

Metro Animal Care and Control Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2013

Present:

- Members:** Dr. Bill Paul, Joy Beach, Council Lady Karen Bennett, Councilman Phil Claiborne, Jon Cole, David Collins, Marc Stevenson, Shannon Poindexter, Dr. Tobe Singleton, Judy Ladebauche
- Staff:** Dr. Brent Hager, Tom Sharp; recording: Martha Bickley
- Guests:** Natalie Corwin, UPAW designee; Rick DuCharme, Target Zero Inc.; Jon Cicerelli, San Jose, CA Animal Care and Service Director

Dr. Paul called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of March 13, 2013 Minutes

Jon Cole made a motion to approve the March 13, 2013 minutes as written. Council Lady Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Welcome New Members

Tom Sharp introduced new member Dr. Tobe Singleton, a veterinarian at Southside Animal Hospital, and Shannon Poindexter, Assistant District Attorney General.

Ms. Poindexter stated that she has met with Judy Ladebauche with the purpose of developing training for the Animal Control officers related to more aggressive pursuit of cruelty and neglect cases.

MACC Update

Dr. Paul stated that the Rescue Partner Program was being reviewed and finalized by Metro Legal; the Volunteer program was being reinvigorated and a volunteer information session was scheduled for May 25; breed criteria was being removed from MACC's practices; and visibility of adoptable animals was being increased greatly with Pets of the Week on Channel 2, Channel 3, in The City Paper and The Nashville Scene, and on Petharbor.com and Petfinder.com. He stated that the breed-specific designation for animals older than six months old would be removed once the employees had undergone the SAFER temperament testing training. The training is scheduled in August. He also stated that a revised schedule of fees had been approved by the Board of Health and was moving forward to the Metro Council.

Ms. Ladebauche distributed a draft adoption policy for members' review. Dr. Paul asked members to share their thoughts about the policy with Tom Sharp by mid-June so that a revised draft could be presented at the July 17 meeting.



Draft Adoption Policy
May 2013.pdf

Ms. Ladebauche presented a graph reflecting availability and adoptions of dogs and cats at MACC from January through April 2013.



050813 Availability
and Adoptions January

Target Zero Institute

Dr. Paul introduced Rick DuCharme of Target Zero Institute, also the founder of First Coast No More Homeless Pets. Mr. DuCharme gave a brief overview of the purpose, function and history of his organization, and offered suggestions on how Nashville might accomplish reduced euthanasia rate and increased live release rate. Information about Target Zero Institute can be found at <http://targetzeroinstitute.org/>. Information about First Coast No More Homeless Pets can be found at www.fcnmhp.org.

Mr. Cicerelli recounted San Jose Animal Control's success with Trap, Neuter Release (TNR) programs for cats and reduction of euthanasia rates.

Legislative Update

Councilman Claiborne reported that the revised schedule of fees was tracking with the budget. Dr. Paul noted that the increase of the rabies license fee from \$4.00 to \$6.00 was included in the Metro budget and would pay for three additional staff at MACC.

Council Lady Bennett stated that the anti-tethering legislation was being held until the budget process has been completed.

Review Guidelines for Operations of the Advisory Council

Tom Sharp provided members with a revised copy of the Guidelines for Operations of the Advisory Council. He noted changes that had been made to the document, most substantive being the elimination of term limits. Dr. Paul advised members to convey questions or concerns to Mr. Sharp.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Advisory Council is scheduled on **Wednesday, July 17, 2013** at 3:00 p.m. in Room 212 of the Lentz Public Health Center.

Please mark your calendar for the remaining 2013 meeting dates: July 17 (please note this meeting was originally scheduled on July 10), **September 11** and **November 13**.