

**ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: April 17, 2018

Location: Orange County Facilities Training Room
2350 E Michigan Street
Orlando, FL 32806

Meeting called to order by: Chair Lisa Franchina

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded/transcribed by: Linda Hull

Meeting adjourned at: 8:22 p.m.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisa A. Franchina, Chair
Paul Wean, Vice Chair
Nanette P. Parratto-Wagner
Frayda R. Morris
Richard Risser

STAFF:

Dil Luther, Division Manager OCAS
Don Bruce, Assistant Manager OCAS
Diane Summers, Program Manager Communications OCAS

APPROVED: _____

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at
Orange County Facilities Training Room, 2010 E Michigan Street; Orlando, FL 32806

ORANGE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS
April 17, 2018

ITEM#	TOPIC	ACTIONS TAKEN/DISCUSSION/ASSIGNED	PARTIES	DUE DATE
1.	Welcome/ Roll Call	Board Chair Lisa Franchina called meeting to order at 6:30pm. There was a quorum of 6.		
2.	Approval of Minutes	Franchina asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Board Member Nanette P. Parratto-Wagner made a change request and motioned to approve the minutes as changed and seconded by Franchina.		
3.	Manager's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OCAS Division Manager Dil Luther updated the board on the new interaction yard construction delay due to the presence of electrical and gas lines. • He then discussed the resolution's fee change mandate, the removal of the rescue registration fees, removal of landlord and residential lease checks, and the suitability of adoption determination based on animal behavior, animal welfare, and adopter history. • Board Member Paul Wean asked about community association approval and Luther replied that OCAS does not get involved in those. • Wean also asked if the resolution is broad enough to incorporate the Do Not Adopt criteria OCAS have adopted. Luther replied that the resolution is less restrictive and gives OCAS leeway. 		
4.	New Business	<p>Code of Conduct for Rescue Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Frayda R. Morris stated that at the February 2018 Board meeting there were three (3) separate complaints made against Rescue Me Orlando for harassing other rescue partners on the internet and their Facebook page. This behavior is specifically in violation of the covenants of the rescue partner contract that includes enforcement against covenant violations. • A copy of a Facebook thread was supplied to all of the Board Members involving Rescue Me Orlando which Morris feels exhibits behavior and language that is in clear violation of the contract. • Franchina asked if Rescue Me Orlando has ever pulled any animals. Our records indicate they have not. She stated that it is up to the shelter whether they will enforce the agreement or not. 		

- Motion made by Morris, seconded by Parratto-Wagner to have Orange County Animal Services enforce the provisions within the contract that include termination of the contract with Rescue Me Orlando.
- Franchina pointed out that representatives from Rescue Me Orlando were present and suggested they be given the chance to speak.
- Several citizens began to speak at once. Morris interrupted stating that this was not the open session portion of the meeting. After several minutes of citizens and board members speaking over each other, Board Member Deputy Richard D. Risser established order by declaring that the citizens would have their three minutes to speak during the Public Comment part of the meeting.
- Morris repeated her motion to enforce the Rescue ME Orlando contract as written and signed.
- Wean suggested we hear the three minutes of public comments by the administrator of Rescue Me Orlando before making the recommendation.
- Kimberly Doyle of Rescue Me Orlando read a statement claiming that the minutes from the February 20, 2018 Orange County Animal Services Advisory Board Meeting contain slanderous allegations about Rescue Me Orlando and she requests that proof be provided that such are true, or that they be removed. She stated that neither she, nor her partner Brittney have made any derogative comments themselves and they have no control over what other persons may post on their behalf.
- Parratto-Wagner stated that everything that Doyle requested will be addressed if the steps to be taken to terminate the agreement requires, all of her questions will be answered.
- Doyle stated that she wishes to withdraw as a rescue partner.
- Morris called for a vote on the motion on the table to have Orange County Animal Services enforce the enforcement provisions within the contract that include termination of the contract with Rescue Me Orlando. All voted aye, except for Wean who was opposed on the basis that the motion is moot as Doyle stated that Rescue Me Orlando wishes to withdraw as a rescue partner.

New Legislation

- Morris referenced Senate Bill 1576. Wean stated that Orange County Animal Services already has policies in place that match those of the new bill. As the meeting was

5.	Public Comments	<p>running long, discussion of the Legislative Update has been moved to the May Advisory Board Meeting.</p> <p>New \$25 Volunteer Screening Fee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wean opposes this fee feeling that the cost will deter new volunteers and cause current volunteers to not renew. He also objects to criminal background checks for certain volunteers from certain professions, volunteers that are inactive, volunteers that work few hours, and volunteers who have been working more than 100 hours. He feels that doing background checks on a monthly basis is also excessive. Wean also expressed concern about using a 3rd party vendor to do background checks wondering how secure the data they collect is being held. • Franchina feels that background checks done on a regular basis are necessary as new information could be added at any time. She also stated that \$25 a year is not an exorbitant amount. This fee is an administrative issue, not the business of the advisory board. • Morris feels that \$25 is too high for some individuals. • Wean suggested that rescue partners should be screened as well. • Parratto-Wagner stated that as this is an administrative decision, members of the board and the public should contact the mayor and their commissioners to express their objections to the fee. <p>Cris Ferreira</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested that individual animal's bite notes be included in emails to rescue groups. • Requested that any animals returned to Orange County Animal Services by their adopters be made available to rescues prior to euthanization. • Suggested that rescue partners could sponsor volunteers and pay the fees, and feels that screening rescue partners is a good idea. • Spoke positively about Rescue Me Orlando. <p>Shelbi Crews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoke positively about Rescue Me Orlando and her experience getting her three dogs with their help. <p>Cynthia Duffy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worries that dogs and cats are not being properly screened for temperament and euthanized unnecessarily. • Feels that ear-tipped cats should not be picked up and 	
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6.	Adjournment	<p>euthanized.</p> <p>Theresa Marie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objects to ear-tipped cats being picked up and euthanized. • Luther replied that when cat colonies become a nuisance they must be removed. • OCAS Assistant Manager Don Bruce stated that efforts are made to contact CARE to relocate cats. • Marie suggested that other organizations than CARE could be contacted as well. • Luther stated that other organizations can contact Orange County Animals Services and let them know how they can be of help. <p>Nicole West</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feels that Rescue Me Orlando has been treated unfairly by the board. • Is concerned about animals being mislabeled as aggressive when they are merely frightened by the kennel environment. • Suggests that volunteer independent trainers be brought in to evaluate dogs. • Luther said that Orange County Animal Services has a behaviorist who works with the dogs. Dogs are routinely reevaluated and changes made to their status. <p>Austin Vogt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoke about his experience adopting his dog from Orange County Animal Services, initiated by a Facebook post by Rescue Me Orlando. He experienced several complications during the adoption process and was assisted by Rescue Me Orlando. • Parratto-Wagner asked Vogt to detail his experience in a letter to Luther so that the board can review the situation. <p>Veranne Modak, Maggie Richardson, Kurt Bride, and Anthony Lusk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoke positively of Rescue Me Orlando for facilitating through Facebook posts her own and many other people's awareness of the pets they have fostered and adopted. <p>Wagner and Morris simultaneously moved to adjourn at 8:22pm.</p>		
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The full audio recording of this meeting is available upon request.