

BALTIMORE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMISSION
May 15, 2018

The twenty-ninth regular meeting of the Baltimore County Animal Services Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 in the Main Conference Room of the Drumcastle Government Center. This meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by the Chair Deborah Stone-Hess. Members in attendance were: Deborah Stone-Hess, Jon Christiana (by phone), Joy Freedman, Ann Gearhart, Larry Townsend, and Janice Vincent.

Minutes

Minutes from the April 17, 2018 meeting were motioned and approved as submitted.

Motion –

Motioned by: Joy Freedman

Second by: Ann Gearhart

Decision: Approved

Old Business

Jean Townsend's Replacement

Larry Townsend is the replacement for Jean. Larry is her husband. Larry is involved in his community. Larry and Jean have cats.

Administrative Appointment

His name is Gerald Brooks. Deborah will reach out to him. Still have an empty seat where Lavinia Ringgold resigned.

Interviews with County Executive Candidates

There has been a concern with the commission conducting political business. The commission has not endorsed any candidate. Commission members will be contacting the rest of the candidates by phone to get the responses for the same questions the other candidates responded to.

Janice is in contact with Vicky's person and Jon volunteered to interview Tony Solesky. Janice to email questions to Jon. Janice will contact Kevin Marron

New Business

Animal Abuse Police Unit

Dispatch comes through the Police Department for this unit. Some calls still go to Animal Services, like wild animals. This new unit is taking all calls for cruelty and neglect. The responding officer has to file a report on each call even if it is unfounded. This unit is

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extremely busy with way more cases than anticipated. Some are very interesting cases. This unit presents cases to the State's Attorney, who will press charges when it is proper to do so.

The unit is comprised of one sergeant, Sundia Gaynor, three detectives, and Alan Kolbicki, who was an Animal Services Officer for five years.

Cases are referred to this unit in three different ways:

1. About 1/3 of the cases come through the 911 Center,
2. About 1/3 of the cases come through Animal Services Officer Kolbicki, who is sending over cases involving potential abuse or cruelty, and
3. About 1/3 of cases come through veterinary offices and pet emergency veterinary offices. Last year the General Assembly passes a bill requiring veterinarians to report suspected cases of cruelty.

The members of this unit attended a one day training conducted by April Doherty and Adam Lippe of the State's Attorney's Office. Deborah Stone-Hess is working to arrange for a unit member to come before the commission for a question and answer session.

Facebook or Social Media

It was mentioned to the commission to avoid any confrontations on any social media involving the Baltimore County Animal Shelter or Animal Services.

In Memory

Ann suggested that something be said in memory of the late County Executive Kevin Kamenetz. Deborah Stone-Hess mentioned that the family suggested donations be made to the Cancer Society or the Humane Society. Deborah suggested that everyone make individual donations to the Humane Society.

Announcement of Next Meeting Date and Location

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at Drumcastle Government Center, 6401 York Road, 3rd floor, Main Conference Room at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn
Motion by: Jon Christiana
Second by: Joy Freedman
Motion approved.

Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.