Chair Saeger called the Animal Control Appeal Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on February 22, 2012 in the Lower Level Conference Room of the Troy City Hall.

1. ROLL CALL

Present:
Patrick Carolan
Al Petrulis
Jayne Saeger
Steve Toth
V. James Viola

Also Present:
Paul Evans, Zoning and Compliance Specialist
Susan Lancaster, Assistant City Attorney

City Clerk's Office

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – No changes

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 30, 2010

Moved by Viola
Seconded by Petrulis

RESOLVED, to approve the November 30, 2010 meeting minutes.

Yes: Carolan, Petrulis, Saeger, Viola
Abstain: Toth

MOTION PASSED

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moved by Petrulis
Seconded by Viola

RESOLVED to elect Jayne Saeger as Chair.

Yes: All

MOTION PASSED

Moved by Viola
Seconded by Petrulis

RESOLVED to elect Al Petrulis as Vice Chair.

Yes: All

MOTION PASSED

RESOLVED to elect Patrick Carolan as Secretary.

Moved by Petrulis
Seconded by Viola

Yes: All

MOTION PASSED

5. HEARING OF CASE

A. **WAIVER REQUEST, PETRAQ KASKAVIQI, 1438 LEAFGREEN** – In order to keep 29 racing pigeons, a waiver from the requirement that the property be at least ¾ of an acre in size.

Representing Mr. Kaskaviqi was Renis Nusaj. Mr. Nusaj gave the Board a brief history of the application process relating to the request. He explained his understanding of racing pigeons and their purpose as opposed to other types of pigeons. Specifically, Mr. Nusaj indicated racing pigeons do not loiter and are bred to race. They do not defecate and are not loud or otherwise detrimental to the neighborhood. He believes the ¾ of an acre lot requirement does not apply. Mr. Nusaj cited a State Law that he says prohibits the City from prohibiting the orderly keeping of racing pigeons. He cited examples of where he believes the City has issued animal permits on properties less than ¾ of an acre.

Arnhold Ludwig of St. Clair Shores, Michigan, addressed the Board. Mr. Ludwig is a member of the local branch of the American Racing Pigeon Union. He explained to the Board the historical national security uses of racing pigeons. He discussed the organization's intent to ensure that its members keep racing pigeons in a clean and safe manner.

Mr. Nusaj advised the Board that Mr. Kaskaviqi is a member of the American Racing Pigeon Union.

In response to a Board member question, Mr. Ludwig explained how to keep the racing pigeons from breeding and advised the pigeons should be exercised two times a day outside the coop.

Chair Saeger opened the meeting to public comment.

Citing noise, odors and droppings, the following residents indicated their opposition to the request:

Robert Scott	1444 Leafgreen
Bechara Tohme	1425 Shaker
Constantine Copanos	1429 Shaker

The following members of the public indicated their support for the request:

Jordan Luc	Clawson, Michigan

Four additional individuals who reside outside the City of Troy

At the conclusion of public comment, Mr. Nusaj advised that a chain link fence surrounds the property and the coop is insulated.

The Board discussed the presence of strong opposition, its history to deny permits for pigeons in the past, and that there are no substantial changes between this request and the applicant's previous request. They also discussed noise, disease, procreation of pigeons, the density of homes in the neighborhood the fact that the parcel is only .18 acres in size, and is surrounded by similarly sized parcels.

Motion by Viola
Seconded by Petrulis

RESOLVED to deny the request based on Ordinance Chapter 90.70.20 (f) due to the applicant's lot size and strong neighborhood opposition.

Yes: All

MOTION PASSED

The Board informally discussed the need to have more orderly proceedings. It was agreed that Mr. Evans would propose draft meeting procedures for Board review and approval at their next meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT – The Animal Control Appeals Board meeting ADJOURNED at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

~~Jayne Saeger, Chair~~
AL PETRULIS, VICE CHAIR

Paul Evans, Zoning and Compliance Specialist

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