

## Milford Animal Commission Minutes

November 10, 2010

Members Present  
Marilyn Blake  
Sarah Nierenberg  
Janis Diamond

Members Absent  
Marlene Scrivani  
Ed Leuchtner

Also Present  
ACO Rick George  
State ACO Rich Gregan  
Scott Szalkiewicz

Chairman, Marilyn Blake called meeting to order at 11:03am. Motion to discuss Scott Szalkiewicz case. Comm. Sarah Nierenberg agreed 2<sup>nd</sup> by Comm. Jan Diamond.

Mr. Szalkiewicz stated he was interested in filing a formal report and pursuing an investigation into the dog on dog attack and subsequent bite to Mr. William Pettey by his dog, Sadie. He works for the State of CT in the Office of the Health Department and understands statutes and has investigated statutes involving animal bites. He indicated Statute 22-335 allows him to file a complaint against the Milford Animal Control Officer that quarantined his dog. His research indicated that he makes his complaint to the appointing authority which would be the Mayor. He contacted the mayor's office at 9:50 yesterday morning. The mayor's assistant suggested he attend the Animal Control Commission meeting being held on Wednesday, November 10. He also went to Hartford and spoke with State Animal Control Officer Ray Connors who also suggested it should be handled on a municipal level.

Discussion followed pertaining to how various municipalities investigate dog bites and follow state guidelines for reporting and quarantining. Mr. Szalkiewicz stated he is frustrated at the State, Mayor and Animal Control, as he feels they do not all agree on handling the investigation. Officer George stated he was sorry that Mr. Szalkiewicz feels aggrieved but the State Statutes deems "No Action Necessary" pertaining to dog on dog attacks if both dogs are up to date with rabies vaccinations. Lawyers would receive all information for civil matters. Officer George plans to meet with staff and review state protocols and discuss how everything is handled.

Mr. Szalkiewicz asked how his complaint to the Commission is handled. Chairman Blake told him it would be in the Commission Minutes and a copy will be sent to the Mayor.

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Diamond seconded by Commissioner Nierenberg, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:50.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Perreault