



## MINUTES

### CITY OF DORAL

#### ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

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**Thursday, September 17, 2015**

8401 N.W. 53<sup>RD</sup> TERRACE

DORAL, FL 33166

#### 1. Call to Order / Roll Call of Members

Meeting was called to order at 10:16 AM

Marilyn Maura	Absent
Carolina Noceti	Present
Maria Bradham	Present
Bibiana Salmon	Absent
Biaggio Correale	Present

Also present were:

Edgard Estrada, Staff Liaison, Code Compliance Dept.  
Gabriela Leyva and Guillermo Leyva, Residents of Doral.

#### 2. Agenda/Order of Business

- a. **Approval of August 20, 2015 and September 8, 2015 Minutes** – minutes were approved. Motion was made by Biaggio Correale and seconded by Maria Bradham.
- b. **Animal Control Officer Certification update.** Status: we are pending on approval by city council members. Bibiana Salmon is responsible for tracking this requirement (special meeting, September 8<sup>th</sup> 2015).
- c. **Exploring the possibility of having the City provide a place for stray animals to recover from injury or illness, managed by**

**volunteers.** According to information provided by Edgard Estrada the city is still discussing this matter. Both the board representatives and members of the community agreed on the need and importance of this place in order to support the attention and care provided to animals, especially those abandoned and injured.

**d. The better use of social media and City venues to showcase homeless cats and dogs that could potentially be adopted or need foster.** The important thing is to continue and deepen the dissemination of information related to animal care and cruelty. It is essential to have a greater presence in media, social networking, City website, flyers, among others.

**e. Incentive Program to increase foster homes for strays in Doral.** The above item on the agenda (d) is linked to this. It is important to spread the information. There was an agreement in the discussion about the difficulties of having pets, especially when it comes to the high cost of vets. This situation makes many pet owners fail in providing proper care, or abandon the animals on the street, while they could give their pets away to other families or take them to the shelter. The community members who participated in the meeting proposed some ideas such as building a pet hotel that offers pet care services if the pet owner requires travel, is sick, or for some or other reason is not capable of taking care of the animal. It was explained that the City currently does not have a budget to carry out a project like this, and some alternatives were discussed such as: find sponsors, to rent a place with basic services, charge for services at low cost and allocate those revenues to maintain the operation and help cover costs for strayed animals.

**f. Member's Updates.** Maria Bradham continues to make efforts to contact Mr. Cesar Melean, the dog trainer. The idea is to bring him to the city in order to raise awareness among the community residents about the importance of taking care of pets, especially dogs that help people with special needs, and public safety related to animals.

**g. New Business.** Some special points addressed by Ms. Gabriela and Mr. Guillermo Leyva pointed to involving schools with a volunteering program, in addition to the idea of building a pet hotel in the city, where the city is favored by some financial scheme for maintenance or operation. Another important aspect was the question of whether or not feeding street animal is legal or not. Many people do it, generating conflicts with neighbors and associations.

4. **Public Comments.** Carolina Noceti and Maria Braham explained the residents of the city the way they help in the rescue and care of pets, giving them some ideas on where to go and especially sharing the experience in the County Animal Service. It was also explained to Mr. Leyva how the APSC Board works and how to participate with ideas both as Doral residents and pet lovers.
5. **Discussion of the next meeting agenda items.** These points will be sent as usual through Bibiana Salmon (regular meeting: October 2015)

6. **Adjournment-** The meeting was adjourned at 11:00AM. Motion was made by Biaggio Correale and seconded by Maria Bradham.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Biaggio Correale for the Animal Welfare Committee Secretary

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2015 Animal Welfare Committee Board Meeting made by BIAGGIO CORREALE and seconded by MARIA BRADHAM.

Board Member

  
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Board Member

Board Member

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Board Member

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Chairman



  
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Chairperson