



Animal Control Advisory Board
TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

Lawrence Memorial Hall
2 Jabish Street, P.O. Box 670
Belchertown, Massachusetts 01007

Date: September 29, 2015

Time: Meeting Convened 6:58 pm

Meeting Adjourned 8:20 pm

Place: Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall

Present:

Brian Breveleri, Board Member
Chrystal Greenleaf, Board Member
Carol Kasabian, Board Member
Jim Luippold, Board Member/Secretary
Nicole Miner, Chairperson
Audrey Safford, Board Member
Anna Fenton, Animal Control Officer
Christian Airoidi, Dog owner
Sandy Brougham Witness to dog behavior

Meeting convenes at 7:07 pm with an official quorum.

First order of business to hear the complaint submitted by Belchertown Animal Control against Christian Airoidi of 33 Mill Valley owner of two rescued pit bulls Gungar (male) and Ellie (female).

Miner reads through all documentation provided by Animal Control, including:

8/1/14: Citation for Ellie being impounded and RAL

12/10/14 Citation for Ellie RAL and impounded

7/15/15 Citation for Ellie but fees were waived due to house being broken into

7/15/15 Citation for Gungar fees were also waived due to house being broken into

9/7/15 Citation for Ellie RAL and impounded

9/7/15 Citation for Gungar RAL and impounded

9/7/15 Letter from a person who wishes to remain anonymous stating that Airoidi had two pitbulls in his garage. She stated that the two dogs had jumped out of a second story window. The female had hurt her paw in the fall.

9/14/15 Letter written by Kathy Hodgen re finding Ellie and Gungar RAL by the Cold Springs School

Letter addressed to the Animal Advisory Board by dog officer Janet Lipscomb documenting what happened when Ellie and Gungar were brought to the pound. Ellie was limping and Gungar seemed to have a seizure. She insisted that the dogs be seen by a vet at Mill Valley vets by 9/8/15

which was not done. Harnesses and medication for separation anxiety were recommended to Airolodi.

Miner asks Airolodi if he had proof of bringing the dogs to the vets. He said he had no proof but stated that Ellie had been run over by a car weeks prior and that is how she hurt her paw..

Sandy Brougham stated that Airolodi's male killed one of her prized roosters while he was RAL. Airolodi did provide restitution for the cost of the rooster. Brougham also stated that the dog was not vicious but needed to be neutered and strict training implemented..

Miner asks Airolodi how the screens in the windows got broken and why Airolodi did not inform the Board about Ellie's injured paw..

Airolodi denies that the dogs jumped out of the second story window. The male breaks through his doors and screens. He stated that the dogs are contained in a first story room

Breveleri reprimands Airolodi for not constructing a solid kennel to contain his dogs when he could have done so if he had not spent so much money on fines.(over \$1,000)
He recommends a harness that he has used for training his dogs which proved an effective measure for containing them.

Fenton brings up the issue of Airolodi bringing Ellie to the vets and states that Airolodi lied to her via a text message by not telling the truth about Ellie's injury.
Airolodi denies that he lied and said it was a question of semantics in the text message. He denied that Ellie jumped out of the window.

Miner asks Fenton to get a written report from the MSPCA regarding a visit to Airolodi's home, bringing the dog to Mill Valley vets and providing info about Gagnar's seizure .

Airolodi admits to yelling at his dogs at the pound but not in a threatening manner.

Miner asks Airolodi and Brougham to wait outside during the Board's discussion.

After 15 minutes of discussion, the Board reaches a consensus that Mr. Airolodi must fulfill the following requirements about his male dog, Gagnar:

A-. **Neutering** of the dog within the next 30 days Suggested Airolodi to contact Second Chance of North Brookfield which offers neutering for \$50

B-. **Medication**—Airolodi must bring Gagnar to a vet for anxiety medication within the next 7 days

C- **Proof**--Airolodi must provide proof from a vet about Ellie's paw injury and info about Gagnar's seizure

D-**Restraining**—Airolodi must keep the dogs restrained in his bedroom while he is at work

E- **Training**—Airoldi must look into a trainer for Gugnar to help with his separation anxiety issues

Consequences: Failure to do the above will result in the immediate removal of the dogs from his home

To ensure that Airoldi medicates and restrains his dogs in 7 days, there will be a Board meeting with Airoldi present on **October 6 , 2015 at 7p.m.** ROOM of meeting TBA.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Luippold acting secretary on 9/29/2015