

**Sonoma County Animal Services Partnership
Animal Ordinance Review Workgroup – Meeting Notes**

April 21, 2014 2:00 - 4:00pm

Sonoma County PRMD Conference Room, 2550 Ventura Ave, Santa Rosa

Present: Brigid Wasson, Ellen Bauer, Sandi Potter, Sheri Cardo, Brian Ness, Richard Pope, RJ Kamprath, Jane Eagle and Becky Lunders (facilitator)

Topic	Discussion	Action/Decision
Summary of Public Workshop Comments	Brigid presented a summary of the comments from the Public Workshop. This set the stage for our discussion about what additional research is needed and what parties we need to connect with to get input and feedback on the proposed changes.	Please send comments on the summary document to Brigid so she can incorporate them. Also, any input on the latest version of the Standards of Care can be sent to Brigid. Brigid will get the Summary of Public Workshop comments document out to the group soon.
Research Topics	Below are the areas of interest raised at the Public Workshop in which we need to do more work before finalizing the proposed changes to the ordinances.	
Cat Limit & Birds	<p>Several bird groups expressed concern about the proposal of lifting the cat limit. The workgroup concluded that we need to reach out to the concerned parties to better understand their concerns and work together to identify solutions.</p> <p>More research is needed in the areas of data (% of birds killed by cats, other things that kill birds). There is also an education component as to why the cat limit lifting is proposed. We'd like to research if there are CA counties that had a cat limit and then removed it and what the impact was on birds.</p> <p>The group also discussed the environmental impact and the potential for this element to trigger requirements of CEQA.</p>	<p>Brigid will invite representatives from bird groups to come together for a meeting to discuss proposed changes and hear their concerns. She will work with the wildlife expert to get data and see if CA Fish & Game has any precedent in other counties.</p> <p>Goal: to hold meeting before June 1st.</p> <p>Also, Ellen will inquire with county counsel regarding the constitutionality of pet limits.</p>
Barking Dogs	There was a lot of interest at the Public Workshop on the topic of barking dogs. The workgroup has researched this and is still trying to determine the best approach. The main changes that are proposed are an educational element (help people with barking dogs solve their own problem) and a procedural element when it comes to the handling of complaints.	<p>There is a need to clearly define "what is a barking dog?" Brigid will develop a draft definition to be added to the ordinance.</p> <p>Brigid will bring to the next meeting a draft of the Barking Dog packet that is in the works to better address the educational and procedural components of the barking dog issue.</p>
Parcel Size	There were comments about the proposal to change the parcel size in the ordinance from 1 acre to ½ acre in some zoning districts. There is a need to do more research on the topic.	<p>Sandi will research number of parcels that would be impacted by the change.</p> <p>There is interest in doing another workshop or workshops once the ordinance is updated with county counsel comments, the</p>

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		Bark package is drafted, and more is known about possible CEQA impacts.
Next Meeting	Agenda Items for next meeting include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome of meeting with bird group research on CEQA impacts • Barking Dogs – draft of procedure and education • Parcel Size – research • Standards of Care – final edits 	Next meeting is Monday, June 2nd, 2-4pm *** Changed to JUNE 26th, 3-5pm at the PRMD front conference room. The PRMD office is located at the County Campus: Permit and Resource Management Department, 2550 Ventura Ave., Santa Rosa