Municipality of Anchorage

Animal Control Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2018

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Ms. Hamer. A quorum was present.

   Members Present: Allegra Hamer, Chair; Christine Roalofs, Vice Chair; Jennifer Spencer, Cathy Foerster, Jay Jackson, Michelle Sinnott, Tim Ebben

   Members Absent: Mitzi Bolanos; Ashley Harmon

   Staff Present: Michael Tierney, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); Kristin Troxell, DHHS; Myra Wilson, Animal Licensing and Placement Services (ALPS)

2. **Minutes from the March 22, 2018 Meeting:**
   Ms. Foerster made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Ms. Spencer. The minutes were approved as written.

3. **Requested Presentations:** None.

4. **Persons to be Heard:**

   Barbara Carlson, Friends of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge (FAR) – FAR is seeking ACAB's support for a resolution to prohibit dogs and other domestic animals at the Campbell Creek Estuary Natural Area (CCENA). During the past month, the group has received support from the Wildflower Garden Club and the Spenard Community Council. They are scheduled on the Parks and Recreation Commission agenda for the May 10th meeting.

   Loch Anderson – Discussed concerns with recent closures at both Valley of the Moon and Arctic/Benson dog parks. Ms. Anderson suggested that dog park closures be communicated to the public in advance of a closure. Additionally, closures should be coordinated to limit closures to one park within an area at a time so the public still has access close by to exercise their dogs.

   Marilyn Houser – Thanked ACAB for supporting the resolution for CCENA.

   Wayne Hall – Thanked ACAB for supporting the resolution for CCENA.

5. Standing Reports:

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

Myra Wilson reported on March 2018.

The total number of animals received year-to-date during 2018 was 949. A total of 361 animals were received during March 2018 compared to 343 animals during March 2017. AACC took in 70 cats from one location. The cats were retrieved at a trailer where the owner was feeding the cats; some cats were feral and some belonged to the owner. The trailer has been deemed unsafe for human living but the cats continue to visit the trailer looking for food. Approximately 50 of the cats recovered were feral and had to be euthanized. The March 2018 cat claim rate was 16% and the cat adoption rate was 75%. The March 2018 dog claim rate was 71% and the dog adoption rate was 79%. The total number of dog licenses sold year-to-date during 2018 is 1,365. During the month of March 2018, there were 574 dog licenses sold, very close to the number sold during March 2017. The total number of requests for service during March 2018 was 416. The total number of requests for service year-to-date 2018 was 998. There were 7 classifications made during March 2018. The total number of Notice of Violations (NOV) issued during March 2018 was 81. Year-to-date the total number of NOVs issued was 187. Animal bites during March 2018 were 47, year-to-date is 118.

There were no media requests for March 2018.

Outreach Events during March 2018:

- Mayor Berkowitz attended the monthly pet food and supplies give-away. He worked with an AACC volunteer handing out pet food. Mr. Berkowitz commented he loved how this event brings the community together. He met with our partners Straw for Dogs and Alaska SPCA at the event.
- Laura Atwood, Sue Mayo, and Linus (Sue's cat) attended the March Assembly meeting when the funds from the Hill's Shelter Tales Contest were appropriated.

Shelter Tours and School Presentations during March 2018:

- Presented to 23 students at Aquarian Charter School.

Facebook for 2018:

- Facebook Followers – 12,613 as of April 2, 2018.
- Percentage of unique users who saw AACC content and engaged with our content from March to April was 18%.
- Top posts for this month featured staff members; which allows the community to relate to AACC as people rather than an agency.

6. Committee Reports:

a. Off-Leash Dog Area Committee – (Cathy Foerster)

Scoop the Poop Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 28th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at South Anchorage, University Lake, and Connors Bog dog parks. Mr. Ebben announced a Public Meeting regarding dog parks for the Eagle River area which will be held May 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Business Park in Eagle River. They will be discussing the possibility of adding dog parks in Peters Creek and at Firehouse Lane in Eagle River.

b. Title 17 Review Committee – (Mitzi Bolanos)

Mr. Tierney presented the committee updates to Title 17. The draft was revised based on ACAB input from the March 2018 ACAB meeting. Ms. Foerster made a motion to support the draft of Title 17 presented with the revisions as written. Motion was seconded by Ms. Sinnott. Approved unanimously. The proposed changes will be forwarded to the MOA Legal Department for review.

7. DHHS Staff Reports:

Michael Tierney, DHHS Administration – Ashley Harmon has been appointed by the Anchorage Assembly as a new ACAB member, she will be in attendance at the May 2018 ACAB meeting.

8. Old Business:

Chronic Animal Noise Definition Proposal – Ms. Jackson made a motion not to support the proposed revision to AMC 17.050.010, after ACAB consideration the current code is sufficient. ACAB believes that the proposed language would have unintended consequences. Motion was seconded by Ms. Forester. Approved unanimously.

Friends of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge – Campbell Creek Estuary Natural Area (CCENA) Resolution – Ms. Jackson made a motion for ACAB to support the resolution to prohibit dogs and other domestic animals at CCENA. It was discussed the ordinance change was more of a Title 21 issue and does not belong in Title 17. The motion was seconded by Ms. Foerster. Approved unanimously.

9. Informational Items:

a. Ms. Hamer requested a facility tour at the June or July ACAB meeting. Tour will be scheduled with Ms. Atwood.
b. Next Regular Meeting – The next regular board meeting will be held Thursday, May 24, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. in the classroom at the Animal Care and Control Center located at 4711 Elmore Road.

10. Adjournment: Ms. Foerster made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Ms. Spencer. With no objections, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.