

ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 17, 2018

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>PUBLIC</u>
Sarah Nickel	Virgil Sauder	Sheila Hawkins
Tom Rea	Nadine Eubank	Claud Hawkins
Nancy Riggert	Jacquelyn Moore	Kayla Bruner
Rebecca Warren		Janette Bruner
		Matthew Lieberman

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Nancy opened the meeting. Tom moved to approve the March 20, 2018 minutes. Sarah seconded. Motion Passes, 3-0-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

i. Request to declare Potentially Dangerous – Holmes  
Officer Eubank stated that there have been three incidents followed up by Animal Control where the dog Einstein was loose and aggressive. The first incident occurred on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 where Einstein ran up to and bit a small dog in the neck. The dog received two bite wounds in this incident. On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Einstein was running loose behaving aggressively. No bites or injuries were reported from this activity. On March 15<sup>th</sup> 2018, Einstein was again loose. Einstein entered another property and he again attacked another dog. The other dog did not receive any bite wounds from the attack. To date the shelter has not received confirmation of the dog being neutered.

The owner of Einstein, Sarah Holmes was not present at the meeting.

Sheila Hawkins reported that she witnessed the second incident. She was on the way home and Einstein ran up to the car. She stated that she does not trust the dog. Her friend was driving her home and honked the car to get Einstein to leave. Rebecca inquired if there were other incidents where Einstein was running loose. Sheila Hawkins stated that she believes that all instances of the dog running loose have been reported. Sheila stated that she has talked to 6 or 7 people in the neighborhood who are all afraid of Einstein.

Claud Hawkins stumbled upon the last incident. Stated he came around the corner and Einstein was attacking the small dog. Owner came out to separate the dogs. When they were separated the owner lost control and Einstein ran around the neighborhood. Owner called the dog but the dog did not listen. Claud stated that the owner told them that the owner stated when he let the dog out he did not keep the fence closed. Nancy inquired about the fence. Claud stated that the dog can easily hang over the fence.

Rebecca inquired further about the situation with Officer Eubank. Officer Eubank confirmed that most of the fence is a 6 ft. fence. There is a location near the sliding glass doors where the owners let Einstein out of the house and into the yard is enclosed with a patch made up of an x-pen. The patch is very flimsy. She believes this is where the dog jumps out. If the fence is repaired correctly this would solve problems.

Sarah reported that she has seen Einstein at the MCHA clinic. He is approximately 150lbs and the owners seem to have poor control over the dog. Due to the relationship Sarah recused herself from voting on the declaration.

Committee discussed declaration. Due to injuries the dog can only be declared potentially dangerous level one. Questioned if they can add that the dog must be altered, which they would prefer to add. Also questioned whether they should be declared habitual offenders. Animal Control is currently only requesting the dog be declared at this time in the hopes that the owners fix the problem. Rebecca moved to declare the dog Potentially Dangerous, Level One and in addition to the rules in the code that they owners be required to remove the x-pen and make a secure enclosure with-in one week of the declaration. Nancy seconded. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Commission reviewed the next steps with those present. Einstein is a very large dog who it appears is loved by the owners but there is question about their ability to control him. The commission encouraged those present to notify Animal Control of further instances and document what happens with photos as possible. If the owners of Einstein fail to follow the declaration further fines will be leveled and the owners will need to be declared Habitual Offenders at a later meeting.

ii. Meeting times and location for remainder of 2018

Due to continued conflict with staff needing to cover multiple boards on the same day it was requested that the commission look at meeting another date. The Animal Shelter currently has a larger meeting room available and no conflicts on Mondays. Nancy moved to move the meeting to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at Bloomington Animal Care and Control at 3410 S. Walnut St. Sarah Seconded. Motion passed 4-0-0.

At the next meeting the commission will review the ordinance updates prior to recommending the updates to City Council.

**ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL REPORT – Virgil Sauder**

i. Shelter Statistics and updates

Virgil sent out the stats to the commission. The first off-site adoption event of the year just occurred. The construction project is coming to a close and we are looking at scheduling a ribbon cutting date soon.

**MCHA UPDATE – Rebecca Warren**

i. General updates

1<sup>st</sup> quarter in clinic strong. Continue to expand services. Anesthesia equipment has been included. Grooming services and Food pantry continues to be full. Moving back into renovated space. The annual large spring fundraiser “Tails on the Town” is on Saturday.

**AMC UPDATE – Virgil Sauder**

Virgil reported that the County Animal Management Commission did not meet in April so no updates at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kayla Bruner and Janette Bruner stated that they were attending to see about possibly joining the commission. They heard about the Commission from the Bloomington Kennel Club. They

found the declaration process interesting since they know a good amount about Danes. Stated that just like all breeds they have their issues but it is up to the owners to deal with the problems appropriately.

**The meeting adjourned at 6:30.**