

Orange County Animal Services  
1601 Eubanks Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516  
919-942-PETS (7387)  
**ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (ASAB)**  
**6:30 to 8:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, February 17, 2021**  
**Virtual Meeting Summary**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bryan Stuart (Vice Chair), Casey Ferrell (Secretary), Lee Pickett, Edmund Tiryakian, Sunita Driehuys, Dawn Roberts, Meggie Romick, Lori Gershon, Allan Polak, Susan Spinks, Sue Millager, Lucia Welborne

**ABSENT:** Amanda Schwoerke, Lori Gershon, Dawn Roberts

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bob Marotto (Animal Services Director), Rachel Plast (Administrative Assistant)

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**Call to order:** 6:32 p.m.

**Virtual meeting voting guidelines:** Bryan Stuart, ASAB Vice-Chair

**Review and adoption of the agenda:**

- Bryan Stuart requests the addition of comments regarding Bob Marotto's retirement to the agenda as an item under ASAB updates

	<b>Vote (Motion/2<sup>nd</sup>)</b>
<b>Amanda Schwoerke</b>	
Bryan Stuart	Y (Moved)
Sue Millager	Y
Lee Pickett	Y (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Ed Tiryakian	Y
Lucia Welborne	Y
Sunita Driehuys	Y
Casey Ferrell	Y
Meggie Romick	Y
Allan Polak	Y
Susan Spinks	Y
<b>Lori Gershon</b>	
<b>Dawn Roberts</b>	

## Review and approval of November 2019 meeting summary

	Vote (Motion/2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Amanda Schwoerke	
Bryan Stuart	Y (Moved)
Sue Millager	Y (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Lee Pickett	Y
Ed Tiryakian	Y
Lucia Welborne	Y
Sunita Driehuys	Y
Casey Ferrell	Y
Meggie Romick	Y
Allan Polak	Y
Susan Spinks	Y
Lori Gershon	
Dawn Roberts	

**Review of public participation guidelines:** Bryan Stuart, ASAB Vice-Chair

**General public comments on items not on agenda:**

- N/A

**Monthly Meeting Attendance Record (confirm completion):** confirmed

**2020 Community Spay & Neuter Program Annual Report:** Cooper Hatch, Program Coordinator, Animal Services

- BOCC unanimously adopted a resolution acknowledging February 24<sup>th</sup> as Spay and Neuter Day
- Received a \$15k grant from the Margo T. Petrie Foundation to cover costs of surgery for low-income households
- Multi-year grant from Petco Foundation and partnership with Independent Animal Rescue helped continued success of Working Barn Cat Program
  - Sterilized 266 working cats in 2020, a large increase over previous years due to grant and IAR partnership
- Effects of COVID-19 on the Spay & Neuter Program:
  - All surgeries topped in April 2020 to preserve PPE
  - Changed policy to allow for adoption of unsterilized animals with a voucher for surgery post-adoption
- Both total intakes and euthanizations continued declining

## **Animal Services Advisory Board updates:** Bob Marotto, Director of Animal Services

- **Legislative Agenda Item Update**
  - Chairperson Schwoerke submitted to the BOCC the ASAB's proposed legislative agenda, focused on instituting a provision in state law allowing for the review and removal of a Dangerous Dog Designation pending certain criteria are met
- **2020-2021 ASAB Annual Report & Work Plan update**
  - BOCC is scheduling boards and commission to appear as is customary
    - Work session to be April 22<sup>nd</sup>, in which ASAB officers will offer a briefing on ASAB report and plans
- **Comments for outgoing Director Bob Marotto**
  - Proclamation celebrating Bob Marotto's contribution to Orange County Animal Services, the community, its citizens, and its animals, was read by Ed Tiryakian
  - Token of ASAB's appreciation for Bob Marotto's offered (gift card to Ferrington House)
  - Bonnie Hammersly, Orange County Manager, will attend March meeting of the ASAB to advise on the effort to fill the newly opened Director position and any implications for the operations of the board
  - Bob offered remarks on his experiences serving the community and his hopes for the future of OCAS

## **Old Business:**

- **Ordinance amendments for Keeping and Displaying Wild Etc. Animals:** Anne Tosco, Orange County Staff Attorney
  - Bryan Stuart provided brief history of the work of the "dangerous animal" task force in 2019/2020
  - Division 5: Keeping of Wild Animals Dangerous to Persons and Property
    - Moved section on hybrid felines from definitions to exceptions to clarify that they are wild and dangerous but F5 hybrids are permitted under certain circumstances
    - Recommending removal of two exemptions (accredited nonprofits and animals used for captive breeding programs) to facilitate proposed amendments through to approval because they represent legal complications with regard to land use and planning processes
    - Included modification clause to detail mechanism for the BOCC to add or remove species
  - Division 4: Display of Wild and Exotic Animals
    - A few minor edits, including moving to exemptions a stipulation about displaying for educational purposes

- Motion to reinstate/reconstitute task force for a comprehensive review of county's recommendations, with Bryan serving again as chair

	<b>Vote (Motion/2<sup>nd</sup>)</b>
Amanda Schwoerke	
Bryan Stuart	Y (Moved)
Sue Millager	Y
Lee Pickett	Y
Ed Tiryakian	Y (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Lucia Welborne	Y
Sunita Driehuys	Y
Casey Ferrell	Y
Meggie Romick	Y
Allan Polak	Y
Susan Spinks	Y
Lori Gershon	
Dawn Roberts	

- **Shelter Requirements for Livestock Guardian Dog**
  - Will move to March agenda

#### **Informational Items**

- 2020 2021 ASAB Annual Report & Work Plan (submitted document)
- [January 2021 Monthly Statistics for Sheltering Operations](#)
- [January 2021 Monthly Statistics for Field Services](#)

#### **Informal Discussion**

- N/A

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.