

**Animal Control Advisory Board
Wednesday, November 3, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1802 by Dr. Pat Richardson.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present:

Dr Pat Richardson, Chair of the Animal Control Advisory Board
Rita Weaver, Animal Welfare Representative
Melinda Brown, Citizen Member
Susan Morris, Environmental Health Division
Cesar Afanador, Citizen Member
Diane Harris - Animal Welfare Representative
Joy Wilson Animal Control – Non-Voting Member
Melissa Carnes, Vice-Chairperson of Animal Control Advisory Board
Steve Tuttle, Citizen Member

Members Absent:

Dr David Langford, Retired Veterinarian

A. Review & Approve Minutes

I move to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2021, meeting as presented.

Motion by Rita Weaver, second by Steve Tuttle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Susan Morris, Dr Patricia Richardson, Cesar Afanador, Diane Harris, Steve Tuttle

3. PRESENTATION(S)

No Presentation

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Public Education and Outreach Sub-Committee Meeting

Dr. Richardson read a summary letter written from Dr. Langford in reference to the Public Education and Outreach Sub-Committee that was held on August 5, 2021.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Shelter Update & Discussion

Walker gave an update on the progress of the shelter advising that construction is on schedule. The Shelter Manager's position has now been posted with a tentative start date of January 1, 2022. Drew Kelly gave a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the onsite construction.

B. Special Presentation

Dr. Pat Richardson presented John Deatruck with a plaque on his retirement expressing the Animal Control Advisory Board's appreciation for all of his hard work and dedication towards the construction of the new shelter.

C. Shelter Name Recommendation

Motion 1: I move that we recommend the new animal shelter be named: "St. Mary's Country Animal Adoption and Resource Center".

Motion by Melissa Carnes, second by Steve Tuttle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Susan Morris, Dr Patricia Richardson, Cesar Afanador, Diane Harris, Steve Tuttle

Motion 2: I move that we recommend to the County Commissioners that we name the Animal Control wing in memory of Tony Malaspina.

Motion by Melissa Carnes, second by Rita Weaver.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Susan Morris, Dr Patricia Richardson, Cesar Afanador, Diane Harris, Steve Tuttle

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Animal Shelter Communication Plan

ALisa Casas, St. Mary's County Government Communications Director, discussed the criteria for developing a communication plan for outreach to Animal Welfare Groups and veterinarians serving St. Mary's County as well as our community members.

B. Meeting Calendar 2022

I move to approve the 2022 calendar year meeting dates as presented.

Motion by Rita Weaver, second by Cesar Afanador.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Susan Morris, Dr Patricia Richardson, Cesar Afanador, Diane Harris, Steve Tuttle

C. Cat Colonies

Steve Walker provided research to inform the ACAB on managing cat colonies, approaches by other districts, and Trap, Neuter and Return ordinances in the United States.

Dr. Pat Richardson suggested forming a subcommittee on the topic to respond to the Commissioners' request for recommendations. Steve Tuttle and Diane Harris agreed to co-chair this subcommittee. Rita Weaver and Cesar Afanador volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. Melinda Brown requested to participate as a private citizen. Alice Burton also asked to participate. The purpose of the subcommittee is to offer both short term and long-term recommendations to the County Commissioners regarding community and feral cats in St. Mary's County. The subcommittee recommendations would be reviewed and voted on by the ACAB and reviewed by the County Attorney's Office as appropriate prior to submitting them to the Commissioners.

D. Trap, Neuter, Return Program

Alice Burton gave a presentation on Trap Neuter and Return (TNR).

7. BOARD MEMBER TIME

Dr. Pat Richardson reminded the board that during the regular meeting in January 2022 elections for new officers would be held and asked members to consider holding one of the elected positions.

Brown made a statement that due to her tenure expiring this would be her last meeting. She asked that the board try and keep a balance between the animal rescue/welfare representatives and other members when considering new members.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments were provided by:

Fran Hammett *spoke under section 5.C Shelter Name Recommendations*
Chaptico MD 20659

Alice Burton *spoke under section 5.C Shelter Name Recommendations*
23348 Red Oak Court
California MD 20619

Robert Sloan Jr. *spoke under section 6.C: Cat Colonies*
18085 Holly Drive
St. Inigoes MD 20684

9. ADJOURN

A. Adjourn

I move to adjourn the meeting at 2009.

Motion by Rita Weaver, second by Steve Tuttle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Susan Morris, Dr Patricia Richardson, Cesar Afanador, Diane Harris, Steve Tuttle

Darlene Mund, Recorder

Minutes approved by Animal Control Advisory Board on March 2, 2022.