

Mattapoissett board bans dog after attack

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MATTAPOISETT — Selectmen in Mattapoissett have issued an order banning a dog from town after the mixed black lab launched an unprovoked attack on a man visiting a local boat yard last month.

After the selectmen held a hearing on the complaint filed by the victim, the board notified the dog's owner by mail on July 17.

"The owner has 10 days to appeal that to the Wareham District Court for a review of the banning order," Town Administrator Michael Botelho said.

According to police reports, Robert Rosbe of Marion went to the Aucoot Cove boat yard in June and was attacked from behind by the unrestrained dog, owned by Bruce Andersen, who was working on a boat at the yard.

Andersen gave police an address in Carver, which proved to be a campground, but his driver's license listed a Mattapoissett address, according to Botelho.

"Apparently he works on boats up and down the East Coast, but jurisdiction falls under the town where the owner resides," Botelho said.

After the attack, the owner was unable to produce a valid rabies certificate for the dog and it was taken by the town for a mandatory 10-day quarantine, which was spent at the Fairhaven animal shelter.

"The dog cannot now reside in or visit town," Botelho said. "If it shows up, we can take it. Selectmen do have the authority to order a dog destroyed."

Rosbe asked selectmen at their last meeting to kill the dog.

Andersen could not be reached for comment.

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