

# City of West Branch, IA – Animal Control Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 11, 2022 – 6:30 PM – West Branch City Council Chambers (note: Committee members were unable to access City Council Chambers, so meeting was held outside)

Present: Alen Beyer, DVM (Chair), Leesa Johnson, Ashley Wildman, and Nate Bartz

Absent: Amy Lynch

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 – 6:30 PM – West Branch City Council Chambers

### 1. Call to Order – Dr. Beyer

### 2. Roll Call – Dr. Beyer

### 3. Announcements

- None

### 4. Discussion

- Meeting Minutes from previous month's Animal Control Commission Meeting were submitted, but not officially approved due to copies of meeting minutes being inside council chambers.

#### Old Business:

- Dog Park Expansion Project
  - 103 fundraising letters went out to city dog licensees/current park permit holders. – Have received some checks at the City office, as well as some donations on the GoFundMe site.
  - 47 businesses were visited/contacted by commission member's seeking funds for this project. – Have received some checks at the City office, as well as commitments from some businesses. Croell, Inc. has offered to donate the 10 x 10 concrete needed for the project.
  - GoFundMe has been set up and has been used by a few. However, the link had not yet been shared to social media. Nate will follow up by posting to Voices of West Branch (Facebook) and will follow up periodically.
  - Nate proposed putting laminated copies of the fundraising letter at the dog park entrance and shelter area.
- Police Report – No Police Department representation at meeting, however a citizen was present to share an incident that occurred on the previous day (10/10/2022). Kaylee was at the dog park with her pug, Franklin on Monday and another dog attacked her dog. Others were there to assist, so the injuries were not bad, but Kaylee was upset that this occurred, as others at the park had stated that the dog was "known to not be good

with other dogs”. It is unknown if the other dog was up to date on vaccines/license/permit as Kaylee quickly left with her dog. Police were notified and the offending dog/owner will be asked to not return to the dog park.

She expressed concern regarding people/dogs visiting the park without permits. Animal Control Commission will look into setting some periodic permit-checking, possibly with the assistance of the WB Police Department. It was noted that with the slim resources of the city, enforcement of the laws/rules in place is difficult. Commission could potentially use this as an opportunity for outreach as well.

**New Business:**

- City will begin budgeting soon, so we will want to discuss if registration and dog park permit fees are still appropriate in order to account for expenses (currently, \$5 Registration fee for spayed/neutered dogs/cats and \$20 for un-neutered/un-spayed dogs/cats). We may propose an increase to \$10 for spayed/neutered dogs (registration fees for cats and un-neutered/un-spayed animals would remain the same).

**5. Call to Adjourn Meeting**

- Leesa moved to adjourn; Ashley seconded. Motion carried.