



## Request for City Council Committee Action from Regulatory Services

**Date:** November 4, 2008

**To:** Chair Don Samuels, Public Safety & Regulatory Services Committee

**Referral to:** City Council

**Subject:** Establish an Animal Care & Control Advisory Board

**Recommendations:**

Pass the Resolution to establish the Animal Care & Control Advisory Board

**Prepared by:** Lori Olson, Deputy Director, Environmental Management and Noah Schuchman, Project Coordinator

**Presenters in Committee:** Lori Olson, Deputy Director, Environmental Management and Dan Niziolek, Manager, Animal Care & Control

**Approved by:** Burt Osborne, Director, Licenses & Environmental Management

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**Financial Impact (Check those that apply)**

- No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information).
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the \_\_\_ Capital Budget or \_\_\_ Operating Budget.
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase (in 2007 Budget proposal).
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves.
- Business Plan: \_\_\_ Action is within the plan. \_\_\_ Action requires a change to plan.
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to department's finance contact when provided to the Committee Coordinator.

**Community Impact (use any categories that apply)**

Neighborhood Notification  
City Goals  
Comprehensive Plan  
Zoning Code  
Other

## **Background/Supporting Information Attached**

The Minneapolis Animal Care & Control Advisory Board is a new board that is being created to assist the Animal Care & Control (ACC) with a number of policy and community outreach activities.

ACC responds to over 16,000 requests for service each year. Issues ranging from public safety (dangerous animals, bite reports) to animal care (adoptions, animal welfare investigations) are addressed by the ACC program. In addition, ACC licenses most animal-related businesses (e.g. dog daycares and pet stores) and permits animal-related activities (e.g., circuses and chickens).

ACC estimates that over 100,000 pets reside in Minneapolis – nearly a quarter of all residents own a pet. With such a large number of our residents involved with animals (in addition to the businesses/non-profits developed that support them), the creation of an Advisory Board is critical to developing ACC programs and ordinances and furthering its mission. This board will represent the animal community and bring their voice to ACC policies and processes. Specifically, the board will:

- Develop and review ordinances
- Develop policies and programming ideas
- Encourage pet licensing
- Serve as partners to implement ordinances and programs
- Conduct outreach and public education
- Provide networks to keep ACC abreast of burgeoning animal issues and ideas

Board members will be selected by ACC and appointed through the open appointments process and represent at least one member from the following categories:

- Local Animal-Related Business Owners
- Rescue Organizations
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Veterinarians
- Urban Farmers
- Animal-Related Media
- Residents

Resolution of the City of Minneapolis  
By Goodman

**Establishing a Animal Care & Control Advisory Board**

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis benefits from the involvement of its residents; and

Whereas, Animal Care & Control provides high quality services to city residents and responds to over 16,000 requests for service dealing with domestic animals and wildlife each year; and

Whereas, Animal Care & Control rescues injured animals and strays, investigates animal bites, declares dangerous animals, and works to prevent dog fighting and animal cruelty to protect the public's health and safety; and

Whereas, Animal Care & Control adopts close to 500 animals a year, works with rescue organizations, treats sick and injured animals, and returns lost pets to their owners;

Whereas, Animal Care & Control partners with other local agencies, including the Animal Humane Society and law enforcement, to protect all members of families, both two-legged and four-legged; and

Whereas, Minneapolis Animal Care & Control needs assistance to effectively work in the areas of public education and outreach to raise the profile of the program and to reach more constituencies; and

Whereas, such involvement with the animal community to expand education and outreach efforts should increase general awareness of Animal Care & Control's staff, facilities and mission; and

Whereas, this exposure should increase the number of licensed animals and decrease the number of aggressive animal incidents in the City of Minneapolis;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Minneapolis that the City of Minneapolis hereby creates the Animal Care & Control Advisory Board with the following details:

1. **Purpose:** To advise and assist the Minneapolis Animal Care & Control on the development of animal-related policies and decision-making processes, burgeoning community issues related to animals, and public education and outreach efforts
2. **Number of Members:** 11

3. **Term Length:** 2 years
4. **Term Limits:** None
5. **Compensation:** None
6. **Public Hearings held for City of Minneapolis open appointments process:** No
7. **Minneapolis Residency Requirement:** No
8. **Selection Procedure:**
  - a. Members will be appointed using the City's open appointments process and selected by the Managers of Animal Care & Control and approved by the Assistant City Coordinator of Regulatory Services or their designee;
  - b. Members will be selected to represent the following categories:
    - Local Animal-Related Business Owners
    - Rescue Organizations
    - Non-Profit Organizations
    - Veterinarians
    - Urban Farmers
    - Animal-Related Media
    - Residents
  - c. Members will be appointed no later than January 31, 2009.
9. **Selection of officers:** Chair and any other officers shall be selected by the 11 board members.
10. **Meeting Schedule:** Board will meet at a minimum of once per quarter each calendar year
11. **Attendance Requirements:** Three (2) unexcused absences from regular meetings during a calendar year may result in termination of membership.
12. **Department:** Convened, facilitated and staffed by the Animal Care & Control.
13. **Reporting:** Periodic reports shall be submitted to the Public Safety & Regulatory Services Committee.
14. **Sunset:** No sunset provision is established for this advisory board.