

Animal Care and Control Oversight Commission
Meeting Minutes July 30, 2014
7:00 p.m.

ACCOC MEMBERS PRESENT: Veronica Dougherty, Dr. Kerrienne Hanlin, JoAnn Kricker, Ricky Lewis, and Lyn Yelton (Chair)

ACCA STAFF: Jen Callahan, Eddie Crick, Crystal Literal

COUNTY STAFF: Al Wein (Administrator), Jason Allison (Attorney)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting began with the discussion of minutes from 1/28/14 and 4/22/14. The minutes from 1/28/14 were approved with one name correction. Commission member Rick Lewis made a motion to approve the draft minutes for 4/22/14 as written. There were no second motions and the review of the minutes continued. Lyn Yelton recommended revisions including the removal of notes made within the minutes for 4/22/14. The approved revisions will be made and presented to the commission for further review.

Al Wein, County Administrator, reviewed questions that were asked during public comment at the April meeting.

Administrative

The Commission then set the dates for the next quarterly meeting, which will be held on November 6, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

New Business

The Commission then reviewed A Buddy for Life's quarterly report for the Third quarter of 2014. The report was presented by Jen Callahan and Eddie Crick of A Buddy for Life. During the report they also gave some insight as to how some things are done at A Buddy for Life. In their report they defined what an animal control incident was, gave examples of patrol checks, and explained how they present the animal control incident reports. In addition they explained how different dog calls are handled. (stray dog, vicious dog, dog bite cases, and repeat offender cases). The process of owner surrender was explained. The group reporting that they ask for a \$25 voluntary donation when someone is surrendering an animal.

Lyn Yelton asked A Buddy for Life how the process of kennel and cattery registration was going? Jen Callahan said that follow up letters were sent to those who may be operating without a license. In addition the officers have made home visits in order to inform those who are not aware.

Ms. Yelton also expressed that she was concerned with A Buddy for Life's financial report going into the red this quarter. Lyn Yelton explained that she felt that the staffing costs were too high when considering there are 16 county controlled dogs at the facility on average day. Jen Callahan of A Buddy for Life explained to Mrs. Yelton that A Buddy for Life still has an obligation to provide the county with a shelter where animals can be adopted. Ms. Callahan also mentioned that the shelter operation has overhead costs for providing the staff to facilitate these services. She mentioned that the shelter needed staff to maintain other services provided in addition to

kennel work. Jen Callahan expressed concern and explained that in a shelter facility, someone could have to surrender 24 plus animals on any average day and then the shelter would become overwhelmed if kennel space was not available. Ms. Yelton also mentioned that she felt the cost per dog was also too high. Mr. Lewis expressed that the existing budget and staff numbers were lower than that of our neighboring counties. He also expressed that most of the animals coming into the facility do need additional vet care upon intake. He expressed his concern that a lower budget and fewer kennels could cut our ACCA short of what they may need.

Old Business

Jen Callahan gave a brief review of the coordinated efforts between A Buddy for Life and emergency services. She expressed that their emergency response plan got its first successful workout this quarter, when they had to respond to a complex fire in Perryville. A Buddy for Life worked with Emergency services and residents to give shelter to their animals until housing arrangements could be made.

Rick Lewis briefly reviewed the list of pet friendly housing communities he generated to be offered as a reference to the community through A Buddy for Life's website. Mr. Lewis also expressed that he would be getting the dates of the next low cost vet clinics soon and would have them posted through A Buddy for Life. He also asked the public for prospective clinic locations for a clinic in the Elkton area.

New Business

Lyn Yelton recommended the development of some on site based, multi-agency outreach programs (low cost microchips, low cost spay/neuter and vaccines). This would be done in conjunction with offering incentives and education. Other Commission members agreed and supported the idea. Mr. Lewis mentioned that A Buddy for Life was planning a similar vaccine event to be held in August. The event will include coordinated efforts from rescue groups and emergency services. Public education would also be a part of this event. He mentioned that some of these events are offered at various communities at different times. He would report back on the upcoming dates and communities. JoAnn Kricker also mentioned the educational dog walks that they organized at Fair Hill. She reported that these type programs are being well received by the community. Dr. Hanlin mentioned that her practice is educating the public with flyers given to customers. Dr. Hanlin expressed that other doctors may allow the distribution of educational material in their practices also.

Public Comment

Questions and Answers

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- Q1.** What is the relationship between Ricky Lewis and A Buddy for Life, Inc.?
- Q2.** Why was Shawn Soldon inspection delayed?
- Q3.** Why is Lynn Yelton still an ACCOC member subsequent to resolution of ethics charges filed against her?
- Q4.** Is there a breakdown between complaints logged by AB4L and incidents?

- Q5. Has there been a financial audit of AB4L?
- Q6. Is there an update on Dr. Carletti regarding AB4L's and/or the County's response to sanctions imposed by the Maryland Board of Veterinarian Examiners in June, 2014? When will such sanctions be addressed by AB4L and/or the County?
- Q7. Who is responsible for dealing with the sanctions and consent order entered against Dr. Carletti by the Maryland State Board of Veterinary Examiners?
- Q8. Why were Dr. Carletti's sanctions not on the ACCOC agenda for July 30, 2014?
- Q9. Who inspects ABFL animals on 2nd floor?
- Q10. How can ABFL charge IRS mileage reimbursement?
- Q11. How many animals have been seen by other veterinarians in Rainbow Kennel?
- Q12. Who paid Crystal Litteral fine?
- Q13. Did Shawn Soldon's dog die because of application of ice by ABFL?
- Q14. Why are Rainbow Kennel and ABFL not licensed?
- Q15. Has anything been done about feral cat colony survey?
- Q16. Are ABFL and Animal Control one in the same?
- Q17. Why was Brittney not euthanized?

Secretary:  _____