

Piper Lever

From: Dave Richards <snowdorkdr@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 02, 2018 10:34 AM
To: Chris Cawley; Elise Morgan; Sheridan Davis; Harris Sondak; ccurry@townofalta.com; Margaret Bourke
Cc: Piper Lever; rhotze@fs.fed.us
Subject: Dogs

Dear Council of the Town of Alta,

I am writing today to express my dismay at the actions of the Alta Town Council and particularly Mayor Sondak in the recent process of re-writing the dog ordinance for the Town of Alta.

For years the United States Forest Service and Salt Lake City Water have walked all over the government and more importantly the people of this community. In this current case I wonder why our mayor has rolled over to play dead for these entities. These entities have yet to provide any record of their reported public complaints, nor have they ever shown evidence of dogs being detrimental to the water quality of Salt Lake City.

In the Council work session held June 26th I was amazed at Mayor Sondak's willingness to defend himself and argue with the other Council members. Where is this willingness to fight when up against the USFS and Salt Lake City? The mayor's attitude appeared to be downright hostile toward the citizen of Alta. This is very discouraging.

Having trained dogs, including professional working dogs, I challenge the officials from the USFS and Salt Lake City to demonstrate to me their methods of exercising and training a dog which is kept on leash. I am sure that the response will be that dogs will be allowed off leash while on private property. I put forth that the residents of Alta generally do not own private property outside of their building footprint. I ask that our officials represent the residents of this town and stand up to the USFS and SLC Water. Dogs should continue to be allowed on public property as well as allowed to be off leash if under verbal control.

This effort as been a massive waste of time and money all in the name of fixing something that wasn't broken. It is time to tell these entities that we are our own municipality with our own residents and that the council is obligated to represent those residents. Return to the old ordinance, tighten up the previous number of tags and demand that the USFS address the Forest Order; they do in fact work for us, the citizens of the United States.

let's move on to dealing with more important issues.

-Dave Richards

Piper Lever

From: Sheridan Davis
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 1:25 PM
To: Piper Lever
Subject: Fw: Alta dog ordinance

For documentation with the public with kind regards Piper!

From: Sheridan Davis
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 1:23 PM
To: Karen Travis
Subject: Re: Alta dog ordinance

Hi Karen:

As always, thank you for your dedicated participation in the governance of Alta, our state, and our country.

I just realized I had not responded to your thoughtful email. I apologize.

I agree with all of your points regarding our ordinances (save one) and find them sound. I am happy to support these ideas in spirit and in legislation. My only disagreement would be with point number 4, and perhaps the idea that dogs should not accompany their owners almost everywhere ☺. I can bend on the latter however.

Though I feel that those who break the rules should experience consequences, humans and dogs make mistakes, and both should have the opportunity to rectify them. Some ways that might happen: positive dog training classes and testing around our ordinances, public service picking up waste, and educational outreach in high traffic areas about the regulations and responsibilities that apply to our very limited dog population in Alta. Graduated fines offsetting enforcement costs couldn't hurt.

I especially agree with your suggestion that no one who does not live in Alta should qualify for a tag, and no business that does not have employees in on-site housing should qualify for a tag. It makes no sense to me to increase the number of dogs in Alta while radically decreasing the areas where dogs may go. We live in a small canyon. If we want to decrease the degradation of water and air quality in Little Cottonwood, forcing residents to drive to exercise the very limited number of licensed Alta dogs makes no sense. The inversion creeping up the canyon closer and closer to Alta every year isn't from dog waste.

Thank you for your engagement and informed, concise ideas.

With kind regards,

Sheridan Davis
Town of Alta Councilwoman

From: Karen Travis <belspri@xmission.com>
Sent: Friday, June 1, 2018 11:42:51 AM
To: Harris Sondak; Cliff Curry; Margaret Bourke; Morgan, Elise; Sheridan Davis
Subject: Alta dog ordinance

To my diligent Alta Town Council members who are probably more tired of this dog ordinance problem than I am, here's my humble suggestion to make it easy and clear and to the point:

1. Alta Ski Lifts avalanche dogs each get a dog tag.
2. 1 dog tag is available per inhabited primary or secondary residence, IF allowed by their condo or HOA rules or home owner.
3. 1 week per year of one temporary dog tag for those who qualify under #2 above, for their visiting guest(s).
4. Anyone not following the rules on the dog tag application will have their tag revoked by the Town of Alta and will no longer be allowed to have their dog at Alta. No warning, no debate, just no tag.

There will be no tags for non-Alta residents (put an expiration date on the ones that are currently out there). There will be no tags for businesses that do not have employees in on-site housing, as they are not inhabited.

There are few job sites that allow employees to bring dogs to work, and Alta should not be an exception. People who think animals should be able to accompany them in grocery stores, malls, restaurants, etc. are not seeing the whole picture and should be removed from those facilities. (My humble opinion again, not something to be added to an ordinance!).

Karen Travis