



**CITY OF PARK RIDGE
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

MINUTES

**Animal Commission Meeting
Mayor's Conference Room
Monday, December 3, 2012
6:00 p.m.**

Members Present: MaryAnn Gobbo, Bill Urquhart & Peg Morrisroe
Members Absent: None
Staff Present: CSO Coordinator C. Brown, Recording Secretary K. Delk
Others Present: Craig Adams, Park Ridge Journal

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

- I. Roll Call** - Roll Call was taken. All members were present.
- II. Approve Minutes** – Commissioner Urquhart made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2012 meeting. Commissioner Morrisroe seconded. The motion passed.
- III. Action Items**
 - 1. Review Case #12-23373**

The Commissioners discussed the background on the case. They stated that it was difficult to make a judgment on an animal after just one incident, especially when the owner is not present at the meeting. They thanked the owner's sister, Cathryn Connell, for being present at the meeting.

Ms. Connell stated that the dog belongs to her sister who is ill. She as well as other family members help to take care of her sister throughout the week. Her sister and her husband have had Oreo since he was a puppy. He is now seven years old, is up to date with his shots and is neutered. He is a good, friendly dog and will not leave his owners side.

Chairwoman Gobbo asked if Oreo has ever bit anyone before. He has not.

The victim was not present at the meeting. Ms. Connell described the incident from her point of view. The victim was power walking with her arms moving very quickly, and as she passed Oreo, Ms. Connell and her sister, Oreo most likely felt the need to "herd" her away from his owner. She felt that the dog was protecting his owner and acted as many border collies do.

Chairwoman Gobbo suggested that in the future, the caretakers walking Oreo should make sure that he sits, away from the sidewalk and those passing, and waits for other pedestrians to pass.

The Commissioners added that it is important that all of the caretakers use the same terminology when addressing Oreo.

The Commissioners determined that this dog is not an “at risk” or “dangerous” dog. The case was dismissed. The vote was unanimous.

IV. Old Business

CSO Coordinator Brown stated that two of the cases from the last meeting are appealing the Commission's determinations. They have submitted their appeals to the City Manager. CSO Coordinator Brown will keep the Commissioners informed.

V. New Business

Chairwoman Gobbo stated that she would be resigning as Chairwoman from the Animal Commission as of January 1, 2013.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.