

ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 3rd, 2009

- CALL TO ORDER The March 3rd, 2009 meeting of the Animal Control Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairman, Ed Varga at 7:05 p.m. at the McHenry County Department of Health Animal Control Division 100 N. Virginia St Crystal Lake IL 60014
- PRESENT Ed Varga, Pat McNulty, Sara Denham, Bud Alexander, Jerry Rivard, Jeannette Everett, Joe Kozlowski, and Anna May Miller
- NOT IN ATTENDANCE Dr. Mehanovic
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES Bud Alexander made a motion to amend the minutes of the February meeting. Corrections noted: Anna May Miller was not in attendance, a correction of the motion to adjourn was made by Jeannette Everett seconded by Sara Denham. There was also a correction of the spelling of Sara Denham's name.
A motion to pass the minutes with the amendments was made by Bud Alexander, second by Jeanette Everett. The motion passed unanimously.
- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION There were 4 people in attendance, two spoke out that they were not in favor of limiting the amount of animals a person can own in McHenry County.
- OLD BUSINESS Pat McNulty explained to the Committee the previous attempt to present cat registration to the County Board. There was discussion on the pros and cons of cat registration in McHenry County. Jerry Rivard suggested possibly waving the first year's registration fee, and half price the second year encouraging the public to register their animals for Health Reasons. The Board asked Jerry Rivard to bring statistics on where bats were found and if there were any cases that involved cat exposure to bats testing positive for rabies.
- NEW BUSINESS Mission Statement: Bud Alexander made a motion to replace the word "**provide**" with the word "**maintain**". Sara Denham seconded the motion. All members present voted for the motion, none opposed.

Jerry Rivard presented a bite prevention program to the Committee that Animal Control will be presenting to 4th grade elementary classes in McHenry County.

OTHER BUSINESS

Joe Kozlowski asked the Committee if they knew of any organization that would accept unadoptable animals from McHenry County Animal Control. Joe indicated a dog that had been up for adoption for a long period of time became aggressive and bit a kennel worker. Betty Schlieben explained to the Committee that staff is working on rewriting the Ordinance. One proposed change is to reduce the fees for dogs if they had been in the shelter for an extended time in an effort to find a permanent home. Jerry Rivard also explained to the Committee that Animal Control was implementing a training program with staff and Volunteers to work with the animals while they are at the shelter. Training would include a structured program of exercise and voice command. However an animal that bites or is aggressive would need to be re-evaluated to determine it's suitability for adoption. It was also mention that the shelter works closely with pure breed rescue groups and animal trainers that will take animals with behavior problems.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Committee had no comments or questions about the End of the Month report.

ADJOURNMENT

Ed Varga requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Anna May Miller, second by Jeannette Everett

