

**Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council
Special Meeting
May 18, 2010
Minutes**

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m. at the Gwinnett Animal Welfare and Enforcement Center, 884 Winder Highway, Lawrenceville, GA 30045

Present: Gail LaBerge (Chairman), Tricia Smith, Dennis Kronenfeld, Tim Montgomery, Carla Brown, Clara Seals, Lt. Mary Lou Respass (advisor), Dr. Lori Chandler (advisor) and Theresa Cox (Attorney)

Absent: Gloria Kennedy

Opening Remarks by Gail LaBerge, Chairman:

Every one was thanked for attending and review of how 'Public Comments' work.

Approval of Agenda – Carla Brown made a motion to approve the agenda. Tim Montgomery seconded. Agenda was approved, 5-0. (Clara Seals was not present for vote)

Public Comment – none

Discuss and Vote on the Changes to the By-laws –

A motion was made by Clara to change the name from Animal Advisory Council to Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council. Dennis seconded. 6-0

A motion was made by Carla to amend Article IV Section 4 to state - The exclusive authority of the GAAC is to gather information and make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners. The GAAC has no independent authority to act on any of its recommendations. Decisions on whether or how to act on any recommendations submitted by the GAAC belong exclusively to the Board of Commissioners, Chief of Police, Animal control Manager, and/or County staff. It was seconded by Clara. 6-0

A motion was made by Tim to amend Article V. Membership Section 1. The GAAC shall be composed of eleven (11) members, as follows:

One member representing the Lawrenceville Kennel Club;

One member representing Gwinnett County domestic feline interests;

One member representing livestock animals;

One member representing the Gwinnett Rescue community;

One member representing the Gwinnett Municipal Association;

One member representing the Gwinnett County Veterinary Medical Association;

One member representing each commission district;

And one member representing the Commission Chairman.

Seconded by Carla. 6-0

A motion was made by Carla to have a section of Article V. Membership Section 1. state:

Initially, each designated organization/interest shall submit their recommendation for appointment in writing to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

Seconded by Dennis. 6-0

A motion was made by Carla to have a section of Article V. Membership Section 1. state:

Following the initial appointments, by November 1 of any year preceding the expiration of a member's term, the organization/interest represented by that Board of Commission member shall submit in writing the name of a new recommendation for appointment or a written request to renew the current member's term.

Seconded by Dennis. 6-0

A motion was made by Clara to change the verbiage in Article V. Membership Section 2. Terms of Office to:

Initially, all members will be new to the council. Therefore, to stagger membership terms, the odd numbered district representatives, the Gwinnett County Veterinary Medical Association member, the Lawrenceville Kennel Club member and the Livestock member will serve one-year terms and the other members will serve two-year terms. Thereafter, members shall each serve staggered two year terms so that the council will always have both experienced and new members.

Seconded by Tricia. 6-0

A motion was made by Carla to change the verbiage in Article V. Section 8. Absences to:

It is the responsibility of each member to inform the chairman when and for what reason a member will be absent from a meeting. In the event that a member is absent from more than 50% of meetings held in a calendar year, then that individual shall be replaced. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman to inform the Commission of such need for replacement.

Seconded by Dennis. 6-0

A motion was made by Dennis to change the verbiage in Article VI. Officers Section 1. Election of Officers to:

The officers of the GACC shall be elected annually and may serve no more than two consecutive terms on the same office. Election shall be by a majority vote of all members of the GACC. The term of office for each officer shall begin immediately upon election. An officer shall serve until relieved of his or her duties as provided by Section 1-5029 of the Code of Ordinances, Gwinnett County, Georgia or until he or she voluntarily steps down. In the event of an extended absence of either office, the GACC may appoint a temporary Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Secretary to fill the office until the return of the absent officer or until the expiration of his or her term of office, whichever comes first.

Under Article VI. Section 1. Election of Officers 1.2 Vice-Chairman was added and states:

The Vice-Chairman shall be elected for a term of one(1) year. The Vice-Chairman shall act as the Chairman in his or her absence. When acting as Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall have the same powers, duties and privileges as the Chairman. The vice-Chairman shall ensure meetings are conducted in an orderly manner per Roberts Rules of Order and the Georgia Open Meetings Act.

Under Article VI. Section 1. Election of Officers 1.3 Secretary

Strike D. – Compile an agenda at least 48 hours prior to the regular meeting and submit for additions, deletions, and/or approval by the Chairperson or by the GAAC.

Under Article VI. Section 2. Administrative Support

Take that completely out

Under Article VI. Section 3. Agenda and Minutes change the verbiage to:

The Chairman shall determine the meeting agenda. Members of the Gwinnett Animal Advisory Committee may request the addition of agenda items by contacting either the Chairman or the director at least three (3) calendar days prior to a meeting. All matters to be considered and/or acted upon by the Gwinnett Animal Advisory Board shall appear on the agenda.

Under Article VI. Section 7. Notice of Meeting - change the verbiage to:
Notification of meeting and cancellation is to be posted on the Gwinnett County website seven (7) calendar days preceding the meeting date.

Under Article VI. Section 9 Quorum - change the verbiage to:
A quorum shall consist of GAAC members and a majority vote of those present constituting a quorum shall be sufficient to decide all matters which come before the GAAC.

Under Article VI. – delete Section 15. Enabling Ordinance
Seconded by Tricia. 6-0

A motion was made by Tim to allow public comment to be heard after the discussion on the changes to the By-laws. Seconded by Carla. 6-0

Public Comment – 10 (ten) members of the public spoke prior to the vote on the changes listed above.

Discuss each Board member have a project to volunteer – Tim is establishing a Face Book Page, Carla is working on a shelter type organization for Gwinnett County (501C3 status). Dennis is involved Second Chance for dogs jail program.

GAAC meeting dates for 2010 remaining: July 20 and October 19

Public Comment -10 (ten) members of the public spoke

Adjournment – Clara made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Dennis seconded. Approved 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Smith