



MINUTES

**Animal Commission Meeting
Second Floor Conference Room
Monday, January 27, 2014
6:00 p.m.**

Members Present: MaryAnn Gobbo & Peg Morrisroe
Members Absent: Bill Urquhart
Staff Present: CSO Poirier and Recording Secretary K. Delk
Others Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

- I. Roll Call** - Roll Call was taken. Commissioner Urquhart was absent.
- II. Approve Minutes** – Commissioner Morrisroe made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2013 meeting. Chairwoman Gobbo seconded. The motion passed.

III. Action Items

1. Review Case #14-00836

This case was continued. The dog owner notified K. Delk last week that she would not be able to attend the meeting. The Commissioners would like to provide the owner, victim and witness the opportunity to describe the incident before they make a decision. A meeting date will be decided and the subjects will be notified.

2. Review Case #14-01031

Ms. Malecki described the incident as she remembered it happening. She was walking her collie down the street and without warning, two bulldogs ran out of the front door directly towards her and pinned and bit her dog. One of the dogs left the scene and the other charged her collie and they both ran down the block. Ms. Malecki found her dog two blocks away hiding in a bush. She stated that her collie is six years old.

Ms. Kalamir added that while she was out walking her Doberman, she heard the victim screaming. She felt that the “attack” on the dog was severe enough that she needed to step in and also felt that her dog was trained well enough (also noted that she herself is an experienced dog trainer) that she could bring him into the situation. She approached the collie and bulldog and was able to pin down the bulldog with her forearm holding the animal to the ground and yelled for

help. She became nervous that the other bulldog could come back at any time and did not want to be involved in an attack. A neighbor heard her call for help and came out and assisted Ms. Kalamir. Ms. Kalamir added that at no point did the dog owners come out to help.

Ms. Janice Krautwald, Mr. Rainer Krautwald and their son, Frank Krautwald were all present at the meeting. They stated that Frank was home at the time with his friends and were in the garage. Their mother-in-law who is visually impaired was also home at the time of the incident. They assume that their mother-in-law did not shut the door all the way after she went to get the mail. "Rocky" is a 2 year old white/tan bulldog and "Otis" is a five year old brindle bulldog. Both are neutered. They stated that an incident like this has never happened before. Their son, Frank, was listening to music and never heard any commotion, and was not aware of the situation until the Park Ridge Police and Fire Department were inside his home. Neither of the dogs have ever received obedience training.

Chairwoman Gobbo expressed her concern as to if the situation had involved a child.

Ms. Malecki stated that the dogs did not give any warning before attacking and would not stop biting her collie.

Ms. Kalamir stated that she kicked the dogs several times to try and get them to stop and also yelled very loudly commanding the dogs to stop and neither did. She added that her Doberman did not go after either of the dogs at any time.

Chairwoman Gobbo discussed the definition of at-risk and dangerous animals.

Commissioner Morrisroe expressed concern about the front door not closing shut and asked if the family could gate off the front entrance in any way to create a barrier between the dogs and the outside. The family stated that it was not possible. She was also concerned about how the dogs would act with dogs they do not know.

The Commissioners discussed the case in order to come to an agreement on the designation of the animals.

The Commissioners agreed that both "Rocky" and "Otis" should be considered "dangerous" animals. They explained the requirements of this outcome to the owner.

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.