

Animal Control Advisory Board Minutes

2016 1st Qtr. Meeting

Date: March 24th, 2016

Location: City Hall / City Council Chambers

Time: 6:00 PM

The 2016 1st Qtr Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

ROLLCALL

Attending:

Royce Williams	MCPD – Chair
Alijah Hunter	Animal Control
Chris Schwanke	City Council
Karen Edwards	Michiana Humane Society

Absent:

Rex Bailey	Veterinarian (MC Animal Hospital)
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The determination of a quorum was made.

Minutes of the last Animal Board meeting - APPROVED

New Business:

None

Unfinished business:

Ordinance regarding the “Urban Chickens” – the amended ordinance has been forwarded to the City Council Attorney, the hard copy (proposal) will be read and addressed at the 2nd Qtr Meeting. The finished product, if any at all will probably take 3-6 months to come to fruition.

Julie Sosa (Public Comment) spoke on this matter and was opposed to having chickens within the city limits because of the following reasons to name a few:

1. More work for Alijah who's a one man division.
2. Dogs in neighboring yards going after them.
3. Cats going after them.
4. Will bring more Coyotes in town.
5. Chance of pet dog/cat being put down because they attacked a chicken.

Royce Williams mentioned that prior to the meeting he spoke with Dr. Rex Bailey who couldn't make this meeting due to 3 scheduled surgeries, but advised he was also against having chickens in city limits and would speak further on that matter during the 2nd Qtr Meeting.

Councilman Chris Schwanke reiterated that there's a long process to go with the proposed ordinance regarding "Urban Chickens" and that all the points that Julie Sosa brought up were valid.

Alijah Hunter mentioned that he's already dealing with some citizens within the city limits trying to bring them up to our current code in regards to their chickens...he is also opposed to loosening the ordinance to allow more chickens within city limits.

MOU Amendments – moving forward with changes regarding pay-outs to the following:

Michiana Humane Society
Fried's Cat Shelter
LaPorte County Small Animal Shelter

This reflects a change as the previous pay-outs were determined to be:

Independent Cat Society
Fried's Cat Shelter
LaPorte County Small Animal Shelter

The MOU's will need to be directed to the City Attorney or City Council Attorney for review and advise how to move forward.

District 1 Activities:

Alijah took part in a Table Top Exercise at Ivy Tech in Valparaiso involving the Districts Housing Plan.

Review of the Michigan City Animal Control Activities, 2nd Qtr 2016:

Animal Bites:	17
Neglect Case:	0
Dog Impounds:	30
Cat Impounds:	5
Dogs Transported to LSAS/MHS:	0
Cats Transported to Frieds:	3

Euthanized: 2 Cats (Illness)
Citations Issued: 12 (25 violations)

Fund Disbursement Reports:

Per the MOU, reports will be forwarded at the end of every QTR. See Attached.

Comments from the Public:

Julie Sosa mentioned regarding the Officer Volunteer Program, may she put supply boxes together for them to keep in their vehicles, they will contain a leash, leads, sheets, food, treats, etc.

Julie Sosa also inquired on the city's TNR Program and if it's still active since it's coming up on cat season – Royce Williams explained that the city signed an MOU in 2009 to participate with this program and we all believe in it, but after a neighbor/complainant is educated about TNR but still wants the feral cats removed, it is the city's responsibility to those tax payers to remove/capture the cats causing nuisance.

Comments from the Board:

None

The next Board meeting will be announced via e-mail

The Animal Advisory Board formally adjourned

**Royce Williams
Chief of Services**