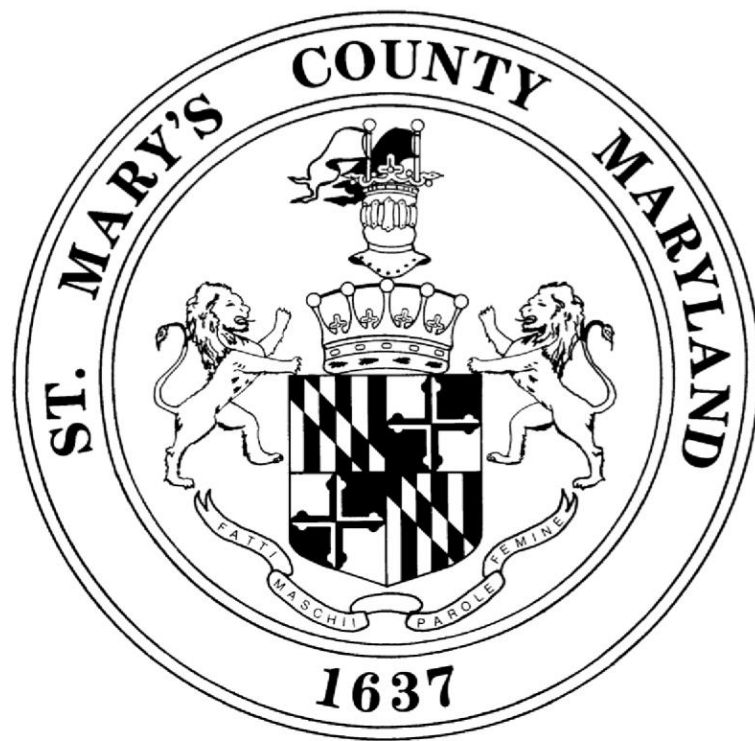


St. Mary's County Animal Control Advisory Board



2022 Annual Report

**ST. MARY’S COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD
2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

Introduction

The St. Mary’s County Animal Control Advisory Board (ACAB) was adopted as a Board on January 8, 2019, effective January 22, 2019.

The Board shall advise the Commissioners of St. Mary’s County (CSMC) on all matters relating to the development and management of the Animal Shelter and the St. Mary’s County Animal Control Ordinance. The purpose of the Board is to assist in animal shelter site selection, building design, emergency plans, policies and procedures. The Board will review and discuss budgets and operational plans of the animal shelter and advise on animal shelter staffing as well as spay and neuter policies. The Board will assist in the development of a 5 Year Strategic Plan for the Animal Shelter, serve as a liaison to the community to increase support and awareness of the Animal Shelter, and review and make recommendations on the Animal Control Ordinance.

The membership of the ACAB shall be seven (7) citizen members; the Animal Control Supervisor from St. Mary’s County Government or other member of Emergency Services designated by the Director (ex officio) and a representative from the St. Mary’s County Health Department (ex-officio).

Current Members	Position	Appointment Date	Expiration Date
Dr. Pat Richardson	Chair	07/01/2020	06/30/2023*
Rita Weaver	Vice-Chair	12/31/2021	12/31/2024*
Dr. David Langford	Secretary	12/31/2021	12/31/2024*
Cesar Afanador	Member	03/10/2020	12/31/2025*
Steve Tuttle	Member	07/01/2021	06/30/2023
Diane Harris	Member	07/01/2021	06/30/2023
Susan Morris	Member (ex-officio)		
Theresa Marlowe	Member (ex-officio)		

Asterisk * indicates second term

Meetings

The ACAB meets 6 times a year, first Wednesday on odd months. St. Mary’s County ACAB met 5 times this year. The January meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather and the July 6th meeting was moved to July 27. The major focus of the meetings during 2022 was the completion, staffing and opening of the **Animal Adoption and Resource Center**.

Elections

Election for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary positions were held in January 2022. Dr. Pat Richardson was elected Chairperson, Rita Weaver was elected Vice-Chair, and Dr. David Langford was elected Secretary.

Shelter Opening

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County presided over a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the **Animal Adoption and Resource Center** on Tuesday, August 30, 2022. The ceremony featured tours of the new shelter. It is located on FDR Boulevard near the First Colony Shopping Center. The name of the shelter was chosen to reflect the emphasis on successful adoptions of pets in St. Mary's County and community outreach. During the first four weeks of operations the shelter had 256 intakes of animals and 52 adoptions. The shelter houses SMC Animal Control and the Sheriff's Department Canine Unit. ACAB will continue to monitor the operational statistics and provide input on budgetary issues regarding the shelter.

ACAB Subcommittees

ACAB Subcommittees did not meet in 2022.

Conclusion

The ACAB is dedicated to serving the citizens and domestic animals of our community by advising the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on Animal Shelter and Animal Control Ordinance matters. The shelter Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held on Tuesday, August 30, 2022 and was well attended. The ACAB will continue to serve by providing input to the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on a variety of topics including: program operations, policies and procedures, operating expenses and revenues, public education, and additional needs to best serve the citizens of St. Mary's County.

Questions or Comments about this report are welcome, and, may be sent to the Animal Control Advisory Board via the Secretary dglang4d@gmail.com