

PET-FRIENDLY TASK GROUP - 12: 30 PM (Wednesday, August 25, 2021)

1. OPENING OF MEETING MEMBERS PRESENT: Abby Block, Michelle Gentine, Laura Berchem, Pam Hertel, Ofc. Kevin Post  
ABSENT: Michelle Warner, Betty Ackley, Kristine Potter  
STAFF/OFFICIALS PRESENT:

1.1 CALL TO ORDER Chair Laura Berchem called the meeting to order.

1.2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. MINUTES

2.1 Approval of minutes A quorum was not reached at the July 28 th meeting so there were no minutes to approve.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

3.1 Limit of five people having five minutes each with comments limited to items on this agenda.

Two members of the public attended the meeting. Andy Heyn and Kevin Anhalt voiced their concerns over the communication to be submitted that evening to the Licensing, Hearings and Public Safety Committee. Both attendees wanted to ensure that the City take the time to explore all options in order to keep pets and their owners safe. The task group feels they would be good additions to the group and discussion and will recommend their addition to the Mayor.

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

4.1 Committee introductions and discussion around recruiting new members. Members of the task group introduced themselves. Current members will think about who might have an interest and relevant experience in joining the group.

4.2 Discuss the task group's response to the community's growing concerns over uncontrolled dogs. The group is aware of the issues of concern and is committed to the work of finding solutions that foster accountable ownership and safety for pets and humans in Sheboygan. Laura Berchem will attend the Licensing, Hearings and Public Safety Committee this evening to listen and to represent the Task Group. The Task Group will continue to monitor community concerns and will work to get the Community Survey out to gather additional information before making recommendations to Council and Committees, where appropriate.

4.3 Evaluate the community survey in its current state and discuss strategy around dissemination

Those in attendance discussed the rollout of the upcoming survey and feel it is ready to be disseminated. Ideas for increasing engagement include ensuring it is pushed out through all available City channels. The group will also target communication with area vets and pet-related businesses asking their assistance in encouraging participation among their clients. There does not appear to be any budget available for boosted posts or participation incentives but this will be confirmed with the Mayor s office.

4.4 Online Assessment Update

committee will work to implement suggestions from the Mars Corporation including adding a link on the City website for resources for pets and their humans including disaster relief, shelters, and housing. The committee will make noted updates and resubmit the application.

4.5 Discuss and delegate next steps Laura will attend the committee meeting this evening and report back to the group. Abby will check with Planning and Development staff regarding engagement software that may be available to assist with disseminating the survey and other information. Group members will consider recommendations for additional members.

## 5. CLOSING OF MEETING

5.1 Next meeting date: Wednesday, September 29 th

5.2 Adjournment Motion by Michelle Gentine, second by Abby Block to adjourn. Motion carried.

Due to no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1: 32 pm.