



Bismarck Animal Advisory Board Minutes

1/12/2023 - Minutes

Call To Order

Vice Chair Sundstrom called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Roll Call

Advisory Board members present were Myra Kosse, Barb Plum, Tait Sundstrom, and Commissioner Steve Marquardt. Others present included Jannelle Combs, Whitnie Olsen, and Jason Tomanek as representatives of the City of Bismarck.

Board members Terry Lincoln and McKenzie Smith were absent.

1. Public Comment

Bismarck City Commissioner Steve Marquardt introduced himself as a new member of the committee. Commissioner Marquardt has held the Police Department portfolio since July 2022.

2. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

Barb Plum made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2022, meeting as presented. Myra Kosse seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved, with board members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

3. Future Disposition Of The Board

Commissioner Marquardt noted that he had received calls concerning the increased volume of unwanted pets and crowding at the shelter and is wondering how the board can help the Animal Impound connect sheltered pets with their owners and increase adoption for those who cannot be rehomed.

The board had a general discussion on past efforts to improve education and awareness of the responsibilities associated with being a pet owner.

Member Sundstrom noted that a goal for the board should be to promote the impound facility as the primary source to connect stray pets with their owners and correct the negative misconception associated with the facility. He also suggested the Animal Advisory Board could develop an adoption kit with information intended for new pet owners with information about regular veterinarian visits, local ordinances, regular expenses, and the Bark Park.

Commissioner Marquardt noted the impound received animals from Mandan, and there is a need to look

at the current contract and fees for this service. He will be working with Bismarck Police Department staff to gain more information.

The group discussed new ways to help promote the Animal Impound facility, City Regulations relating to pets, and helpful tips for pet owners. They will bring new ideas to the April meeting.

Jason Tomanek indicated that he would work with the City's Communication Strategist and Police Department personnel to gather more information and develop a potential communications plan for 2023.

4. Other Business

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 AM.

