

SEGUIN ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 7, 2016

The Seguin Animal Services Advisory Committee met for an interim session on January 7, 2016 at 12 p.m., in the Police Department training room.

1. Call to order.

Meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m.

2. Roll call. (Bold indicates an appointed member)

Present:

Benefield, Jacob
Campaigne, Bill
Courtney, Samantha
Dodgen, Donna
Fennel, Cathy
Lamprecht, Lynn
Lewis, Leah
Lutz, Shelley
Mangold, Andrea
Pyatt, Doug
Quittner, Andy

3. Hearing of residents.

Mr. Bill Campaigne provided a handout on the Guadalupe County CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) monthly meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 23, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at 210 East Live Oak, Seguin, Texas 78155. Mr. Bill Campaigne also provided notes on Finding Rover - an app that uses facial recognition to reunite lost dogs with their owners.

Ms. Lynn Lamprecht brought up a concern in reference to a residence in the City that is a “foster home” for one of the local rescue groups.

4. Discussion on Dangerous Animal Ordinance.

In December 2015, Animal Services investigated an at-large domesticated dog death, which was the result of an apparent confrontation that occurred between one to three other at-large, domesticated dogs.

This investigation heightened the necessity of reviewing our existing dangerous dog city ordinance. In working with the Seguin City Attorney and reviewing other agencies dangerous dog ordinances, it was determined that revising our existing ordinance was prudent and necessary in maintaining “best practices.”

The major change to the dangerous dog ordinance is to broaden the definition of dangerous dog to include dogs that make an unprovoked attack on another domesticated animal, when the attacking dog is at large. This expanded definition is limited by redefining “unprovoked” to exclude those cases where the dog that is attacked is not restrained or within a fenced yard or enclosure.

The ordinance also includes changes to the dangerous dog hearing process to include a list of conditions that the Judge may impose upon an owner to protect the public if the Judge finds that the owner’s dog is dangerous.

The ordinance also includes some house cleaning for the purposes of clarification and to consistently refer to Animal Services (rather than animal control).

Finally, the ordinance makes two changes in the section that governs the composition of the Animal Services Advisory Committee. The first change brings the appointment process in line with the City’s procedure (appointment by Mayor with council approval). The second change makes the director of animal services a permanent member of the committee (rather than rotating between that person and someone else working for animal services).

Mrs. Cathy Fennel motioned to approve the ordinance revisions and Mr. Bill Campaigne seconded the motion. Board members also voted and all were in favor.

5. Adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.