



hearing will be held next Monday.

Even if the attack hadn't occurred, Olivieri, who breeds the dogs, was due to show up to answer a slew of summonses relating to barking dogs and breeding without proper permits, Bambrick revealed.

Complaints about the dogs began last March, the animal shelter supervisor said. "It's not that people complained and we didn't do anything. They complained and we did as much as the law allows us to do," she said. "We can't take a dog based on people's fear something is going to happen. We can't anticipate an attack when the dog hasn't shown us anything of that nature."

Eventually the neighbors whose properties abutted Olivieri's all erected fences to keep out the animals. But before then, Jacoby said it wasn't unusual to see the animals chasing pedestrians. "It was not a good situation," he summarized. "No one liked those dogs."

Dacuk said despite statements to the contrary she had heard Olivieri is trying to get the dogs back. "That can't happen," she stated. "We need to get the word out. People need to sign petitions."

"Why can't they impound all those dogs?" Byrne asked Monday. "We're in a serious situation." Empathetic, Bambrick emphasized that, like humans, dogs are presumed innocent until proven guilty. Byrne was further distressed to learn there isn't just one dog left in the house. She recently had a litter of six puppies. The bitch had nine in her first litter, two of whom were involved in the attack.

Under Suffolk County Health law, dogs can't be euthanized if they might be carrying rabies. Because the three dogs in custody lacked up-to-date shots, they must be quarantined for 10 days to ensure they are not carrying rabies.

As of press time, the victim's son-in-law, Stanley Dacuk, reported that Duca is expected to survive, barring complications. He'll be in the hospital for "quite a while." Right now, "he's unable to walk," Dacuk said.

Olivieri did not return for calls for comment by press time.

kmerrill@indyeastend.com

rmurphy@indyeastend.com

♦ print this article

Site Search

Search Text

Search among:

editorial

calendar

classifieds

Search

Thanks for visiting The Independent