

Animal Management Committee Meeting



MINUTES

Thursday 21 JANUARY 2016

Meeting Room 2

Meeting Start: 5pm

Meeting Close: 6pm

Apologies:

Sharon McTaggart

Present:

Alderman Justin Glover; Alderman Robin Knox; Meg Gardiner – Dogs NT; Steven Gatt – Manager of Regulatory Services; Anthony Smith – Animal Education Officer; Sharon McTaggart – Supervisor Animal Management; Julie Schuller - Cats Association NT; Alasdair McGregor; Kate Dixon; Emma Barber; Amy Dobell;

Adoption of meeting minutes 3 December 2015

Issue:

Any correspondence for the Cats Association, need to be sent to email address secretary@cant.asn.au.

General Discussion:

KEY ISSUES

Meg Gardiner - Councils need to legislate to the lowest common denominator, Best Practise and No Mandatory desexing or a breed specific mandatory desexing. I.E larger breeds of dogs need their sex hormone to assist in the growth of the animal.

Alderman Knox – Clearer definition of a nuisance animal and how Councils determine a nuisance, also to be more pro-active to roaming cats.

Steven Gatt – The best solution to self-regulation and improve responsibilities of pet owners.

Anthony Smith – Assessment for licencing and identify to potential pet owners the issues of owing a pet.

Sharon McTaggart – Improve animal management within the Darwin municipality.

Kate Dixon – Encourage mandatory desexing and leaving breeding to only registered breeders.

Julie Schuller – Fairness in the system, breeders are regulated. Discouraging pet shops from selling unregistered animals (regulation of animal sellers).

Amy Dobell – Making desexing mandatory or, unless they are licenced to have an entire animal. Educate the public on owning an animal and training the pets in general.

Alasdair McGregor – Be stronger handed on enforcement, dogs rushing the fences. By-laws could be simplified making them easier to read and understand. Guide Dogs in the Mall, currently Guide Dogs are not exempt and still require a licence to enter. Educate the public and all so

Agenda Items:

Community Contact –The appropriate manner for contacting the committee is through the community representatives (alderman) or via councils email darwin@darwin.nt.gov.au or the committee email amac@darwin.nt.gov.au. The committee was advised that should they wish to disclose their contact details to members of the public to receive community feedback they are free to do so.

It was noted that there was correspondence received from Residence for Enforcement of Animal By-laws (REABL). Copies distributed to committee.

Animal Nuisance - Advised the committee to read over the by-laws for a nuisance animal and decided if it needs to be altered or changed. Discussions around the vagueness of the issue as defined in the bylaws. Item to be recommended for review.

Business arising:

It was determined by the committee that there needs to be a broad range education programme that includes registrations for dogs and cats, roaming animals and responsibilities of pet ownership

Life time Registration information for the committee comments for the next meeting. This is quite in-depth topic and recommendations cannot be produced without a considerable amount of research. Item for the next meeting agenda

Action

Business items for next meeting

- Registration,
- Nuisance and
- Education

VOTE

Nil

DECISION

Nil

General Discussion:

Next Meeting 4 February 2016.

5pm – 6pm

Meeting Location to be advised