

# **Animal Control Commission**

February 12, 2024, at 5:30pm

## **MEMORANDUM**

**Bloomington Animal Shelter – Hybrid Zoom and In Person Meeting  
3410 South Walnut Street, Bloomington, IN 47401**

### **MEMBERS**

Sue Allmon –present in person  
Sita Cohen -present in person  
Chris Hazel – present in person  
Valerie Pena – not present  
Laura Soto – present in person

### **GUESTS**

### **STAFF**

Kat Ennis – present in person  
Aleksandrina Pratt – present via zoom  
Lisa Ritchel – present in person  
Virgil Sauder – present in person

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Sita thanked Lisa for her minutes.  
Sue moved to approve the **January 22, 2024**, as written.  
Chris seconded.  
Motion passes, 4-0-0.

## **II. NEW BUSINESS**

### **i. Request to Declare Habitual Offender – Oakley and Carlisle**

Virgil explained that on Friday, he received a phone call from Birdena Oakley requesting to reschedule the meeting due to an appointment for a medical issue. Virgil asked her if Mr. Carlisle or a lawyer could attend in her place, but she was not interested in that. Virgil then requested to postpone the hearing one more month. Sita agreed that would be fine as long as this is the last time. Virgil explained that he would send out the proper notice to Ms. Oakley so that she gets it in plenty of time for the March meeting.

### **ii. Officers Elections**

Both Sita and Sue indicated that they were fine remaining in their current positions.  
Chris moved that Sita remain as Chair and Sue remain as Vice-Chair.  
Laura seconded.  
Motion passes, 4-0-0.

## **III. REPORTS**

### **i. Animal Care and Control Report**

Virgil referred to his end-of-year statistics and noted that intake numbers are still in an upward trajectory from the drop off during the Covid time period, although still below the numbers of 2018-19. He shared that his biggest concern is the increase in dog intake from Animal Control impounds and stray surrenders. There were 100 more dogs than in the previous year and an increase in the number of puppies and litters. He stated that this is a response to the lack of available spay/neuter services. On a

positive note, Virgil explained that starting this Wednesday, on Valentine's Day, there will be an adoption special and dogs and cats over six months of age will be fee reduced with \$14 adoption fees.

**ii. MCHA Update**

Sue reported that the MCHA is fully staffed and working towards the Tails on the Town Event which will be held on May 17, 2024, at the Woolery Mill. This event is being revamped and reenergized and will feature hors d'oeuvres, charcuterie and a signature cocktail rather than a sit down meal. There will be live music, a fund-an-item, and a silent auction. Additionally, a new VIP club for donors is being created and members will be entitled to additional benefits.

**iii. AMC Update**

Virgil reported that the AMC has not met in several months, which seems to be a new trend.

**IV. ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION DISCUSSION**

Sita mentioned the Boards and Commissions document. Virgil explained that he was contacted by Council to see if there were any needed changes.

Sue asked if the new ordinances had been fully approved. Virgil answered in the affirmative and Aleksandrina explained that any incidents after January 2, 2024 would apply.

Laura mentioned the potential legislation regarding the sale of pets. Sita voiced her disapproval. Virgil stated that the Commission will need to discuss it if it passes.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Chris moved to adjourn the meeting.

Sue seconded.

Motion passes, 4-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:44pm.