

City of Lakewood's Animal Safety & Welfare Advisory Board

March 2012 Meeting Notes

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Kim McCarty
Peter Grossetti
Karolyn Isenhardt
Nancy Patterson
Melissa Lmkemann, ADH
Juleen Russell
Kurt Bialosky, Lakewood ACO
Dawn Pyne, CCLAS
Captain Stone, LPD
Helen Gaidelis, CCLAS
Allen Mayer, Breed Neutral Lakewood
Carla Borchelt, Breed Neutral Lakewood
Morgan McPhersan.

Kim started the meeting. Welcomes and introductions. The January 2012 Meeting minutes were approved.

TNR (Trap Neuter Return) Updates: 23 cats were part of the program as reported to Petsmart Charities for October through December 2011. There are 5-7 new cats at feed stations. Councilman Kevin Butler has indicated that trapping on Newman Avenue is OK. There are approximately 10-12 cats in the area, two of which have been gone through the TNR program. The first set of babies this year were a mother with 5 kittens, of those two are now diseased.

506.04 viscous animals ordinance was updated in February to include a provision that allows veterinarians, animal hospitals and animal rescues/shelters to have dogs which are prohibited. This allowance would be for 60 days. (See attached copy.) This development had not been something the committee was aware of before today's meeting. No one expressed any objections to new allowance being provided in the ordinance, although some of the new language could be considered open ended/leave the door open to a myriad of interpretations and/or misinterpretations. Kim said that she'd talk to the Director of Public Safety and Councilman Anderson. As much as possible we would like to be proactive more so than reactive with our feedback on animal related items coming before the committee/council and talk about coming up with ideas on a cleaner process.

Animal Limits Considerations: Elaine has previously indicated that they have not noticed a city wide issue. Captain Stone and ACO Bialosky confirmed this and said they did not feel it was a problem in the community. Captain Stone said that most issues coming from a problematic situation could be addressed by enforcing existing laws. He gave the example of back yard breeders needing the proper zoning for such operations. Furthermore, in specific cases where it's been determined that a person has more animals than they can properly care for, a judge could set limitations. After all things considered over the past several meetings, the committee does not recommend limiting the number of animals

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residents can have. Kim will report to Councilwoman Mary Louise Madigan with our findings on this topic.

LASWAB has some terms expiring on May 16th, 212: Juleen Russell, Nancy Patterson, Doctor Rog, Peter Grossetti, and Kim McCarty. Please contact the person who sponsored you if you're interested in another term on the Board. Kim said that she feels it's time for a new representation in the Board Chair's position. She asked that everyone consider their interest. We will revisit at our May 16th meeting.

2012 Initiatives: We agreed that we would like to further our Education initiatives and further them within the community.

ACO Bialosky and Chief Stone said their primary 'animal related issues' included wildlife, barking dogs, unleashed pets, just where companion dogs are permitted to go and where they are not, and cat's should not be running around.

Wednesday, April 25th is the "Welcome to Lakewood" event for newer residents. Peter said he will coordinate LASWAB's involvements.

Lakewood Observer Feature: We'd like to submit a "Spring's Here" type of 'good practices' reminder.

Dog Park Update: Karolyn said the Friends of the Lakewood Dog Park and the city are considering updating the rules and enforcement details. This could be a super education opportunity for the LASWAB.

Hens in Lakewood: Karolyn indicated that there will be a public forum at the library on March 26th where residents can learn about the pilot and discuss their thoughts. Several Council members have indicated they will be in attendance.

Karolyn said *The New Metropolis* is a documentary and film about America's first suburbs and a community engagement project airing on Wednesday, March 28th which features many of the issues facing inner ring suburbs like Lakewood. Catch it if you can. More info at www.thenewmetropolis.com

ACO Bialosky handed out the latest animal reporting figures from their office. Dawn pointed out that CCLAS is working on provided updated numbers which give more information on the "expired" column, as many of those animals expired due to natural causes and not euthanasia. Stay tuned.