



Municipality of Anchorage
Animal Control Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2017



1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Ms. Hamer. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Allegra Hamer, Chair; Christine Roalofs, Vice Chair; Jay Jackson, Mitzi Bolanos; Kari Campbell

Members Absent: Cathy Foerster; Jennifer Spencer; Sandy Traini

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

2. **Minutes from the July 27, 2017 Meeting:** Ms. Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes. Motioned seconded by Ms. Roalofs. The minutes were approved as written. Allegra welcomed the newest ACAB member, Mitzi Bolanos.
3. **Requested Presentations:** None.
4. **Persons to be Heard:** None.
5. **Standing Reports:**

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

Laura Atwood reported on July monthly report.

During the month of July 2017, AACC took in 82 more animals than during July 2016; 447 animals during July 2017 compared to 365 during July 2016. Total number of animals received year-to-date during 2017 has increased from 2016, there were 257 more animals received during 2017. Feral cats received year-to-date in 2017 was 5 compared to 35 during 2016. The number of Notice of Violations (NOVs) issued in 2017 is down from 2016, 560 NOVs during 2017 compared to 621 during 2016. The total number of requests for service during July 2017 has decreased compared to May 2016; 584 requests during July 2017 compared to 623 during July 2017. Year-to-date the total number of requests for service received during 2017 has decreased; 3,256 calls received during 2017 compared to 3,493 during 2016. There were 59 more dog licenses sold during July 2017 compared to 2016. The cat claim rate for July 2017 was 31%, previous high was in the low 20's. Possibly due to social media posting on Facebook. The cat adoption rate for July 2017 was 105%. (Percentage exceeds 100% when there are more adoptions than

intakes for the month, for instance cats taken in June but adopted out in July would reflect in June's intake numbers and July's adoption numbers.)

Laura Atwood reported on July public outreach activity.

Media requests:

- KTUU completed an interview regarding keeping pets safe during the 4th of July holiday. Reviewed tips on what to do if you lose your dog or if you find a dog and how to keep your dog calm if there are fireworks in your neighborhood.
- KTVA and FOX ran a final stories on the discounted cat adoption event. The interviews went over the details of the event, the purpose of the event, and the sponsors of the event.
- KTUU came to film adopters at the discounted cat adoption event and completed an interview about the event.

AACC participated in the following outreach activity:

- Participated in the Municipality's July 4th Parade.
- Staffed a table at the Bark in the Park public event.
- July monthly pet supply and giveaway at AACC.
- Staffed a table at the Friends of Pets Annual Dog Jog. Talked with public about adoption and licensing.
- Discounted Cat Adoption Event held due to the large number of cats in the shelter. The event was very successful, 11 cats were adopted the night before because adopters came in to "preview" adoptable cats and chose to adopt at full price rather than risk losing that cat to another adopter at the event. Another 25 cats were adopted on the day of the event.

Shelter Tours & School Visits during July:

- Shelter tours for Hope Community Resources for autistic children in their summer camp programs.

6. Committee Reports:

a. Off-Leash Dog Area Committee – (Michael Tierney reporting for Cathy Foerster)

- South Anchorage Sports Park: Phase One improvements are finishing up, Parks and Recreation is confident that they can build the dog park this fall; although it may not open until the grass seed grows next spring. There will be two dog park areas; one for dogs of all weights that will include a soft-surface trail loop and another fenced area for small dogs under 25 lbs. They are currently testing the water in the existing irrigation lines to see if water is potable to add a watering area for dogs. They are getting quotes for the fence installation and the other construction work needed to complete the rest of the dog park project.

- Valley of the Moon Park: The dog park fence should go back up at the end of September.
- Arctic Benson Park: The blue fence at this park will be up for one year and taken down mid-summer 2018 to allow grass to establish.

b. Title 17 Review Committee – (Kari Campbell)

The subcommittee met during August; however, they are not ready to share the drafts of the changes to Title 17. They are expecting to have the draft ready for review at the regular September ACAB meeting.

7. DHHS Staff Reports:

Michael Tierney, DHHS Administration – No updates on the 2018 budget.

8. New Business:

Reading to Rover – ACAB received a letter from Ashley Perry, local youth who started a reading to animals program in Anchorage. Ms. Campbell contacted Ashely and co-hosted an event at Alaska Mill & Feed's adoption event. They set up a tent and volunteer youth read to dogs during the adoption event. A total of 49 children participated during the four hour event. Ashely would like to work with AACC to have a similar program where children could come to AACC accompanied by a parent could read to animals. Ms. Campbell will send the information to Mr. Tierney. The ACAB members are in support of this program pending a risk and legal review.

9. Informational Items:

- a. Next Regular Meeting – The next regular board meeting will be held Thursday, September 28, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the classroom at the Animal Care and Control Center located at 4711 Elmore Road.
- b. Next Title 17 Committee Meeting – The next meeting will be held Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in the classroom at the Animal Care and Control Center.

10. Adjournment: Ms. Campbell made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Ms. Roalofs. With no objections the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.