

Approval of the special meeting minutes from August 26, 2016

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONAL CENTER FOR ANIMAL CARE AND PROTECTION HELD AT 2:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2016, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT THE NOEL C. TAYLOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 215 CHURCH AVENUE, ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan O'Donnell  
Christopher Morrill  
Barry W. Thompson  
Tim Jones  
Gary Larrowe

OTHERS PRESENT: David Flagler  
Anne Marie Green  
Andrea Trent  
Tony Zerrilla  
Anne Cantrell

Mr. Morrill called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and Ms. Trent called the roll.

Mr. Zerrilla first commented that at the last meeting of the Executive Committee on July 14, 2016, the Fiscal Affairs and Advisory Committee was directed to review the concerns of the volunteers and citizens, along with the input from RCACP staff, regarding euthanasia decision making practices and report back to the Executive Committee as to the propriety of such decisions. The members of the Committee are Tony Zerrilla, Andrea Trent, Anne Marie Green and Anne Cantrell.

The Committee members gave a PowerPoint presentation and provided a report of their findings which included a recommendation from the Committee. The PowerPoint presentation and printed report are attached to these minutes and will be made a part of the permanent record.

Mr. O'Donnell asked if there is a legal length of time that the shelter has to keep an animal. Ms. Trent responded there are stray-hold periods depending on how the animal comes to the shelter and whether or not there is identification. If it is totally unidentified, it is a shorter period of time. In order to increase the live-release rate, the shelter does house them longer than is required. Mr. O'Donnell next asked if there is a process to accredit open-intake facilities like the shelter. Mr. Morrill asked if this would be part of the Police Department's accreditation and Mr. Jones responded that they do look at animal control.

Mr. Morrill asked about the play area and how could we make that happen. Ms. Green responded that she had done some research and had received information from individuals who would be willing to assist by making this a project of their own. They have some funding and are looking to get other sponsored funding. In working with Mr. Flagler and his staff, they have identified three different areas as a possible location for the play area. They agreed it is a viable option and are looking for a recommendation from the Executive Committee.

Mr. Morrill commented on the volunteer program and with the Board approval, he would like to appoint an outside task force that can look at the volunteer program and at best practices around the State. He has asked Lisa O'Neill if she would chair the task force because Angels of Assisi has a very active and successful volunteer program. He will work with her to put together this task force and that group can come forward with some recommendations.

Mr. Morrill commented that the information provided today would be made available on the RCACP website and the Committee can do a follow-up on the information at the October meetings. He would try to have the recommendations on the volunteers program.

He next commented to those in the audience that during this process we have to be a community where we can hear each other's views and talk respectfully. He understands that people are passionate, but that does not provide a license for character assassination and harassment. He asked that if anyone sees that happening to please let those individuals know that this not how we do things in our community.

With no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry W. Thompson  
Recording Secretary