

BALTIMORE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMISSION  
September 26, 2017

The twenty-third regular meeting of the Baltimore County Animal Services Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 in the Main Conference Room of the Drumcastle Government Center. This meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm. By the Chair Deborah Stone-Hess. Members in attendance were: Deborah Stone-Hess, Maryanne Bailey, Jon Christiana, Joy Freedman, Ann Gearhart, Roy Plummer, Jean Townsend, VMD, Janice Vincent (by phone) and Julianne Zimmer (by phone).

## **Minutes**

Minutes from the July 18, 2017 meeting were motioned and approved as submitted.

### **Motion**

Motioned by: Joy Freedman  
Second by: Jon Christiana  
Decision: Approved

## **Circus Legislation**

This will have to be put off until another time. The bill was pulled.

## **New Business**

### **Summary of Liaison Committee Meeting**

1. Rescue Well Grant – Baltimore County awarded a twenty-five thousand dollar grant to Rescue Well last November, allowing Rescue Well to do a number of things for BCAS. Rescue Well has used twenty-three thousand of that grant, which is right on time. Fundraising needs to be done to help fund what Rescue Well does for BCAS.
2. Can Rescues use the County's spay/neuter clinics? - No they can not. Many of the animals that go to rescues are already spayed or neutered. This is a service that is paid for by Baltimore County taxpayers.
3. West Side Spay/Neuter Clinic – Baltimore County is trying to promote this clinic in order to increase the number of spay/neuter surgeries.
4. The promotions person hired by BCAS to promote the Spay/Neuter program has left the shelter and will not be replaced.

5. Emergency Response – In the event of a major hurricane or other emergency which forces County residents to evacuate, the County already has community centers that would be used as shelters both for people and pets. Would like to create an emergency one sheet for veterinarians with numbers for emergency situations. Ann mentioned after giving out 800 number for FEMA brochures, the people that requested them, never received any brochures. Deb said that they will ask about FEMA brochures.
6. Kitten Season – BCAS is full with stray cats, litters of kittens and lots of surrendered cats. The foster program is of growing importance. Fosters must be Baltimore County residents. This is a temporary situation, so you are not required to register a fostered animal. Fosters are also needed for cats with upper respiratory infections. These cats only need a very small space, such as a bathroom. They need to be kept confined and quiet for a couple of weeks so they can go back to the shelter. Foster program needs to be promoted.
7. Halloween Promotion – BCAS is planning a Halloween promotion called, “Adoption Spooktacular” on October 13. Volunteers are needed. If interested, contact Heidi Griswold. Ann suggested that instead of saying that cats are free, maybe it could be said that the charges are being underwritten or waved by the County.
8. New Mobile Adoption Vehicle – The name for the new vehicle is, “BCAS Express Cuddle Shuttle.” New uniforms for the Animal Control Officers will have BCAS on the back. This is an effort to promote the BCAS brand.

#### Second Annual Commission Report

There have been some remarkable changes at the shelter. The statistics have improved greatly. The spay/neuter clinics are working. Rescue Well is helping. The volunteer program has improved tremendously.

The request for shelter hours on Sunday are in the report. Joy would like them to hire better people so they can have good staff on Saturday and Sunday.

Marketing was mentioned as well. The new vehicle will help with branding. More marketing is needed. This is the most important request. Ann Gearhart was wondering if when she is speaking at the County libraries, the new mobile vehicle could come. Deb mentioned that it would be nice to promote understanding of what shelters are and the differences between different organizations.

Motion to submit the Commission’s Annual Report:

Motioned by: Roy Plummer

Second by: Joy Freedman

Decision: Approved

**Announcement of Next Meeting Date and Location**

October 17, 2017 at Drumcastle Government Center, 6401 York Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Main Conference Room

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn

Motion by: Maryanne Bailey

Second by: Ann Gearhart

Motion approved.

Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.