

Franklin County Animal Advisory Board Minutes March 19, 2008

The Animal Advisory Board of Franklin County, North Carolina, met for their first meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room located in the County Administration Building with the following Board Members present: Animal Control Director Graham Stallings, Commissioner Bob Winters and Franklin County Humane Society President Ida Estep, serving as ex-officio members, voting Board Members present Dianne Barrett, Chip Broughton, Bess Nicholson, John Ryan, Brenda Simmons and Paulette Woods. Sandra Wood was absent. Also present Franklin County Manager Angela Harris. There were no members of the general public.

Animal Control Director Graham Stallings called the meeting to order at approximately 7p.m.

Introductions were made and Animal Advisory manuals passed out with the by-laws receiving a quick review.

Animal Control director Graham Stallings opened with a Thank you to all for their time and commitment to the Board. Franklin County manager Angela Harris also wished to thank everyone for their time and commitment. Commissioner Bob Winters continued with a thank you to all serving on the Animal Advisory Board and an explanation of his role on this Board, which is to act as the go between of Board Members and County Commissioners.

First order of business: Election of Officers

John Ryan, chairperson

Brenda Simmons, vice chairperson

Paulette Woods, secretary

Chairperson, John Ryan introduced himself and turned the meeting back over to Animal Control Director Graham Stallings.

1) Animal Control Director Stallings proceeded with a quick overview of the new Animal Shelter now under construction, with a mid July completion date. LSV Architect will present a progress report on the construction to the County Commissioners on April 7,2008. NCSU has applied for a grant for a cistern to collect rainwater for the run off as part of the green commitment. The meeting was turned over to Franklin County Manager, Angela Harris.

2) Franklin County Manager, Angela Harris, spoke about guttering for the new Animal Shelter and that Bill Lord with the Franklin County Extension office would assist with these recommendations. Also mentioned, the need for a generator and that the construction project has

stayed within budget and ahead of schedule. The new building at a cost of \$1.2 million, will be 7200 square feet and will hold 78 animals as opposed to the current building's capacity of thirty with no provision to isolate sick animals or adequately separate dogs and cats.

3) Animal Control Director Stallings handed out animal control activity reports and spoke about the hope that at the new facility they would be able to hold animals longer than the 3 days required by statute to permit more animals to be adopted.

Other items mentioned:

- a) Additional commitment to a Spay Neuter program. What can we do to increase compliance with Spay Neuter requirements?
- b) The issue of fees:
 - i) Adoption fees;
 - ii) Redemption fees on reclaiming an animal;
 - iii) Increasing the current boarding fee of \$7.50 for the first day and \$2.50 for each additional day;
 - iv) The possibility of County –wide licensing fees
- c) The Franklin County Attorney has approved all wording in the Franklin County Ordinance.

4) Commissioner Winters agreed with the idea of a redemption fee and an increase in the boarding fee. Commissioner Winters would also like to see Spay Neuter included in the adoption fees.

5) Franklin County Humane Society President Estep spoke about animals currently leaving the shelter without rabies shots and other vaccinations; would like to see rabies shots and some other vaccinations incorporated into the adoption fee.

6) Animal Control Director Stallings spoke about the Franklin County Animal Control Officer that is currently licensed to give rabies shots in Granville County transferring that license to Franklin County. This would have to be approved by the Franklin County Health Director, Eric Ireland. It was recommended the he be invited to the next Board Meeting. In response Chairperson, John Ryan said he would invite Health Director Eric Ireland to the next meeting.

7) Issues brought up for later discussion:

- a) Animal Control Director Stallings said one key issue is for the Board to come up with adoption fee ideas.
- b) What will be the Boards involvement with the new Shelter?
- c) Revisit the Warren County Animal Shelter to learn from them.
- d) The Board welcomes help from volunteers.

8) Chairperson, John Ryan announced he would come up with a Mission Statement for the Animal Advisory Board.

9) It was decided the next Board Meeting would be April 23, 2008 at 7p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paulette Woods, Secretary