

Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council
July 21, 2009
Minutes

Call to Order: 7:03 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, Gloria Kennedy, Clara Seals, Lt. Mary Lou Respass (advisor) Theresa Cox (Attorney), Chris Hughes (animal shelter).

Public Present: two (2) people

Opening Remarks by Gail LaBerge, Chairman:
Every one was thanked for attending.

Approval of Agenda – Dennis Kronenfeld made a motion to approve the agenda. Clara Seals seconded. Agenda was approved, 7-0.

Approval of Minutes for April and June – Gail made motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Dennis seconded. Minutes were approved 7-0.

Announcements – Mary Lou Respass shared the Shelter Report, information about the off-site adoption and Sunday, August 2, 2009 will be the first Sunday the Shelter will be open. On July 26, 2009 there will be another “employees only” day for vaccinating pets. And on August 14, 2009 Cat Snip will be in the area.

Old Business

Public comment was heard before each item was discussed.

Status of Ordinance Changes - It has been through the Law Department and on the BOC agenda for August 4, 2009.

By-laws – Carla Brown would like to change Article 6 section 8 to give the Gwinnett Animal Advisory Council direct access to commissioners, have more people on the board representing all areas of the county and have council members review ordinances and discuss it more at the meeting on October 20, 2009. Carla Brown motioned to Table discussion or ordinances until the meeting on October 20, 2009 to give time to research information. Tim Montgomery seconded. Motion to Table was approved 7-0.

New Business

Public comment was heard before each item was discussed.

Office Help – Carla Brown motioned to send a letter to the commissioners expressing our concern for the animal shelter because of retirement and marriage of two of the four office staff at GCAC have left employment and their positions were eliminated. The effect of losing 50 percent of office staff restricts the level of service to residents and has a significant reduction in processing citations and fewer adoptions. Data base entry is behind, fewer citations are given and therefore lower fines issued as a result. Office Personnel are vital to the overall operation. Dennis seconded. Vote passed 7-0. The use of volunteers and how to educate the public on the need for volunteers was discussed.

Urgent List – There is a need for creating a list of animals with their information and picture that are scheduled to be euthanized in a few days. That list needs to be visible by network to reach more people

and organizations that could take or adopt one or more of these animals. The information needs to be sent to people and organizations instead of them coming to us. Gail recommended Carla Brown, Dennis Kronenfeld and Chris Hughes form a sub-committee to get the Urgent List up and going. The three people accepted.

Off Site Adoptions – Mary Lou Respass will have animals going to an off site location spayed/neutered and bathed to make them more attractive to the public and ready to go to their new home.

General Public Comment

Two members of the public spoke during the Public Comment period: Randy DeCarlo and Alicia Hartmen.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Smith