



MINUTES

**Animal Commission Meeting
Second Floor Conference Room
Monday, August 22, 2016
6:00 p.m.**

DRAFT

Members Present: Kevin Collins, Marion Ignoffo & Bill Urquhart

Members Absent:

Staff Present: CSO K. Poirier, Recording Secretary K. Hodge

Others Present:

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

I. Roll Call - Roll Call was taken. All commissioners were present. There was a quorum.

II. Approve Minutes – Commissioner Urquhart made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Ignoffo seconded. The motion passed.

III. Action Items

1. Review Case #16-01587 (continued from 7/18/16)

The following person indicated their presence: dog owner Ms. Cheryl Breslin. Commissioner Ignoffo summarized the report and stated that the victims were present at the last meeting and had agreed that the report was an accurate description of the incident.

Ms. Breslin stated that she also agreed. She was picking up after her dog and while she was distracted he ran towards the victims. She tried to retract the leash but he was already jumping around them. She was not sure if the victim's injury was a laceration or a scratch.

Commissioner Ignoffo asked if the dog has ever done this in the past. Ms. Breslin said no.

Commission Urquhart asked how old the dog was. Ms. Breslin said he is a 14-15 month old Bichon Poodle.

Commissioner Collins asked about the jogger mentioned in the report. Ms. Breslin stated that after jumping on the victims, her dog was very excited and managed to escape from the leash and chased a jogger, but did not bite the jogger.

Commissioner Urquhart advised Ms. Breslin to dispose of the extendable leash, and she said she did. Commissioner Ignoffo added that owners do not have proper control with those longer leashes, and she feels the leash was the issue in this incident.

Commissioner Urquhart recommended some basic obedience training which would teach her how to better control the dog and teach the dog how to obey some basic commands.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to dismiss the case, and Commissioner Urquhart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Review Case #16-01816

The following persons indicated their presence: dog owners Mrs. Sarah Kander and Mr. Jon Kander. The victim was not present. Commissioner Ignoffo summarized the report, and the owners agreed that was an accurate description of the incident.

Mr. Kander stated that he had opened the gate to help his wife get stuff from the car and the dog, JJ, ran out of the yard just as a jogger was passing the house, and he bit her. Mr. Kander stated that nothing like this has happened before. JJ has been going to dog agility training, and the trainer wrote a letter to the Commission about JJ's growth and behavior with other people and dogs. He has never had an incident like this, nor has he expressed aggressive behavior with dogs or people. The trainer believed this to be an isolated incident. Mr. Kander added that since the incident, they have also fixed the latch on the gate so there is no chance of it easily unlatching.

Mrs. Kander stated that they took JJ to the vet for his 10-day observation, and he is up to date on shots. They have not spoken to the victim since the incident. She has not contacted them, and they do not have her contact information. Also, they plan to continue work with the dog coach. Mr. Kander added that JJ has had basic obedience training as well.

The commissioner agreed that this seemed to be an isolated incident.

Commissioner Urquhart made a motion to dismiss the case, and Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins stated that the owners have done all the right things since the incident. He advised them to keep doing what they are doing.

3. Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary Nominations

Commissioner Ignoffo nominated Commissioner Collins to be the Chairperson, and Commissioner Urquhart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Ignoffo nominated Commissioner Urquhart to be the Vice-Chairperson, and Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Collins nominated Commissioner Ignoffo to be the Secretary, and Commissioner Urquhart seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IV. Discussion

None.

V. Old Business

None.

VI. New Business

None.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.