



Municipality of Anchorage
Animal Control Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2018



1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. by Ms. Hamer. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Allegra Hamer, Chair; Mitzi Bolanos, Vice Chair; Jay Jackson; Michelle Sinnott; Cathy Foerster; Tim Ebben; Jennifer Spencer; Pamela Schamber

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: DeeAnn Fetko, Anchorage Health Department (AHD); Michael Tierney, AHD; Kristin Troxell, AHD; Myra Wilson, Animal Licensing and Placement Services (ALPS); Laura Atwood, ALPS

2. **Minutes from the October 25, 2018 Meeting:** Ms. Foerster made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sinnott. The minutes were approved as written.

3. **Requested Presentations:** None.

4. **Persons to be Heard:**

Marilyn Hauser – Stated the situation with the dogs living in the vehicle in the residential neighborhood was a real tragedy and would like to see changes made to Title 17 to assist with these types of situations.

5. **Standing Reports:**

Anchorage Animal Care and Control (AACC) Monthly Report and Public Outreach

Dr. Wilson and Ms. Atwood reported on November 2018.

The total number of animals received year-to-date (YTD) as of November 2018 was 4,427 compared to 4,211 in 2017 for the same time period. A total of 147 cats and 156 dogs were received during November 2018. The 2018 YTD claim rate was 48% and the adoption rate was 71%. The cat claim rate during November 2018 was 20% and the dog claim rate was 80%. The total number of dog licenses sold during November was 587 compared to 405 last year. The total number of requests for service YTD was 4,869. Four animals were classified during November 2018 with a total of 55 classifications YTD. A total of 937 NOV's have been issued YTD. Animal bites YTD is 558, a decrease compared

to last year at 580. The number of spay/neuter surgeries performed YTD at AACC is 436 compared to 399 YTD 2017.

Community Outreach:

- Monthly pet supplies and pet food giveaway.

School Visits:

- Ms. Atwood presented to 50 students in kindergarten through 6th grade at Rogers Park Elementary on how to be safe around dogs to help prevent dog bites.

Media Requests:

- Interview with KTUU about non-monetary ways for the community to give to AACC on Giving Tuesday.
- Interview with KTVA about the importance of microchipping animals. This story was inspired by a Facebook post regarding a cat who had been missing for four years and was able to be reunited with his owner due to the cat being microchipped.
- Interview with KTVA regarding the three dogs living in a car, specifically the dog that bit someone.
- KTVA 11 Daybreak Adopt-a-Pet: Adoptable pets are featured either by video or photos on Friday morning. There is also a Caption Contest photo on the AACC Facebook page on Thursday. The hosts of Daybreak pick and feature the winner on Friday's show.
- Mix 103.1 – Weekly show on Wednesday's at 8:30 a.m. includes both on-air time and Facebook Live. The talking points from November included; helping animals after the earthquake, holiday safety tips for Thanksgiving & health effects on cats of being overweight.

Facebook:

- Facebook followers – 14,272 as of November 30th.
- Top five Facebook posts (1) Lost animals at AACC on day of earthquake, (2) What to do with a found animal on day of earthquake, (3) Tango (adoptable dog) in manners class (4) Cat reunited with owner in one hour due to Facebook post, and (5) The October numbers for adoptions and reunions.
- Health Department Health Beat Newsletter – Submitted article about adopting senior animals for National Adopt-a-Senior month.

6. **Committee Reports:**

- a. **Off-Leash Dog Area Committee – (Cathy Foerster)** – University Lake off-leash dog park does not have sufficient funds to construct all the upgrades that have been proposed. A survey is being conducted to help identify community priorities at University Lake. There is a proposed dog park in the Muldoon area that was added to the master plan.

- b. Title 17 Review Committee – (Mitzi Bolanos)** – The Title 17 subcommittee held several teleconferences and meetings to included MOA legal and Animal Care and Control. Ms. Bolanos explained the discussions that took place and the proposed changes. Legal had expressed concerns about the enforceability on the shelter requirements. There was much discussion on how to distinguish an outdoor dog and/or whether to incorporate a time or incimate weather condition for enforcement. The ACAB discussed the different proposals and decided on no time or weather conditions on the shelter requirements. Instead the “care and sanitation” section of the code was revised to remove inclement weather and add “humane care” which is already defined in the code and includes weather. Examples of what is inadequate shelter are included in the draft. Ms. Bolanos will update the draft revisions incorporating the changes proposed from the discussion and send to Michael Tierney for a final legal review. Ms. Bolanos made a motion to approve changes to Title 17. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ebben. The motion passed unanimously.

7. DHHS Staff Reports:

Michael Tierney, AHD – The Assembly approved changing the name of the Department of Health and Human Services to the Anchorage Health Department. The contract with Animal Licensing and Placement Services has been renewed for 2019. There is a new link available on the AACC website to update Emergency Preparedness volunteers. Volunteers can submit and update their information online. The Assembly vote no on a proposal for members of the public to use fireworks during the New Year’s holiday. The detrimental effect fireworks can have upon animals was of public concern.

8. Old Business: None.

9. New Business:

The Assembly asked the ACAB to review proposed AO No. 2018-112(S) – Chronic Animal Noise. The ACAB support the new language with one change; replacing “continuous dog barking” with “repeated vocalization by a dog barking for more than five minutes” because the word “continuous” has been ambiguous and problematic in the past. Ms. Foerster made a motion to support AO No. 2018-112(S) with the amendment language. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jackson. The motion passed by majority vote.

10. Informational Items:

- a. Next Regular Meeting** – The next regular board meeting will be held Thursday, January 24, 2019, at 5:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment: Ms. Jackson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spencer. With no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.