and Marketing have made some changes and upgrades to the website.

Current Issues/Trends - No Report

Old Business

2018 ACAC Community Education Forum:

Chairman Thornton gave background information on the forum that was held in the past and on the upcoming event, to be held January 30, 2019. Mr. Anderson provided and reviewed the FAQ and exhibitor information (copy on file).

He also reviewed the poster information and the committee gave input and consensus on the poster of choice. Mr. Anderson stated he talked with Marketing, and Robin McCormick sent an email for the Animal Control Advisory Committee calendar and will promote the event on Channel 47. The information can be placed on e-news as well. Chairman Thornton inquired what assistance is needed from the committee. Mr. Anderson stated mainly to distribute posters once they are printed; he is making a list of distribution sites. He also stated assistance will be needed the day of the event; he will be there at 3:00 p.m. Ms. Paul stated The Boy Scouts will be contacting her this week regarding volunteering to help. Mr. Anderson and Ms. Paul will meet to determine the discussion/presentation on therapy dogs. Ms. Wiggins requested all items for the public be sent to her for review.

New Business

News Articles: Ms. Paul stated she has some articles of information that Ms. Oakley will scan and email to the committee (copies on file).

Reptiles in Hampton: Ms. Paul referred to an article on reptiles in Hampton and inquired about laws for people who keep reptiles that are not native to the state. She inquired if they are required to keep them in a manner that prevents escape. If, for example, a snake is native to the state, it can be carried around someone's neck. Ms. Taylor stated yes, but Hampton has a law that requires them to remain confined, and if they are strays it becomes a violation. She stated Animal Control has not received complaints. Chairman Thornton requested that Ms. Taylor do some research and let us know if this committee should engage. Ms. Wiggins read information from the Hampton code.

Abuse of Medication: Ms. Paul referred to a news article about a study. She asked Animal Control if they had anyone approach them about someone hurting animals to get the medicine for themselves. Ms. Taylor stated most people do not go to the vet to get medicine. Chairman Thornton suggested asking Dr. McKelvin to check with the veterinarian community. Mr. Bond stated he believes this came up in a meeting before and Dr. McKelvin had stated some of the laws passed are creating a problem for pets who have chronic issues and getting their medication because of additional concerns of opioid abuse, but he had not seen an issue. Chairman Thornton stated we will continue this item and get Dr. McKelvin to render his opinion. Mr. Brightbill suggested talking to Dr. McKelvin to see if veterinarian Tramadol accounting systems talk to the human side; to see if there is a connection.

Animal Reports: Ms. Paul referred to the Animal Control monthly reports, stating she used to get copies, but now they are online. She inquired how many members review the report online. She referred to the numbers on animal cruelty and inquired of Ms. Taylor how many pets were picked up for the year. Ms. Taylor stated when a person calls in a complaint and reports animal cruelty, Animal Control determines the offense. If it is animal cruelty, they file a report and track it if needs to be tracked. She then explained the process in more detail. Ms. Paul encouraged members to review the reports posted online.

Public Comment

No one from the Public was present.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Chairman Thornton called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Anderson made the motion and Ms. Paul seconded.