

# Animal Control Commission

March 11, 2024, at 5:30pm

## MEMORANDUM

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

### MEMBERS

Sue Allmon – not present  
Sita Cohen – present in person  
Chris Hazel – present in person  
Brandt Ludlow – partial presence via zoom  
Valerie Pena – present in person  
Laura Soto – present in person

### GUESTS

Linda Woods

### STAFF

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

## **I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Sita thanked Lisa for the minutes.  
Laura moved to approve the **February 12, 2024**, minutes as written.  
Chris seconded.  
Motion passes, 3-0-1 with Valerie abstaining.

## **II. NEW BUSINESS**

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

Sita explained that this is the third time Ms. Oakley and Mr. Carlisle did not attend their meeting.

Virgil explained that Ms. Oakley and Mr. Carlisle were sent updated notice of this meeting, but they declined to accept the certified mailing. Animal Control Officers did verbally notify them of this meeting. Virgil explained that there has been a long history of at large violations for their hound dog, Crosley. Animal Control is requesting that the Commission declare the owners Habitual Offenders because the normal routine of working with owners and issuing tickets has not been affective.

Valerie moved to declare Oakley and Carlisle Habitual Offenders. If the dog is found at large again and is picked up by Officers it will immediately become the property of the City of Bloomington.

Laura seconded.  
Motion passes 4-0-0.

### **ii. Updates to Pet Store Ordinance in light of HEA 1412**

Virgil explained that as of July 1, 2024, this bill will void the local ordinance that prohibited the sale of dogs and cats at pet stores. The members discussed what to do next and what updates to make to the ordinance. Virgil requested that the Commission add language that allows inspections and permitting of these places back into the ordinance.

**iii. Rescheduled April Meeting Date**

Sita stated that meeting scheduled for April 8, 2024, is on the Solar Eclipse so will need to be rescheduled.

Valerie moved to move the April 8, 2024, meeting to April 15, 2024, at the shelter.

Laura seconded.

Roll call vote: Sita – “yes,” Chris – “yes,” Brand – “yes,” Valerie – “yes,” Laura – “yes.”

Motion passes 5-0-0.

**III. REPORTS**

**i. Animal Care and Control Report**

Virgil referred to his statistics and stated that overall intake is slightly higher than last year. He shared that the shelter has been continuously full in canine kennels and this will likely not resolve anytime soon because there are many people on the waiting list. The intake is largely due to owners experiencing financial issues and/or having to move and combine households. Cat intake has not had the same increase, likely because cats are easier to combine or transfer into homes. There will be a spring adoption event soon to be announced.

**ii. MCHA Update**

Valerie reported that the Tails of the Town event is coming up. The event will be different than in past years and they are hopeful for a strong attendance. They are interviewing for a new marketing director. Clinic broke even this February!

**iii. AMC Update**

Valerie reported that they had a typical meeting but did remove ownership from a dog owner. Virgil added that this dog owner was previously declared, brought back and came back again.

**IV. ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION DISCUSSION**

No discussion.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Chris moved to adjourn the meeting.

Valerie seconded.

Roll call vote: Sita – “yes,” Chris – “yes,” Brand – “yes,” Valerie – “yes,” Laura – “yes.”

Motion passes 5-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18