

BCASAC April 17, 2018

BALTIMORE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMISSION  
April 17, 2018

The twenty-eighth regular meeting of the Baltimore County Animal Services Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, April 17, 2018 in the Main Conference Room of the Drumcastle Government Center. This meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by the Chair Deborah Stone-Hess. Members in attendance were: Deborah Stone-Hess, Maryanne Bailey, Joy Freedman, Roy Plummer, Larry Townsend, Janice Vincent and Julianne Zimmer. Guests that attended were: Candidates for County Executive (Senator Jim Brochin and Johnny Olszewski, Jr.), Gary Klunk, Assistant Director for Animal Services, and Baltimore County Administrative Officer Fred Homan.

**Minutes**

Minutes from the March 27, 2018 meeting were motioned and approved as submitted.

Motioned by: Julianne Zimmer  
Second by: Janice Vincent  
Decision: Approved

Minutes from the February 20, 2018 meeting were motioned and approved with correction.

Motioned by: Joy Freedman  
Second by: Julianne Zimmer  
Decision: Approved

**County Executive Candidates**

Senator Jim Brochin spoke first. He has worked with constituents on several animal legislative issues, including puppy mill legislation and tethering laws. Senator Brochin thinks that the Department of Health should not be in charge of Baltimore County Animal Services but be decentralized with an oversight committee or advisory board. He believes that Animal Services and the Animal Shelter should be separate. When animal issues arise, they should be dealt with as soon as possible and be transparent. He says he would be open to an audit of Baltimore County Animal Services and it could be number one on his agenda on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Johnny Olszewski, Jr. spoke next. He was a lead sponsor in legislation to create pet trusts where people could set up trusts to care for their animal(s) after they die. He says he wants to partner with the Commission and other animal advocates. He wants to encourage an environment where volunteers are welcome at BCAS seven days a week. He would like to build on progress that has already taken place. He has no current position on whether Animal Control and the shelter should be separated but promised the decision would be based on feedback from the Commission and other advocates and believes there should be meaningful citizen input and oversight on all the County would do including BCAS. Transparency is key.

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**Police Animal Abuse Unit**

This Unit is not up and running yet but Ms. Stone-Hess spoke with Capt. Mike Cortes who will be leading the unit and he said he hopes to have it going by the beginning of May.

**Quarterly Statistics**

Quarterly statistics were presented and discussed. All of these statistics can be found on the April post of NotesfromtheChair.com

**Fred Homan/Gary Klunk Q and A**

The Commission asked numerous questions of the County Administrator and Gary Klunk. More information can be found on this Q and A on the April post of NotesfromtheChair.com.

**New Commission Member**

Larry Townsend will be attending in place of Jean Townsend, VMD.

**Administrative Appointment**

The Administration had chosen a new member for the Commission but may need to find someone else due to schedule difficulties for the person that has been appointed.

**Announcement of Next Meeting Date and Location**

May 15, 2018 at Drumcastle Government Center, 6401 York Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Main Conference Room

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn

Motion by: Joy Freedman  
Second by: Julianne Zimmer  
Motion approved.

Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.