



Manatee County Animal Services Advisory Board

December 3, 2019

A meeting of the Manatee County Animal Services Advisory Board was held at Manatee County Animal Services, 305 25th Street West Palmetto, FL 34221 on December 3, 2019.

Roll Call

Sarah Brown, MCAS Chief

Board members:

Lisa Barnott

Jana Martin

Lisa Williams

Gerald Thomas

Katie Howard

Welcome

Meeting called to order by Chair, Lisa Barnott

Approval of Minutes

October 2019 minutes were approved.

Topic*

* Shelter updates from Chief Sarah Brown:

- New Director of Public Safety, Jake Saur.
- Save rate for November, 2019 was 94%.
- There will be a 'Fear Free' educational program for all staff.
- Manatee County Animal Services will be having a short term foster program for the holiday season. 'Foster Express' where people may foster a pet for a short-term commitment.
- Adoption fees are waived over the holidays if a donation to Friends of manatee County Animal Services is made.
- Working on and with Finding Rover site, software for lost and found pets in shelters.
- MCAS is fully staffed with two new animal care specialists. A volunteer coordinator has been hired but has not started working, yet.
- A shelter veterinarian is still needed. Looking into a vet recruiter to help in the search. Information has been sent to veterinary schools.
- Fido Fixer from Sun Coast has been doing spay and neuter surgeries.

- County Commissioner, Carol Whitmore had some updates on items of interest.
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Topic*

Current Business

- Animal Advisory Board is accepting applications to fill upcoming board vacancies.
- New animal ordinance additions. Dog barking complaints can be made anonymously.
- Adding chicken ordinance to the main animal ordinance.
- There was no support expressed on the Board of County Commissioners for the ban on retail sale of pets, the public also did not make a large showing to support the ban. It is possible that the issue will be brought up in the future with a grandfather clause.
- A motion was approved to consider and possibly support the grandfather clause. The clause would grandfather in the owners of the current Petland stores.

Topic*

Board Comments

Jana Martin asked about the issue of incorporating county animal license information onto microchips. Sarah Brown was going to ask at petdata.com if they knew why this would be difficult.

Gerald Thomas let the board know that he would not be reapplying for the Animal Advisory Board.

Gerald Thomas made a motion to recommend a draft of the changes for retail ban to the legal department and it was approved.

Sarah will send them.

Carol Whitmore also had news that the Cat Town building will be getting a sign that will help adopters to find it.

There was discussion of adding diverse situations to the animal advisory board to include breeders.

Next Meeting

January 21, 2020

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.