

Lakewood Animal Safety Welfare Advisory Board

January 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Location: Lakewood City Hall

Present: Board Members: Kara Vlach-Lasher, Erin Shaughnessy, Derek Maxfield, Nancy Patterson, Sue Speer, Mary Bank and ACO Jack Crawford.

Not Present: Board Members: Juleen Russell

Animal Safety and Welfare Advisory Board Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

- I. Welcome and roll call – Board member Vlach-Lasher conducted. Six voting board members present, one member not present, two open appointments. ACO Crawford present. No councilperson assigned to LASWAB yet in 2018.
- II. Welcome to new board member Mary Bank, appointed by Councilperson Meghan George.
- III. Approval of December 13, 2017 meeting minutes – a motion was made by Kara Vlach-Lasher to approve and seconded by Sue Speer. Motion approved by affirmative vote.
- IV. Approval of January 11, 2017 committee meeting minutes – a motion was made by Kara Vlach-Lasher to approve and seconded by Derek Maxfield. Motion approved by affirmative vote.
- V. Coyote Task Group update:
 - a. ACO Jack Crawford reported that another adult male coyote was taken out in a snare behind Marine Towers West. There is currently one snare set on Nicholson Avenue at a resident's request.
 - b. Cleveland Metroparks Wildlife Ecologist, Jon Cepek, will present information about coyotes on 2/24/18 at the Rocky River Nature Center (and also did a presentation on 1/10/18). Kara Vlach-Lasher submitted a request to promote the information about the presentation on to the City of Lakewood website and /or social media.
 - c. Erin Shaughnessy will send out a link to the board of a google doc to sign up for streets to do a literature drop of the coyote flyers. Kara Vlach-Lasher has email into city to endorse the plan and see if there is help available from H2O for the lit drop.
 - d. Request was submitted to post coyote info into the water bill statements. Waiting to hear back from the city on if/when the info will be posted.
 - e. Motion was made by Kara Vlach-Lasher to postpone the coyote community education program to a date in the summer, and was seconded by Erin Shaughnessy. Motion approved by affirmative vote.
- VI. Spay/Neuter Day final update – Kara Vlach-Lasher submitted the report to Cindy Marx and is waiting to hear back as to whether or not Cindy sent the report to the Mayor and to Council. Will update next month.
- VII. Report – ACO off-hours stray animal hold – Melissa Limkemann 's report was submitted with the Spay and Neuter report to Cindy Marx and are waiting to hear back as to whether or not Cindy sent the report to the Mayor and to Council.
- VIII. Report – 2017 Monthly print articles:
 - a. Raising Chickens in Lakewood article (by Board member Maxfield) was posted on the Lakewood City website in the animal section.
 - b. What to do when you find a stray dog (Board member Speer) – deferred to next meeting.
 - c. Winter pet safety (Board members Russell/Maxfield) – deferred to next meeting.Derek Maxfield suggested that we might want to see if we can have our own LASWAB Facebook page (and state on the page that we will not take comments). Derek will contact Melissa

Garrett or Katie Nix to see if we can have our own section on the city's website as well. The current "Animals in Lakewood" page does not appear to be as user friendly as it could possibly be.

NEW Business:

- IX. Election of New Officers – Kara Vlach-Lasher distributed a brief description of officer duties and asked board members to consider positions and nominations. Discussions were held about waiting to hold elections until next meeting in hopes of having a full board, and allow members to contemplate officer positions. Motion to defer nominations and elections to February meeting made by Kara Vlach-Lasher and seconded by Sue Speer.
- X. Board Initiative for 2018 and committee designations/sign-ups: Discussion on the four major Board initiatives for 2018 and the required participation on committees. It was agreed that each board member would participate in at least one committee (preferably two) in the upcoming year.
Kara Vlach-Lasher prepared a signup sheet and passed it around to the Board to sign up to be on the committee for at least one (preferably 2) of the four initiatives planned for 2018:
1. Coyote Education & Outreach
 2. Dog Ordinances
 3. Spay and Neuter Education & Outreach
 4. Community Dog Bite Prevention Education
- XI. Proposed Dog Ordinance Discussion:
- a. Discussed summary of what transpired at the 1/16/18 City Council meeting. The Mayor dropped various portions of his original proposed dog ordinance changes. He proposed keeping the following for Pitbulls: Mandatory spay/neuter, must wear a harness, \$100K insurance and required training for owners. City Council also made a motion and it was approved, to move the Dog Ordinance legislation work from the Public Safety Committee to the Committee of the Whole. Kara Vlach-Lasher prepared and delivered a statement on the proposed dog ordinance at the meeting. A representative from Best Friends Animal Society also spoke at the meeting. To watch/listen to a recording of the meeting you can find it on the City of Lakewood website.
 - b. Had a discussion on the "categories" of dogs in the proposed ordinance and decided the Title/Name of "Potential Nuisance" is confusing and in its current state more closely resembles "Potentially Dangerous".
 - c. Discussed "Dog Bite Reporting" and whether or not people could make reports anonymously. If there is a "victim" then the person must give their name when calling or the victim him/herself will need to call. It is a state law that hospitals are required to report all dog bites to Animal Control.
 - d. Discussed the 6' leash regulation and retractable leashes. Most on the board feel retractable leashes are not safe. Agreed that we should recommend to Council that any dog in the front yard or on the porch must be "under the owner's control" and if tethered and unattended must be six feet (6') from the sidewalk.
 - e. Kara Vlach-Lasher made a motion to refer further and detailed dog ordinance discussion to the LASWAB Dog Ordinance Committee. Sue Speer seconded the motion.
- XII. Lakewood Animal Shelter Report (ACO Crawford) – nothing to report at this time.
- XIII. Public Comment – no members of the public present.

Kara Vlach-Lasher moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:21pm, seconded by Erin Shaughnessy.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE Wednesday, February 21st, at 6pm in Council Conference Room.