

ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2019

MEMBERS

Valerie Pena
Tom Rea
Nancy Riggert
James Schultz
Rebecca Warren

STAFF

Julia Eppley
Jacqueline Moore
Lisa Ritchel

PUBLIC

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

James moved to approve the June 10, 2019 minutes as written. Valerie seconded.
Motion passes 4-0-1, with Nancy abstaining.

NEW BUSINESS

i. Pet Shop Ordinance

Rebecca explained that the Commission has discussed the proposed pet shop ordinance at length over the past months. She recently communicated with each member via email and found that everyone is ready to vote.

James moved to present the revised pet shop ordinance to the Mayor to see if he wants to adopt it and move it to the Council. Tom seconded.

Motion passes 5-0-0.

REPORTS

i. Animal Care and Control Report

Julia explained that the shelter extended the cat adoption promotion into July. Currently cats over 1 year of age are free. Kittens under 1 year of age are \$75, but are 2 for 1. Preparations are being made for Clear the Shelters, which is a huge adoption event in August. The shelter is now able to pay for heartworm treatments post adoption and is partnering with Dr. Francis at BloominPaws Veterinarian. In June, the shelter took in 423 animals and processed 314 adoptions. So far in July, the shelter has taken in 98 animals and processed 69 adoptions. Julia explained that the intake ratio is still the same, half stray and half owner surrender, but there are more litters and more groups of animals. Julia added that our redemption rates for cats are very high compared to national averages.

Nancy added that when her cat was recently brought to the shelter, she discovered that its microchip had either come out or had stopped working. She suggested that it would be good to educate the public to have their animals' chips routinely checked.

ii. MCHA Update

Rebecca explained that they are in preparation for the Run for the Animals. Yesterday, they held a mobile clinic and saw 58 animals in 2½ hours plus an injured German shepherd! Two

veterinarians, three volunteers and the staff worked the busy clinic. Construction is still in the planning stages, but Rebecca feels this is a positive because with all the rain, progress would have been interrupted. Hopefully now construction will start in the next months. A new veterinarian, Dr. Smith, will be starting this fall, for a total of four. This addition is much needed as the clinic is currently booking wellness appointments four weeks out and double booking all appointment times. Their client ratio continues to be 96 subsidized clients for 4 non-subsidized.

iii. AMC Update

Valerie reported that the AMC has recently had a couple of reoccurring habitual offenders. The Commission has had difficulty working with these offenders and has discussed making the ordinance stronger. Declaring and fining the offenders has not made an impact.

ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION DISCUSSION

James explained that he had a couple of points to discuss. First, he hopes that his memorandum and the signatures he collected will go along with the pet shop ordinance to provide content. Jackie explained that generally an ordinance will go along with a memo. Secondly, he pointed out that the ACC website is not up to date. Rebecca explained that the city maintains the website. Julia stated that she will check with Virgil about the content of the website. James then announced that this is his last meeting and that he has enjoyed working with everyone. He will be starting a job in public defense in Indianapolis.

Jackie explained that there will be an appeal at the next meeting involving a cat issue between neighbors. The cat is jumping into other people's yards. One neighbor has bird feeders and is upset that a bird was killed. Officer Minder issued restraint and public nuisance violations to the cat's owner.

No public comment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24pm.