



Municipality of Anchorage
Animal Control Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2017



1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m. by Ms. Hamer. A quorum was present.

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

Members Absent: Cathy Foerster; Sandy Traini

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

2. **Minutes from the August 24, 2017 Meeting:** Ms. Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes. Motioned seconded by Ms. Spencer. The minutes were approved with a spelling correction in Section 8 New Business.

3. **Requested Presentations:** None.

4. **Persons to be Heard:**

Mark Goodman – He owns a dog that was classified as a Level 4 following an incident where the dog was loose and bit a young boy. The incident happened two days before the dog turned two years old. The dog is a herding type dog and he feels like the age and breed of dog should be taken into consideration when classifying a dog. Mr. Goodman stated the dog had not shown aggression previous to this incident. He does not have a fenced yard and the dog got away from his 20 year old son. He recommends Title 17 be amended to take a dog's age into account when classifying dogs, allowing for an immediate corrective action for young dogs rather than having a two year waiting period to be able to request reclassification. Mr. Goodman stated it is sad his dog is will never again be allowed to run and play in a dog park. The hearing number related to the incident is A17-034530.

Mr. Goodman was informed that an appeal to a hearing officer's decision is to the Superior Court.

5. **Standing Reports:**

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

Myra Wilson reported on August 2017.

Total number of animals received year-to-date during 2017 (3030) has increased from 2016 (2780), by 250 more animals. This is the first increase in several years. During the month of August 2017, AACC took in 7 fewer animals than during August 2016; 406 animals (161 cats, 199 dogs & 46 others) during August 2017 compared to 413 animals (187 cats, 193 dogs & 33 others) during August 2016.

The cat claim rate for August 2017 was 32%. The cat adoption rate for August 2017 was 63%. The dog claim rate for August 2017 was 86%. The dog adoption rate for August 2017 was 73%. Total number of licenses sold year-to-date during 2017 (4357) has slightly decreased from 2016 (4359), there were 2 fewer licenses sold during 2017. During the month of August 2017 (576), 61 fewer licenses were sold than during August 2016 (637).

The total number of requests for service during August 2017 has increased compared to August 2016; 596 requests during August 2017 compared to 535 during August 2016. 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. The total number of reported bites during August 2017 has increased compared to August 2016; 71 requests during August 2017 compared to 65 during August 2016. Year-to-date the total number of reported bites during 2017 has increased; 461 reported bites during 2017 compared to 416 during 2016.

Laura Atwood reported on August activity.

Media requests:

- No media requests during August.

AACC participated in the following outreach activity:

- Staffed a table at Alaska Mill and Feed's Summer Adoption Event. This event was very well-attended and gave AACC many opportunities to talk about licensing and the services they offer.

Shelter Tours & School Visits during August:

- No tours or school visits during August.

6. Committee Reports:

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

- No updates.

b. Title 17 Review Committee – (Kari Campbell)

- The committee continues to meet and work on Title 17.

7. DHHS Staff Reports:

Michael Tierney, DHHS Administration – The DHHS budget for 2018 is expected to be flat funded, pending Assembly approval. The previously discussed potential cut of 10% that would have significantly impacted the AACCC contract is no longer being considered; however, the contract escalator will not be included in the budget.

8. New Business: None

9. Informational Items:

- a. Ms. Campbell discussed a situation where one of her clients was unexpectedly found deceased in her apartment, she had two animals in the residence. Ms. Campbell was very impressed with the way the situation was handled by AACCC and the MOA Police Department. She thanked AACCC for their services.
- b. Next Regular Meeting – The next regular board meeting will be held Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the classroom at the Animal Care and Control Center located at 4711 Elmore Road.
- c. Next Title 17 Committee Meeting – The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 12, 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. Spencer. With no objections the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.