

# *Metro Public Health Dept*

N a s h v i l l e / D a v i d s o n C o u n t y

## **Metro Animal Care and Control Advisory Council**

### **Meeting Agenda**

**Wednesday, March 13, 2013**

**3:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Lentz Public Health Center, Room 212**

3:00	Call to Order Approval of January 23, 2012 Minutes Welcome David Collins, new member	Dr. Bill Paul
3:05	Crossroads and Homeless for Homeless Programs	Lisa Stetar
3:15	MACC Update Intakes and Adoptions Expenditure of \$3.00 Boarding Fee Allocation	Brent Hager
3:25	Legislative Update	Councilmembers Bennett and Claiborne
3:30	UPAW Update The Big Fix 2020	Phran Galante
3:40	Partnership between Pets and People	Joy Beach
3:45	Nominations for New Members Review Guidelines for Membership	Tom Sharp
3:55	Other Business	
4:00	Adjourn	

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Meetings are held in Room 212 of Lentz Center. 2013 meetings are scheduled on these dates:

January 23

July 17

March 13

September 11

May 8

November 13

Minutes of meetings are available by contacting Martha Bickley at (615) 340-5622.

## **Metro Animal Care and Control Advisory Council Meeting Minutes March 13, 2013**

### **Present:**

- Members:** Dr. Bill Paul, Joy Beach, Council Lady Karen Bennett, Councilman Phil Claiborne, Jon Cole, David Collins, Phran Galante, Marc Stevenson
- Staff:** Dr. Brent Hager, Billy Biggs, Tom Sharp  
Recording: Martha Bickley
- Guests:** Lisa Stetar, Executive Director of Crossroads Campus  
Susan Cole

Dr. Paul called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. He welcomed the members of the Advisory Council and the large number of visitors present. He explained that he formed the MACC Advisory Council in 2009 because he thought it important to hear from a variety of voices and to be accountable to a variety of organizations in the city that have interest in the care and welfare of animals, and public safety as it relates to animals.

### **Approval of January 23, 2013 Minutes**

**Councilman Phil Claiborne made a motion to approve the January 23, 2013 minutes as written. Jon Cole seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Welcome New Member David Collins**

Dr. Paul welcomed new member David Collins and asked Mr. Collins to inform the Council. Mr. Collins stated that he is a member of the Printers Alley Merchants' Association and has been involved with annual fundraisers and adoption events in Printers Alley for MACC for several years. The organization formerly called Friends of MACC has been re-organized into Music City Animal Relief Foundation (ARF). Mr. Collins advised that he would provide more information on the organization at the May 8 meeting.

### **Report on Crossroads Campus and Homeless for Homeless Program**

Dr. Paul introduced Ms. Lisa Stetar, Executive Director of Crossroads Campus. She gave a brief description of the program. She also shared information about Crossroads Pets, a storefront social enterprise to provide jobs and job training, find homes for rescued animals, and generate income by providing adoptions for pets running out of time at animal control; providing jobs and job training; creating a cottage-industry to create pet products; and retail of pet products and services. Additional information about Crossroads Pets and their other programs can be found at their website: <http://crossroadscampus.org/>

### **MACC Update**

Dr. Hager provided a handout that included intakes, adoptions and other statistics from 2007-2012 (Attachment II).



Mr. Cole asked if the Zip Code Project were considered a significant factor in the reduction of intakes. Dr. Hager praised the project and said he felt that it had had an impact, as had Rover's presence at MACC, but that significant impact of such initiatives is usually expected four to five years after initiation, and surmised that another possible impact is more responsible pet ownership. Ms. Beach offered that in each of the last several years, NHA has spayed or neutered more than 8,000 animals in Davidson County, and that is certain to have had a significant impact on the numbers of unwanted animals.

Ms. Stetar noted that Rover will also be visiting Crossroads Pets in Germantown monthly in spay and neuter outreach efforts.

**Expenditure of \$3.00 Boarding Fee Allocation:** Dr. Hager stated that currently the allocation fund account holds approximately \$9,500. He said the immediate plans for expenditure include rubber bracelets and leashes that advertise MACC's contact information, and to partner with NHA to do additional behavioral training which is expected to improve adoption numbers.

Councilman Claiborne asked if any of the funds were earmarked for spay or neuter surgeries for those who are unable to afford the full cost of a surgery. Council Lady Bennett also expressed her desire that funds would be spent on spay neuter surgeries that otherwise would not occur. Dr. Hager advised that the partnership with NHA, in which NHA participates at no charge to MACC, is the primary source of surgeries that are not performed in house; NHA waives its usual \$500 per day fee for those visits and thus the anticipated use of the funds in that account for has been avoided. Councilman Claiborne suggested inviting vets to come to MACC periodically for pay to perform surgeries, and Ms. Galante suggested developing a voucher program. Dr. Paul advised that a specific response to the concern of expending those funds for spay and neuter surgeries would be provided at the next meeting.

### **Legislative Update**

Council Lady Bennett advised that the Mayor's office had approached her with legislation that would allow Parks to designate specific portions of parks as leash-free, and the legislation is making its way through Metro Council now.

Council Lady Bennett is also still working on anti-tethering legislation. She has sought input from Referee Todd and Billy Biggs, and plans to meet with Tom Sharp before introducing to Metro Council.

Councilman Claiborne stated his eagerness and readiness to assist with the introduction to Metro Council of the proposed schedule of fees for MACC that will soon be presented to the Board of Health.

Council Lady Bennett said that Councilmembers Davis and Davis will be introducing legislation to permit hens on site for a non-profit whose purpose is to encourage healthy eating and educates people on how to grow their own food. The location is off Gallatin Road.

### **UPAW Update**

Ms. Galante reported that UPAW is focusing on advancing, finding more support for, and minimizing opposition to differential licensing.

Ms. Galante said that the education program Creature Care is partner with Lovie's Legacy and has a program with the Girl Scouts on March 23 at 2:00. Volunteers show Girl Scouts and other groups how to treat a dog, how to approach a dog, responsible pet care and so forth. Scouts earn a badge for participating. She suggesting holding one of the programs at MACC and the scouts could incorporate a project to benefit MACC as a requirement for earning the badge. Council Lady Bennett suggested videotaping the program and running it on the screen in the lobby at MACC, and also seeing if it could be broadcast on Channel 3.

Ms. Galante asked if the July adoption event were still a possibility. Dr. Paul said he hoped to provide a firm answer by April.

She also said that Peter Marsh of the Target Zero Institute was interested in helping developing a five-year program in Nashville to lower the euthanasia rate. The project has seen success in New Hampshire, North Carolina, Austin, Texas, and Nevada. Dr. Paul expressed interest in meeting with him.

### **Update on Partnership Between Pets and People**

Ms. Beach reported that through February Rover had spayed or neutered 939 animals in zip code 37207 and 922 in zip code 37013. In addition, 117 animals have been spayed or neutered at MACC by Rover during the monthly visits October 2012-February 2013. Nashville Humane Association (NHA) will continue to visit MACC on the third Friday of each month, and will visit Crossroads Pets monthly. The visits to MACC are scheduled by MACC and participants must qualify for the surgery by receiving government assistance or deemed by MACC to be in unmistakably dire circumstances. The surgery schedules for each of the visits have been full. Ms. Beach said that MACC staff monitoring post-surgery recovery of the animals has permitted Rover to spay or neuter many more animals than they otherwise would have been able to do.

Ms. Beach said that at the November MACC Advisory Council meeting she had noted the enormous increase in dog bites reported to Metro, and NHA is launching an educational series this summer, June through September, called Pet Pals. The first topic is dog bite prevention. More information about Pet Pals can be found at <https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TicketingWelcome.aspx?EventID=115347&LangPref=en-CA&Referrer=http%3a%2f%2fwww.nashvillehumane.org%2fhome.cfm>

NHA continues to host two one-week Critter Camps for children who are at-risk. The camps are no cost to the families and bolster animal welfare education.

### **Nominations for New Members**

Tom Sharp noted that several of the suggested positions of the group were currently vacant, and asked members to submit their nominations to Dr. Paul by mid-April.

### **Review Guidelines for Membership**

Mr. Cole expressed desire to examine the membership guidelines. Mr. Sharp said he would present a revision at the next meeting.

### **Other Business**

Dr. Paul acknowledged the large group of observers and invited remarks from a spokesperson.

Karen Josephson stated that those present were members of an unnamed group of concerned citizens about better use of taxpayer money and doing better for the animals for the citizens in Metro. They have created a petition on change.org which has reached 5,856 signatures in Nashville and the area. A meeting is scheduled with Dr. Paul in the near future and that the group's initial requests are a written volunteer policy with a liability waiver and a training program online and available to the public; a written and transparent rescue policy; a transparency of internal breed discrimination, including the type of temperament testing conducted and documentation of breed determination as well as a determination of unfitness or fitness that precedes selection for euthanasia or adoption; and the use of better photos, and the use of the photos on Petfinder.com.

Councilman Claiborne requested that when the petition the group has organized is presented to the Council that only those names of participants who reside in Davidson County be included. He explained that MACC receives local funds generated by taxpayers exclusively in Davidson County.

Council Lady Bennett and Dr. Paul thanked the visitors for their interest and passion.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Advisory Council is scheduled on **Wednesday, May 8, 2012** at 3:00 p.m. in Room 212 of the Lentz Public Health Center.

**Please mark your calendar for the remaining 2013 meeting dates:**

**May 8**

**July 17** (please note this meeting was originally scheduled on July 10)

**September 11**

**November 13**

**METRO ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL  
COMPARISON  
FY2007 - FY2012**

**Metro Animal Care and Control Comparison FY2007-FY2012**

