

ADVISORY BOARD MTG

QUORUM PRESENT

Date: 08/09/2023

Time: 6:11pm

Facilitator: Crystal Berisko

IN ATTENDANCE

Advisory Board Members, Plaintiff and Dog Owner all in attendance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the previous July were approved with a change to outline a quorum was reached. Minutes approved.

ELECT OFFICERS

Board opted to refrain from advertising for new positions due to a no show at the last meeting. Motion passed to wait to vote.

DANGEROUS DOG DECLARATION

Crystal Berisko outline the original complaint:

Complaint filed by Brian John, Victims Husband

Mrs. John was jogging down Payne Rd in Oconee County when an unleashed Pit Bull came from an address on Payne Rd and knocked her to the ground catastrophically injuring her lower leg requiring surgical interventions and long rehabilitation and recovery. Please see original complaint for specific details from witnesses (both complaint and defendant in the case, photos of injuries and Veterinary and character statements for the dog Blanca.) Advisory Board was tasked with determining whether the aforementioned Pit Bull dog (Blanca) be deemed a dangerous dog (specifics were outlined to the Advisory Board what constitutes a Dangerous Dog) which requires yearly licensing of said animal and additional housing and handling requirements for the dog. The other option posed to the Advisory Committee was a label of Public Threat (specifics outlined to the Advisory Board what constitutes a Public Threat.)

Director Crystal Berisko and Officer King made the determination to classify "Blanca" as a Dangerous Dog per the requirements of the statute.

After hearing all of the details of the complaint the Advisory Committee was allowed a period to question all parties involved and also to Director Berisko in order to either uphold the Dangerous Dog declaration or adopt a Public Threat label for Blanca.

After hearing from the owner (Ms. Barnett) and questioning Director Berisko regarding measures made since the complaint by Ms. Barnett (owner) in follow up for Blanca, it was the determination of the Advisory Committee to uphold the Dangerous Dog declaration. Although many factors impacted the decision it was the severity of the injury and the lack of follow through by Ms. Barnett in response to the complaint and obtaining supporting documentation for Blanca as well as the possibility of a reoccurrence that influenced the decision to uphold the determination. Ms. Barnett also stated she was unwilling to pay proper fines that would be required to keep a Dangerous Dog in her possession. The final decision of the Advisory Committee was a unanimous vote to uphold the Dangerous Dog decision originally imposed by Director Berisko.

Director Berisko voiced her intent to send a certified letter to Ms. Barnett about her obligations should she choose to keep Blanca with a Dangerous Dog certificate. If she chooses to surrender her that will be outlined as well. Ms. Barnett asked how much time she had to comply. Director Berisko she had 10 days after the hearing to send the letter and the surrender date would be enclosed. Ms. Barnett acknowledged.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn, seconded and adjourned at 7:15pm



NEW BUSINESS

- Recap of Back to School night – September 9
- Parent Education Programs – Counselors
- Teacher Grants Application Process – School Principal

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee reports

- Membership
- Volunteers
- Newsletter
- Computer Support

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Enter Announcements

NEXT MEETING

1/16/23, Conference room

Motion to adjourn was made at 11:00 AM and was passed unanimously.