

The West Branch Animal Control Commission met on January 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Red Provine was introduced as the newest member of the commission. Members present were Leesa Johnson, Ashley Olsen, Amy Lynch, Red Provine, and Alan Beyer. Sgt. John Hanna was present. Also present was Mr. Brad Shultice with members of the 4th Grade class and some parents.

The order of business was altered to allow the 4th graders to give their presentation first.

Mr. Shultice introduced the class and their project as a part of learning about the three branches of government and how a bill can become law. As an exercise in this learning experience, they are introducing an Urban Chicken Policy for the city of West Branch. Students held up a poster with the three classes dividing responsibilities for 1) Number of chickens and permits; 2) Specifications for shelter and cleanliness; and 3) Consequences of not following the rules.

This was followed by discussion with commission members regarding specifics of their proposed ordinance. The class would like to take the lead on writing specifications for a new ordinance. They will bring this back to the commission at our next meeting. Matt Muckler has offered his assistance. A copy of Iowa City's ordinance was given to Mr. Shultice.

Election of Officers: Alan Beyer was elected as chairperson. Amy Lynch was elected as vice chair. Red Provine was elected as secretary.

Old Business: The Pet Owner's Guide as designed by Katie Lipes was reviewed. Overall comments were positive with a few changes suggested. The new city logo should be used on the front page. The sentence regarding location of bag dispensers should be eliminated and font size for the paragraph increased to use the voided space. Under the Dog Park section change the term Dog Tags to Day Passes in the second paragraph. Linen was suggested as the best background paper to use for the guide. Alan will contact the city office for suggestion of the number of copies to be made. Two to three hundred was suggested. Amy moved that the commission accept the new Pet owner's Guide for publication. It was seconded and passed.

City licensing and Dog Park fees discussion will be postponed until mid-year.

There was no further old business.

Police Report: Sgt. Hanna said that there were no new reports of dog bites and overall activity was low.

There was no other new business.

Next meeting date is February 14, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05.