SEMINOLE COUNTY

ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 14th, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gayle Hair

Det. John Monk

Bryan Wilson

Bridget Lake

John McGrath

Dr. Viz Carrando

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kris Buchanan

OTHERS:

Steven Lerner, Interim Manager

Denise Sims, Clerk to the Board

Bree Burkett Program Coordinator

Albert Adams, Shelter Supervisor

Kirsten Oates Field Services

Robbie McHugh Attorney to the Board

The following is a non-verbatim transcript of the Seminole County Animal Control Board (here in known as ACB) meeting held March 14th, 2024, at 6:00 PM, at the Seminole County BCC Chambers, 1101 E 1st St, Sanford, FL 32771.

**Call to Order**

Bryan Wilson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:15PM.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Duty/Function of the Board**

Duty/Function of the Board was read by the Chairman Bryan Wilson

**Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken by the Clerk, a quorum was met.

**Election of Chairman & Vice Chairman:**

John McGrath nominated Bryan Wilson for Chairman, with Det. John Monk seconding, members voted unanimously for Bryan Wilson to Chairman.

Bryan Wilson nominated John McGrath for Vice Chairman, with Det. John Monk seconding, members voted unanimously for John McGrath as Vice Chairman.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made to accept the December 14th, 2023, minutes and seconded, the minutes were approved by the board.

**Introduction of New Manager:**

Interim Manger Steven Lerner introduced the new Animal Services Manager Adam Leath. Adam has 20+ years of experience in the animal field, as well as being on multiple animal boards throughout Florida.

Adam Leath also provided some background information on his beliefs and experiences in the animal field.

**Old Business:**

**TNVR update**

Albert Adams, Kennel Supervisor, gave an update on the TNVR. 651 cats were transferred to TNVR program since February 2022, the staff continues to educate the public about the use of the TNVR program,

Public commentary was opened and Andrea Hubb of 411 Ipswich St, Altamonte Springs, provided an update. Since the start of the TNVR program in November of 2021, they have helped a total of 1660 cats, that includes 857 cats, (according to her records), that have come from Seminole County Animal Services, with 252 cats and kittens being adopted out. She mentioned that the number of cats coming from SCAS has gone done, and if that trend continues could she be notified so that she can release the appointments she has on hold with Spay n Save. She also asked about the contract that will go before Board for approval, Adam Leath told her that once the Board approved the contract then they will move forward.

**Hound Around Town**

Bree Burkett gave an update on the Hound Around Town program, we have had approximately 209 dogs going on in the program, with almost all those dogs either being adopted or transferred out to rescue. She told the Board that we continue to see an increase in the number of volunteers entering the Hounds Around Town program.

**New Business:**

**Adoption T-Shirts**

The Board was shown photos of the new shirts that will be available for a donation of $25.00, the public can get their choice of either of the 2 designs, that are available in 2 different styles of shirts, and well as 3 different colors.

**New Hours of Operation**

Adam informed the Board that the shelter was changing the hours of operation, with the lobby opening at 10am and adoption opening at 12pm, with the shelter closing at 6pm. He explained that this would free up the staff to allow for more animal enrichment.

**Pets for Patriots**

Adam Leath introduced the Board to the Pets for Patriots program where SCAS will provide any qualifying pet to any veteran registered with the Pets for Patriots program for no adoption fee.

**Changing the Name of the Animal Control Board**

At the previous meeting during public commentary, it was recommended that the Board consider changing their name from Animal Control Board to the Animal Welfare Board. The meeting was opened to discussion by the Board. After the discussion, it was brought up to recommend to the County Commissioners to change the name of the Board. Andrew Lanius was asked about the changes to the ordinance changes, who will be research the issue and will continue the discussion at the next meeting.

**Event Updates:**

Bree Burket gave the event updates, beginning with the continuation of the $5.00 adoption fee through January, February, and March. We participated in 2 events – Touch a Truck in downtown Sanford, and Paws in the Park at Lake Eola, which allowed 4 more dogs to be adopted, and allowed us to do more public outreach. In January we launched Seniors for Seniors which allows anyone over the age of 60 to adopt a dog over the age of 6 years. We received a large donation from Pet Supermarket in Deltona, who has also reached out and invited us to participate in an adoption event on March 30th. We began BFF dog program again since Covid. Board member Gayle Hair asked if we had a volunteer program that involved just coming to the Shelter to play with the animals. Bree instructed them on how to sign up as a volunteer at the shelter.

**Kennel Statistics:**

The Board reviewed the statistics provided with no questions for the staff.

**Non-Agenda Public Commentary**

1. Dennis Benodi, spoke about what he considered an unauthorized inspection at Maximillion Schnauzer.
2. Vera Clark, spoke about a recent inspection done at her property by Seminole County Animal Services.
3. Karen Strickland, 500 Derby Dr., Altamonte Springs. Spoke about the inspection at Maximillion Schnauzer by Seminole County Animal Services.
4. Jordan Owens, spoke about a recent inspection done at Maximillion Schnauzer.
5. Sheri Pasnaski, 3200 Hathaway St. Deltona, Fl. Spoke in favor of Vera Clark and Maximillian Schnauzers.
6. Katie Fine, 419 Live Oak St. Austin, TX, spoke on behalf of Best Friends, thanking the County for hiring Adam Leath.
7. Jodi Manore, 1241 Alberta St, Longwood, Fl. Spoke thanking the County for hiring Adam Leath.
8. Carla Wilson, 702 Heather Ln, Longwood, Fl Spoke to the Board offering them a copy of a magazine with an article on TNVR.

Bryan Wilson wanted to acknowledge and congratulate Spay N Save for the 100,000 surgery to help decrease the pet overpopulation with low cost spay/neuters.

**Next Proposed Meeting Date:**

The next meeting for June 13th, was confirmed:

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.