

CLARK COUNTY ANIMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Paradise Community Center
4775 McLeod Drive, Town Board Conference Room
Las Vegas, Nevada 89121
April 24, 2008
6:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: BIGGERSTAFF, JAN (JB)
ENGSTROM, CLARISSA NELSON (CNE)
POOLER, TOM (TP)
RIVERA, ALFREDO (AR)
RUIZ, JUDITH (JR)
BILLIE YOUNG (BY)

1. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Approval of agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded.

3. **Approval of March 27, 2008 Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded.

4. **Amendment to Title 10.24.030 to regulate unsterilized dogs and cats impounded at the animal shelter**

DAVE MARCH (DM) – final copy from DA office with a few minor changes. We did not lose intent or enforceability. TP – what minor changes were made? DM - Second impound, requirement for owner to be qualified to obtain fancier permit prior to reclaim from shelter was removed. DA found it cumbersome, difficult and confusing. By removing, we increased from \$65 to \$100 the amounts for impound. Owner has option to use impound dollars for sterilization and implant of a microchip. Section C impound fee was increased from \$80 to \$200. Dog or cat must be sterilized before release from shelter. Motion to pass made and seconded.

5. **Appeal of Vicious Animal Declaration: Tyrone Anthony Lathan - 3939 Sorrento Way, Las Vegas, NV 89121**

TERRY STEVENSON (TS) – our dog Gizmo was killed on the 14th of this month on our premises by the neighbors' two pit bulls. My 13 year old called me while I was at the grocery store in an absolute panic saying the pit bulls next door had attacked our Chihuahua/Pekinese mix. My first thought was "oh my God they are going to turn on her." I had her call 911 and called 911 too. By the time I had gotten home, Elizabeth had brought in Gizmo. He had already expired. Common fence with this neighbor in a state of disrepair. We had just replaced the fence on the other side of this line. We had plans to replace the other side. Both parties were aware it was not in good condition and that the 100 lbs pit bulls could easily knock the fence over. They have come through the fence on numerous occasions. About a month and a half ago, at 3 a.m., Gizmo was in bed with us, he got up growling. Their 2 pit bulls were in our bedroom at the foot of our bed

looking like they were ready to pounce on our dog. My husband got up, got them out of the bedroom, shut the door so Gizmo was safe, got them into our backyard and woke up the neighbor. This was the second incident in two weeks. We found them during the day in our dining room. They had broken the fence boards out, came in our house through our doggy door. I believe this time they dug under the fence. We found a whole panel of fence that had fallen into this gentleman's yard. I think his dogs dug under it and it fell into the yard. We had plans to repair the fence. He has a dog run with chain link fence where he could have kept his dogs restrained. He has been very irresponsible. This is real loss for my family. It was traumatic for my 13 year old to go through this. I thank God they did not attack her when they were through with the dog. In talking to my neighbors, they also have a great deal of concern about these dogs. They attacked the German Shepherds on 3 separate occasions. My next-door neighbors had these dogs come through our yard and jump through the fence into their yard in the middle of February. I love animals; we have friends who raised pit bulls. Raised correctly they can be gentle dogs. Obviously a problem when an owner won't keep them secure in their yard. Dogs have been aggressive. He is aware they were getting out of his yard. Also, concerned if they are euthanized, he will turn around buy more pit bulls and we will be right back in the same situation. CE – Was Gizmo spay/neutered? TS- Yes. I also understand he is breeding these dogs. I have a 6-year-old granddaughter and an 8-year-old daughter who play in my yard. I am very concerned for their safety as well. My 13 year old is here.

ELIZABETH STEVENSON (ES) – TP when you saw this happening, did you run out while the pit bulls were out there to rescue your dog? ES - I ran out there when they weren't attacking but they were still in the backyard. TP – did they ever try to attack or bite you? ES – No, I ran inside and called my mom. It was both dogs. I could see both of them had blood in their mouths.

TP – any other neighbors to testify as to viciousness of the dogs? ROBERT MCNAMARA (RM) – lived at my address for 22 years. Been a problem since the guy moved in. Don't share common line, over one lot to the right. Several times it was like you threw a cat or a big hunk of meat to them. They aren't playing. The dogs are out of control. This is a problem. We expect it to be resolved tonight. TP – when you heard noises, what was going on? RM – dogs are fighting amongst themselves, not playing. They're very aggressive. We can't see it. We just hear it. I would ask my neighbor why he didn't call police. He was trying to get along with neighbors. CE – do you have pets? RM – yes 90lb junk yard dog and a 20 lb dog, both s/n. Barking isn't the problem. I can deal with that. Makes me concerned for anyone sharing a common fence with them.

LINDA PENARO (LP) – neighbor to the pit bull owners. Have animals, German Shepherds, all s/n, 4 males and one Bassett hound. About 2 weeks ago, just got GS back that was attacked by one of the pit bulls that Tyrone said he was socializing with the other two pit bulls that attacked Gizmo. My dog has had 7 surgeries; diaphragm was pulled from the inside. I wanted to work it out, not calling AC but this was the second attack in my yard on my dogs. I have photos and the pit bull broke through our fence. His pit bulls broke through his back yard, into the victim's backyard, crashed into my pen. The picture of the fence is after pit bulls smashed the fence in. AR – are the dogs we are talking about the ones involved in his case. The one pit that did that damage, he did remove from his property the evening of that attack. The other two stayed. AR – in this case it comes down to the owner. I can't see how one (LP) dog can do that, 3 dogs I can see pushing down the wall. The one dog was a bigger dog but all 3 were apparently in my yard and my neighbor's yard. I did not see it. I came home to a dog that was all bloody sitting in our pen. None of my dogs left the pen they had been attacked in and his dogs were in the house.

BOB FULTON (BF)– lived there 20 years. I own two pets that stay in the house, a cat and a 16

year old Chow. In February, my neighbor came over telling me this man was looking for his dog. I told him I had a pit bull in my back yard. There is a 6ft fence all around. The man went in to see if it was his dog and it was. He was taking care of it for a friend. He went to get the dog and it jumped the 6ft fence to the neighbor's yard behind me. I didn't think much about it until 10 days later at 3 a.m. and my cat is at the patio door hissing with his hair standing straight on his back. These pit bulls were in my yard at the door. I called AC, they came took the dogs out through my dining room into the AC truck. A car pulled up and said those are my dogs. It was about 4:45 a.m. Dogs kept trying to jump up into the door to get to my cat. Have been in my yard twice since then. Not aggressive to a human being. These owners need to take care of their dogs. Have to go through 2 neighbor's yards to get to my yard. If fence is not good enough he should have a pen. BY – are they the same two dogs were are talking about today. BF – I was in CO when it happened but I was told it was the same two dogs. To my knowledge the dogs in my backyard were the same dogs that attacked Gizmo.

ROBERT STEVENSON – the dogs getting out has been a common thing for the last couple of months. The neighbors knew they had to keep their dogs in the pen. When they kept them in the pen, we didn't have a problem. Every time they let them out, they come under the fence, over the fence or through the fence. I went out there one time to prove that even if we had a brand new fence that it would not fix the problem. I saw them in the back yard and shooed them off. They ran right through the fence. They had torn a board off the fence while I was trying to fix it; they were grabbing the plank and ripping it out. I have seen them running the streets before, been in my backyard I don't know how many times. As long as they are not in the pens, they get out. The scary part was them getting in the house. They have been in my house 3 times.

TYRONE LATHAN (TL) – I am a renter. I have had multiple pit bulls. Every time I found it was vicious I got rid of it. The night of the incident I told her I would make full restitution for her dog. I told her I am responsible for my dogs' action. Told Mr. Stevenson I would make restitution for his dog. Those two dogs, Missy and Puck are not aggressive. D.O.G. was aggressive, Endo was aggressive, Duchess was aggressive. I got rid of them. I too am a father and a grandfather. I do not wish to have aggressive pit bulls around my children. Fence collapsed. I have a dog pen and a backyard. Three panels collapsed. My dog was injured in altercation as well. I got a phone call approximately 10:15 a.m. I came home from work. There were two ACOs and Metro. I identified myself and they walked away. When they came back, they told me they had to take my dogs, that they had seen the brown dog kill the other dog. Neither one of those dogs is aggressive. At nighttime they come in the house. At 3 or 4 I let them out for the bathroom. They are puppies; they are not 100 lb dogs. TP – you have dogs that you know keep going over or under the fence. Why don't you keep them in the pen all the time? TL - I have patched up that fence every time they rip it up. When I left, they were in the house. When I came home, I found out what was going on. We use the pen daily. When we are at work the dogs are in the pen. JB – this happened at 9:30 a.m. so you were at work, how would they be out of the pen? TL – her son was visiting from Seattle. I have no excuse for them being out of the pen. JB – when you remove the dogs where do you take them. TL – my dogs are not s/n. I breed them. CE – I know bloodlines. Can you show me papers from different blue bloodlines? Do you have a breeders permit? Do you have current rabies? TL – I have no breeders permit but do have a rabies shots. CE – one is 10 months and one is 13 months, can you produce birth certificates. Who is vet? TL – Sandy Hill Vet clinic. AC was in contact with them on the date this happened. JB – if we put these animals down, would you get more animals to breed? TL – but why would my animals be put down? CE – because they killed another dog. JR – when you get rid of them what do you do? TL – I gave 2 to my brother. They were prone to attack so I returned them to my brother. The other dog a friend had given me. I was going to breed with Puck but after the situation with the young lady, I took the dog back and gave it to the owner. DM – the code says you can uphold AC determination, decide

dangerous or neither. In both cases, AC officer determined based on substantial bodily harm to human or animal. Both circumstances rise to the level of animal being deemed vicious. TP – we are giving you an opportunity to present your case. We make a determination as to whether we agree with ACO. If we uphold, you can appeal to Justice Court.

KIMBERLY CHAMPMAN (KC) – Missy and Puck are my dogs. Missy was given to me for mother's day and Puck was a dog we were trying to save. As to why they were not in the pen, to me they are housedogs. Yes, fence is bad. We have tried many times to fix the fence. The neighbors have children and there were little holes in the fence. The dogs would try to play with the kids. They are young, spend a lot of time in the house and go to parks. Have a list of people who would verify they are not vicious. Have affidavits from people who have been around the dogs and us. I don't believe in breeding dogs. I just wanted to have two dogs to grow old with. As far as them having done what they did to the neighbor's dog, I truly am very sorry. It bothers me that they lost a dog due to my dogs but I don't want my dogs to be put to sleep on the grounds that they are vicious. They don't just attack and kill. I have no idea what happened that day. The loss of their dog, I feel for them but I don't want to lose both of my dogs.

CE – I would like to meet these dogs. I walk into a room with a dog w/o a muzzle and I can tell within a few seconds if they are going to eat my face. Tough case, there is admission on both sides of unreliable fence. JB – you saw pictures of Gizmo. KC - I have not seen pictures. BY – do you want to see them? KC and TL – yes. JB – if your dogs are not vicious, how did this happen? CE – does your landlord know that you have two pit bulls? Been a renter in the past and been denied renting places because of my dogs. Do you have to have insurance? KC – yes my landlord knows.

TL – did you take pictures of my dogs? My dog suffered injuries as well. I am saying a Chihuahua cannot do that to my dog. CE – then maybe Missy did it? TP – from my perspective, your dogs killed that dog and in the ensuing melee, your dog injured the other dog. So one of the other pit bulls chewed up the other.

JANET PANCOAST – they helped me out and boarded my 3 dogs (a German Shepherd and 2 large mutts). They stayed there a week without any event. They have had experience with dogs and there was no problem at all. This took place about 6 or 8 months ago. There is some indication that simply because it is another dog, they will attack. That will not happen. CE – you said 8 months ago and that would put these two puppies under 6 months old.

DM – we have photographs and the priors. The record for this location: July of 07, animals had no water or shelter. Officer found shade and water provided. Complaint of Vicious RAL in December of 07. We had difficulty obtaining info from owners at that time. On December 17, 2007, dogs again RAL, issued 4 citations, rabies proof, dogs RAL, intact animals w/o permit and no tags and then this incident in April. CE – so there were several warnings. Can we have the dogs taken away from the owners and not euthanize. You should not have pit bulls. You have had issues forever. AR – it is not just pit bulls. TP – we are talking about these two dogs and what they have done. CE – there is a record of malfeasance with these owners not just the dogs. How do I make a judgment against these dogs? TP – do you believe they killed that dog? CE – yes, however, both parties admit fence is not good. I know these dogs did this. It becomes a matter of responsibility. JB – it seems like every time a dog comes in to us it is because of lack of responsibility of the owners. This could be prevented if owners did the right thing. Sad animals have to suffer for this. BY – heartbroken over puppies that have a tug of war with another animal whether thought of as a toy or whatever. I believe they did kill this dog and that is what I have to look at. I appreciate the owner recognizing that he had responsibility over his dogs although don't think he recognizes level of responsibility. I have a dog that jumps fence and when it is time to go to the bathroom I am out on the back porch watching the dog making sure he is not getting out of

my yard. Level of responsibility goes to the need of the animal and the control required. AR – I think any dog or animal can be deemed vicious if they are not trained or restrained. Any dog or animal can break skin. There is a history of negligence on part of the owners. We have a responsibility to protect our animals and doesn't matter what their nature is, we have to be smarter, to be able to think ahead for them. They are like kids. Most of us don't leave our kids unsupervised. I don't believe these dogs in the right environment would have done this. They had not been controlled or contained. They did what they did and according to the law, they are deemed vicious, whether friendly or not, they killed another dog. JR –irresponsibility and negligence is quite evident. I feel sorry for the dogs and am sure you will be upset about this Tyrone but to prevent further injury and death to other animals or people, we have to determine they are vicious. TP – we are held responsible to do our best to protect our community and our animals. Ownership of an animal is responsibility that doesn't go away because you close the door, go to bed at night or go to the store. You are still responsible even if you are not there. We need to take a vote. Motion made and seconded to uphold Declaration of Vicious. TP – you do have the opportunity to take this to court with an attorney if you feel you want to take this further. You have to notify AC so animals are not put down prior to date.

6. Appeal of Vicious Animal Declaration: Carlos Santiago - 2933 Palma Vista Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89121

TP – is Mr. Santiago here? DM – he was properly noticed. We did not receive a request to hold the hearing. TP are victims present?

FRAN CASTILLO (FC) – my son was the 4 year old attacked by the dogs. The dogs had been running in the neighborhood. The boys were playing in the front yard. Our daughter witnessed it. His irresponsibility as a pet owner is at issue here. Dogs don't need to be returned to him. Someone like that who has a vicious dog, Hitman, unneutered male, worked in animal field for 8 years and my experience with dogs; he is an irresponsible pet owner. As a mother, pet owner and former veterinary employee I have seen the effects not only to my child but other animals who get in the path of these dogs. Part of it is a lack of education and lack of responsibility. If you are not capable of handling or restraining, you should not have a dog. JB – have you seen the dogs roaming prior to this? FC – I haven't but some of my neighbors had seen the dogs roaming prior to this. CE – we have laws about keeping guns locked up; you keep your dogs locked up. These people need to be charged with a violation. FC – I am grateful my son is alive. They have minor injuries compared to what could have been. A week ago, we heard screams, heard dog attack and all I could think of when I heard dog attack was I was going to run to the driveway and find two dead babies. TP - prior record on these animals. DM – it is this incident and this bite and extent of the injuries. Because substantial bodily harm was inflicted it precipitates going straight to vicious. November of 05 injured dog and complaint of vicious dogs on 4/15/08. First occurrence in 05, second in 08. TP – no prior record of RAL.

DELLA LOMBARDO – my son, 5 years old, has 152 stitches on his face. The boxer is 100% vicious. I took the dog off of my son. He almost lost his eye, arms sliced, blood all over the place. Healing nicely. Trauma everyone experienced and two 8-year-old girls who had to witness their brothers going through this will continue to be scarred. I request both dogs be put down, especially Hitman. I know he came from a fighting home but there is no rehabilitating him. The female from my daughter's point of view tried to go off and attack the boxer. My daughter went through something traumatic. She will never be the same. BY – how many people were bit? 2 boys and a neighbor. There was a dog in the neighborhood two weeks prior that was killed by a roaming dog. This is happening a lot. Big dogs not neutered or spayed in our neighborhood. The injuries to Charlie, 152 stitches in his face, plastic surgery.

TERRY KILLIAN – at the time I was coming home for lunch, I happened to pull up on the mother fighting off one of the dogs. From what I witnessed and I have ten years experience with vicious animals, the dogs need to be put down. I am a father and have pets. There needs to be more education for people how to take care of animals and for what happened they need to be aware and liable. They can't just throw it a bone say hi once a day. Since the owner of those dogs knew boxer mix was a fighting dog, he is liable. Please put them down. Another neighbor came and helped me and was attacked and bit. He did not file a report because our main concern was the two little boys.

CE – were these dogs s/n? DM – no. Female pit was either pregnant or just had puppies w/o a fancier permit. He has been issued citations for failing to restrain the dogs, failing to have permit, failing to have proof of rabies and failing to tag animals on the date of the bite.

AR – I think as animal handler, it is shame people continue to be negligent in either training or containing their dog, especially the powerful dogs. When a Chihuahua bites someone it doesn't make the news but when a big dog bites someone it can do a lot of damage. Anybody that knows their dog is not trained should contain their dog. If you don't train a dog you better contain him because things like this are going to happen. Not the fault of the dogs. If you don't teach them how to behave, they won't behave. People have to be held accountable for the action of the dogs. Feel sorry for these dogs. They should be put down because the owners are not responsible but in big picture we should hold the people accountable for the actions of their animals.

TP – is Mr. Santiago present? Do we uphold declaration of vicious? All agreed to uphold declaration of vicious.

7. **Proposed change to Title 10.32.050 regarding transporting animals**

DM – It becomes more difficult with a broader term of animal; primarily dogs and cats. Mr. Halstead suggested we expand to include transporting inside vehicle and to better cover cats within that scenario. JR – ACOs don't have authority to stop a vehicle. Police didn't feel they could cite someone for transporting in an inhumane fashion. DM – ACOs cannot do a traffic stop. If we follow them and they stop, we could ticket them. We have on occasion but if they don't stop, we can't do anything and more complicated when you expand to include animals transported inside vehicle. AR – it means you can't transport a dog inside your car that is not tied down. You would have to secure dog somehow. Be tough to enforce. DM - it was in the event of an accident, animal not be propelled and injured. JB – have a concern, how many times have we seen people pulled out with Jaws of Life. If you have a dog or cat, it would be worse for the animal than if animal had opportunity to be free. DM – point would be similar to safety belts. While there is a risk of injury, the risk of greater injury in not being seat belted. BY- doesn't want to see any more micromanaging than necessary by government. TP – do we need to do anything with this? DM – it is not an action item so you are not voting yea or nay. You can table it or hear comments.

DR. MYRA GLASSMAN – all in favor of utilizing dog seat belts or putting them in a crate for their safety and driver's safety. I do agree with BY. It is not appropriate for us to be micromanaging public at this point. With some dogs, depending on how well trained, some are better off without harness. My dogs are trained to lie down in back seat. Dog climbing over front seat is another problem; they do need to be restrained. We don't need another ordinance. We already have a bunch on the books that are not being enforced because of shortage of manpower. Enforcement is reactive rather than proactive. Don't have enough officers patrolling and picking up dogs wandering on the street. Get involved when someone calls and complains. Would not

support adding another issue to be on the books and not enforced.

BRUCE HALSTEAD (BH) – when I first proposed this it was in case of an accident. If restrained, less chance of injury, to protect animal from flying.

LOU TOOMIN (LT) – has a problem with ordinance regarding appropriate restraint device. What is that and who determines what is appropriate? Is it available on the market? DM – As I discussed with Mr. Halstead the method would be something that is safe. If animal is going to be injured, it wouldn't be appropriate. LT – problem is determination of what it is. What may be appropriate to you may not be appropriate to me. I have a 200lb Great Dane. What is appropriate and where do you get it. BY – there are harnesses that connect to the seat belt. I am talking about the truck bed. LT – that part of the ordinance needs to be addressed a little better.

JANET PANCOAST – has 3 dogs and occasionally has to take to the groomers. If you enact this ordinance, then everybody who takes their animal to a vet would need this. It is micromanaging. There are better things to do. Sentiment behind it is good. But to make all dog and cat owners restrain inside the car in case they might get in a wreck is overreaching. It is ambiguous and vague. Is anything available on the market?

TP – any motions on this? AR – moves to kill ordinance, original wording is satisfactory. JR – seconds. AR – love my dogs like my kids. When I had a pickup I put an I bar in the middle of the bed toward front with a harness that couldn't come off, just short enough so he couldn't see over the side. I didn't want anything flying into his eyes. Don't agree with telling people how to control their dog inside the car. Most people have common sense. Motion carries.

8. **Information-sharing by Committee Members**

CE – did anyone get a chance to look at the questions I gave out last month? TP – At the beginning of the meeting I handed out information as a result of our public subcommittee meeting dealing with ordinances dealing with fancier permits. We can all discuss this and once we are done discussing this, general public will be asked to discuss this. Is there any other business before we get off into this aspect?

CARLOS SANTIAGO – my case already went earlier. TP – we upheld the declaration of vicious. If you don't agree with that, you can carry that case on to Justice Court.

TP – the change we are talking about has to do with dog shows. Currently they are being allowed to have permit if they do a fun show or a Strut Your Mutt. That is a way to get around the intent. We want to close the loophole by saying it must be entered into at least one licensed event sponsored by a nationally recognized and licensed registry each year where the animal can actually earn a title. CE – I agree with that. TP – we are trying to close that particular loophole. JR – that is fair. TP – this is just discussion between our members and then we will allow public to make comments. CE – can't teach consciousness but can regulate breeding for business. If they are going to breed to make money, they are misguided. I profit more from bad breeding than from good breeding.

MIKE CONNELL – president Silver state kennel club. My dogs are all show dogs. We did go over this and the wording was so vague and unclear before. We came up with this with the recognized license registry. We wanted clarification. CE – this is must simpler.

TP – a \$50 fee for a permit. Most often you take your dog to a vet what do you do? MIKE

CONNELL – we want to clarify with a breeders permit; they take these dogs to a vet for a medical exam. Do not breed less than 2 years of age. We get OFA, blood panel, along with eye exam. Honest breeders do this. We have a code of ethics. TP- what does this cost? MC - \$1200 to \$1800 to complete. If they fail one of the exams, they are s/n and placed in a home. With strict stringent medical examination required, the breeders' permit must be there before it is whelped. If they wait until after, fee is doubled along with fine. CE – you are not the problem. Problem is people who go to pet stores buy trailer bred dog from MO and think they should breed. MC – we want them to have a permit before they can advertise or sell. But permit is for one year. AR – so we are talking about two different issues here. When they (MC) see they have to do medical exams and cannot breed under 2 years of age, they will go for s/n. JB – do they evaluate for temperament? DM – TP came to me with notes from subcommittee meeting. Breeders permit is a permit to breed as much as you want, not constantly having to pay for the breeding. Once a year you pay for an inspection. Litter permit was a couple years ago and you would have to go through the hoops. I called Dr. Taylor about medical exams. He said min poodles don't get hip dysplasia, why would you require for diseases breed doesn't get. As a starting point, vet must say suitable for breeding. We will have to have something you can point to that is recognized and not just arbitrary. Are we missing some things? So we tried to keep it open so the vet says. CE – if that were the case there would be no English bulldogs. If we breed for health soundness on vet perspective, most of breeds would not exist. People need to know if you can't afford the maintenance. I want people to understand. I do enough with humane societies that so many people don't understand what it costs.

MC – smaller dogs still have hereditary issues which is why we but medical exams that cover every breed. CE – but no breed would pass. DM – we did add medical language. The difference was only trying to place it on the veterinarian to decide what is required for this particular animal. CE – this is called a prepurchase exam. MC – if dog didn't need a specific exam, the vet would be able to certify. That was covered in medical end to put in terminology to scare the people who want to do it for the heck of it so their children can see birthing experience. We wanted to do medical end. At \$145 per whelping, per litter, per bitch, you will drive underground. If \$50 for a breeder and medical exams, they will say I don't mind \$50 but I am not going for the exam. CE- why can't we get breeders permit in paper? I saw Janie Greenspun Gale's rebuttal. TP – you can't require newspaper to do it but can require people who are selling to do it.

MICHELLE BEDOWITCH – as I understand you are trying to simplify and close loopholes. You are creating one more loophole. Saying you have to attend at least one sponsored event. You can't tell me that these people making a crap load of money selling these pets aren't going to say okay, I will pay \$29 to go to an AKC in LV one time to get permit. They will go, take their dogs, they will lose. TP – it takes more than that. It is just fancier permit. MB – I don't know the difference. AR – fancier owns up to six dogs. MB as far as demanding health testing, I agree with it but it is really punishing us. I know what my pedigree will produce. I do my health testing, heart, eyes, OFA. I know if I am breeding 3 generations back. I am pretty sure on both sides I will get a healthy puppy. Don't think fair to add one more expense on us. TP – do you want to be on our committee? CE – what do you breed? MB – Newfoundlands – one girl not spayed. JB – do you have enough manpower to police this? DM – If we get leads on people advertising in paper and we can find them, we will go there to ensure they are doing everything correctly. That is the biggest headache, finding the people. JB –if they don't what happens. DM – we issue a ticket but it is up to the judge. They have to take time off work, find a place to park.

BH – What do you consider proper for the breed? TP – if you don't like the vet, you can go to another. You can shop around or come to the conclusion that they know more than you do.

AR – not just AKC, any licensed registry which includes registries beyond AKC. DM – Title 10.30 was mentioned. Professional Animal Standards are comprehensive and applies to breeders selling animals because you are required to offer a warranty on the pet. So if you are buying a pet from someone you have some recourse. We apply to breeders and pet shops. There are also medical requirements. It will have to be seen by a vet before offered for sale and you will have to show proof. Vets have to enter prescription for vaccine and when we find these people we apply housing requirements for square footage per animal. Pet shop can take from 2 to 4 hours to inspect. That is true for breeders as well as pet shops. We need help finding the breeders more than we need new codes to stop the breeding. We need to get them into the system, have them comply or sterilize. We are going to do a campaign and let the public know more about pet lemon law. They are the ones that need to call us. We enforce this 100% on the breeders as well once we find them.

JOE BOTEILHO (JOE) – the people we are trying to regulate are not going to take advantage of the law. Most effective tool is if you are in violation we will make you sterilize your pet and pet shop standards that apply to breeders and others. It is one of the toughest laws in US for animal care, animal housing. I would be surprised if anyone in the room can show me they are doing all the things. I will send the crew and they will find violations. They find umpteen violations at pet shops. We need to identify people who are breeding and we need to do a better job of getting out to the public that if you are buying on the street or backyard, you have recourse. If animal has defect or problems, the public has recourse.

KEN SONDEJ – national registry is good. It has to be advertised on regular channels to the general media not just channel 4 or 2. The people you are trying to control don't watch these channels.

9. Comments by the General Public

MYRA GLASSMAN (MG) has a request. Gas has gotten expensive. Asks that meetings alternate between this location and Desert Breeze Community Center. It has the Spring Valley Town board meeting room. TP – no problem. We will alternate meetings. DM – we will check availability. MG – most of you know I rescue small dogs. People frequently come to me for where they can go for low cost s/n. We no longer have vouchers from AC as they are going to humane societies. Looking for resource for the public. Used to be seniors would be able to get vouchers to help with costs. There are no more vouchers available. JR - Humane Societies and other orgs take care of these dogs. Will the humane society help? JR – it varies. DM - Advantage of APL funds is 100% redemption. HCW and LVVHS have worked hard helping folks looking for no or low cost. MG – have referred people to HCW and they have worked wonders but sometimes they can't accommodate someone.

KAREN LAYNE – we get more dog s/n requests than cats. We are not getting large dogs, tons of small dogs. You ask people where they got dog. They say pet shop. We try to make sure we can accommodate larger dogs – still \$115. We help people who can't afford. We want to spend our money on the larger dogs, on the pit bulls, on the dogs that are big. Our resources are limited. We only get x number of vouchers. It is really frustrating for us but pet shops are saying you can pay \$5,000 and then call these people for a low cost s/n. We are trying to accommodate everyone who needs it. Dog s/n are expensive. We may not accommodate person who bought dog at pet store but will refer to West Charleston. They charge about \$182. If they just spent \$5,000 or \$1,200 for that dog, they can afford it. We concentrate on pit bulls, German shepherds. JB – can you assess a person or income? KL – people lie. First question is where did you get dog. As soon as we hear pet shop, bells go off. We will refer them but if they don't have finances, we will not help them

with voucher. Even those people don't want to pay \$182. We keep Tropicana who can only s/n so many animals per week. As a priority we want them to do the larger dogs. CE – as a vet I would rather spay a smaller dog than spay a fat, old dog. KL – this is the problem we run into. Issue is a matter of money that has gotten worse because of economic times. If someone actually is on a fixed income, really in need, we will accommodate. MG – people I am talking about don't get them from pet shops. Rescue work going on online and lot of animals we are seeing right now are victims of foreclosure crisis, people needing to vacate into apartments where they can't keep. Some of us are trying to rehome and are firm believers of s/n. We like to make sure they are s/n before going to new home. In many cases we are talking about people who really don't have the money. We are trying to keep animals out of the shelter. I am doing this on my own, out of my pocket. HCW have been wonderful as far as s/n. They accept my word. I can't get everyone over to them. I am not saying we want free s/n. If I can send someone for \$115 that is certainly better than \$180 and some are asking more than that. Where can I send people?

KL – this is getting to be a huge issue. Petco and PetSmart like to have dog adoptions because it brings in people and makes money for them. We can do one location of dog adoptions. They are letting in people from Pahrump. They are allowed to adopt animals with a voucher. The person gets the animal, pays \$400, goes to vet with the voucher and vet says they don't know anything about voucher. Fraud being committed. When things get bad, store evicts org and looks around for another. They change name and come back in starting same thing all over again. For groups adopting, we must mandate they are s/n before adopted out. It creates fraud. We get a bad name. No one knows difference between animal groups. We need to address this issue.

JOE – We have a great opportunity. We will have to hold the line and remember that NLV is about to come on line with mandatory sterilization. I have been critical of our local humane groups. Best Friends made an offer to work with Lied but are not going forward. They will work with rescue groups and there is a great opportunity to ask public for support. CE – can you elaborate? JB – Best Friends were offering to come in and work with rescue groups. I am saying opportunity for local groups to say we need to fundraise here. We need to get the sterilization money. I am saying now is the time for humane groups to band together to strike first on this fund raising with NLV when it comes on line because if people can't get support in NLV it will not work. Get together because we meet with these groups and we want to make sure NLV ordinance works and works well. Their moratorium is coming to an end and they are going to start enforcing and people are going to be looking for more sterilization. Wish someone would get on other entities to get a funding source.

BY – Where did these statistics come from? DM – those are from Roseanne. BY – have vets interested in getting this info.

10. Set date, time and agenda of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Desert Breeze Community Center.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.