



October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Animal Control Board Members:

Paige Turner  
Gloria McCain  
Jim Carter  
Don McMillan

Clayton County Police Dept:

Maj. Green  
Maj. Robinson  
Capt. Jackson  
Lt. Palmer  
Sgt. Jakes  
Det. Conwell  
Brittini Daniels  
Tiffany Phillips

Guest:

Kim Kirby  
Linda Ingram  
Maria Dorough

- The above were in attendance for the Animal Control Board Meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00pm.
- Paige Turner called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.
- The Agenda was approved for the night's meeting and the minutes were approved from the previous meeting.
- First was a report from Maj. Robinson. He advised that they were finalizing a new contract on the contractor for the new facility. Once the agreement is finalized there should be ground break shortly after possibly setting us back just a little. Maj. Robinson wanted to welcome back the old rescue groups that were now working with us again and wanted to thank all of the rescues for their help. He advised that the E-Mail glitch at Animal Control was a department wide issue that is being worked on.
- Second was a report from Capt. Jackson. He was proud to report that Animal Control has cancelled our Euthanization day 6 weeks in a row due the number of dogs and cats that are being pulled by Rescue, adopted and reclaimed. Capt. Jackson provided information on the National average of

stats from the ASPCA, we are approximately 20% below the current Animal Euthanization rate in the United States, the National average on Euthanization of animals is at 30% and we are at 10%, which is well below average. In animal adoptions the average is 30% and we are at 65%. Although our Reclaim rate is low compared to the national, we are making up for it in other areas. He did advise that we almost had to euthanize on Monday October 12<sup>th</sup>, but Maria Dorough was able to come through with her rescue efforts and we were able to cancel once again, and Kimberly Kirby had over 60 dogs adopted from Animal Control in the last few months from the Rescue Me web site that she runs. The Captain advised that we have hired 2 new employees at Animal Control and they were both still in training. He commented on the new Assistant Commander position but was unable to expand on how it will affect Animal Control. He did advise that if any of the Board members wanted to talk with the Chief at a later date, he could give a better explanation on the direction of Animal Control. Maria Dorough did comment on Capt. Jackson efforts to work with the citizens on reducing reclaim fees under dire circumstances so the owners could afford to reclaim their pets. Maria also advised that she has been helping out citizens in food donations and vet care assistance to help people keep from surrendering their pets to Animal Control. Jim Carter asked about the Vet position. He was advised that we have only had 1 person apply so far but that the position has been posted at Auburn, Ga. State and Stockbridge Animal Hosp.

- Next Paige Turner began to speak on the Animal Control Adoption Fair that they are having this month. The adoption event will start on Friday Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 5pm-8pm during the Police Depts. Opens house. And then also on Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 9am-2pm. She advised that they have several rescue organizations that will be at the event offering raffle tickets for giveaways, Gift cards and goodie bags to adopters and also dog bowls, toys and food samples free to the public. She did advise that they are looking for volunteers to assist as well. Gloria McCain advised that she never received the sponsorship that she needed to properly organize and get the ample donations for the event to run effectively. She stated it was hard to get money or food donations without a sponsorship letter from the Clayton Co. Police Dept. She was advised that they were hoping to get the left over supplies from CCPD's Open House from Friday to use for Saturday, along with the blow up jump house. Paige Turner advised that she feels Fridays Open House event will help us notify the public about our Adoption event on Saturday. It was asked if media had been contacted in reference to the event, stating that any positive publicity and any way to give the public a positive outlook on the changes at Animal Control this past year will only help increase our rescue and private adoption program. Kimberly Kirby asked if we were able to find a low-cost spay/neuter program for the event. She was advised that we do

have a grant in place but it was very specific on the areas where the residents must live in order to be accepted. They are working on other options. Paige Turner advised that she was very excited about the event.

- Next Maria Dorough with Partners for Pets wanted to speak. She asked about an update on the Pet Point system previously requested. She was advised by Maj. Robinson that it had been approved by the Chief and that the budgetary issued had been resolved so at this point they were just waiting on it to go into effect. Paige asked about computers in the officer's vehicles so they can be more productive on the road with their log sheets, and reports. She stated that saving time and money with the employees would only benefit the animals in the long run. Kimberly Kirby wanted to comment on the problem rescues were having properly identifying dogs as they were being pulled from the shelter. She advised that the cards were pulled off the cage before the dogs were brought out and they did not have on neck bands so the whole process was very confusing. She was advised that Brittini Daniels was familiar with this particular situation and that day the procedure was not done under the normal process. She was advised that whole rescue procedure was a check and balance process and they were working on getting any kinks corrected. Kimberly Kirby then asked again about any information on Spay/Neuter programs to assist the County residents. She was advised again that different options were being explored. Next she asked about clarification on out of state adoption holds. She was advised that if the holds are being requested by people she is networking with, that maybe she could place that hold herself and do a private adoption for that person and then transfer ownership to them when they arrived in state. Additional options were discussed also. Linda Ingram then asked about the Animal Control Board members coming down to Animal Control on a hectic Monday morning to see what the rescues do to prevent a Euthanization day. Paige Turner advised that she works a full time job plus 40+ hours networking to save the dog too and she was just not available. She did state that Animal Control has now opened the doors to rescue on Sundays to help alleviate the hectic Mondays. Linda Ingram then commented on the "Pit-mix" label on dogs. She asked about DNA testing, stating she would pay for it if it would save a dog's life. Photos of several dogs were passed around the room and more than one person stated that the dogs in the photos did look like Pit bulls. Maria Dorough did step up and advised that when requested, Animal Control does take a second look and re-evaluate the breed of a dog. Linda Ingram was advised that the staff does the best they can to properly label the breeds correctly and that once our Vet position is filled we will have an expert opinion on breed determination.
- There were no comments or questions from the Animal Control Board.

- Paige Turner then advised that the next meeting was scheduled for January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 @ 7:00pm at the Clayton County Police Dept. She did advise that if an emergency meeting needed to be scheduled everyone would receive ample notice. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.