

BALTIMORE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMISSION
January 16, 2018

The twenty-fifth regular meeting of the Baltimore County Animal Services Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, in the Main Conference Room of the Drumcastle Government Center. This meeting was called to order at 6:41 p.m. by the Chair, Deborah Stone-Hess. Members in attendance were: Deborah Stone-Hess, Jon Christiana (by phone), Joy Freedman, Ann Gearhart, Roy Plummer, Janice Vincent, and Julianne Zimmer.

Minutes

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

Motion

Motioned by: Ann Gearhart
Second by: Joy Freedman
Decision: Approved

Old Business

Cuddle Shuttle

Cuddle Shuttle is in action and looks great.

Bathroom Issue

The bathroom issue at the Baltimore County Animal Shelter seems to have been resolved since the port-a-potty is no longer there.

New business

BCAS Statistics for Fourth Quarter

The intake of dogs is down, yet the intake for cats have risen. There have been fewer adoptions in 2017 than in 2016 of both dogs and cats. The amount of dogs that were transferred to rescue has lowered, yet the amount of cats that were transferred to rescue has increased, between 2016 and 2017. TNR numbers have more than doubled. Euthanasia for those other than owner requested has decreased for both dogs and cats.

Joy mentioned, and Deborah agreed, that the Commission needs to retrieve the list of all rescues that are working with Baltimore County Animal Shelter and a list of the most active rescues, possibly during the next Liaison Committee Meeting.

Oscar's Death

Don Mohler released a statement that on December 30th, the 15 year old chow chow, Oscar, died of natural causes. Upon the dog's death, the family member taking care of Oscar, took his remains to an emergency veterinarian to be cremated.

Police and Animal Services received information that a dog in the yard in question had froze to death. The police report is confusing and shows conflicting information. An animal control officer was not dispatched, but responded on 1/2/18, with Dr. Jones, when requested by the police.

Social media blew all information out of proportion, which may be why the witness will no longer speak with anyone.

Joy and Julian would like to request call logs from Animal Services as well as the 911 Center logs for the range of December 28, 2017 through January 2, 2018. The lack of transparency or timeline is frustrating.

The summary of the police report was discussed. The State's Attorney's office is investigating whether criminal charges need to be brought against the owner.

E-mail to Fred

Deborah read a draft email that she would like to send to Fred in reference to Oscar's death and how it was handled. The interest of the Commission is whether Animal Services should have responded to the phone calls they received. Had Animal Services responded, could they have been able to save Oscar?

There was a motion to send the amended email:

Motion: Joy Freedman
Second: Jon Christiana

If there is no response within a week, then contact councilmen (women) to attempt to get the animal services reports.

Letter to Councilman (woman)

Joy will be rewriting the letter and then will send it to Commission members to send to their Council representative.

BCASAC Minutes for November 15, 2016

Announcement of Next Meeting Date and Location

February 20, 2018, 6:30 p.m., at Drumcastle Government Center, 6401 York Road, Third Floor, Main Conference Room

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn

Motion by Roy Plummer

Second by Ann Gearhart

Motion approved.

Adjourned at 8:00 p.m.