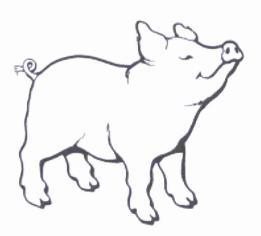
Petition to Request the Common Counsel Recognize Pot-Bellied Pigs as Pets in West Allis

RECEIVED

JUN 3 0 2015

CITY OF WEST ALLIS CITY CLERK



Official Petition to Amend Section 7.12 to allow Pet Pot-Bellied Pigs in West Allis Or to Create a New Section in Chapter 7 Health and Sanitation to allow for Pet Pot-Bellied Pigs.

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Thank You Letter

Dear West Allis Common Counsel,

This letter is our official petition to request amendment to section 7.12(1)(a)(i)(b) to allow an exception for pot-bellied pigs, or to alternatively create a new section under Chapter 7 of the Health and Sanitations Code that specifically allows pot-bellied pigs as pets in the city of West Allis. We wish to have our request added to the July 7th agenda.

Attached to this letter are the signatures from the community and our neighbors in support of this petition. With the support of the community to allow pot-bellied pigs in West Allis, it is our hope that the common counsel will support this petition, as well.

In addition to this letter and signatures, we are also including a packet of information for your review. We thank you for your time and consideration in a matter that is very dear to us. Our pot-bellied pig is a loved and cherished part of our family. We hope that we will not have to re-home her, or alternatively leave the city of West Allis, a city we truly value and enjoy living in.

Again, thank you for your time.

Respectfully, Stephen a. Colgrove Cheryl M. Colgrove

Cheryl and Steven Colgrove

1361 South 109th Street

West Allis, Wisconsin 53214

I agree that pot-bellied pigs should be allowed in the city of West Allis and support an amendment to the West Allis Municipal Code relating to the Keeping of Animals to include language that allows pot-bellied pigs to be kept as domestic pets or exempt them from the definition of Wild Animals.

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Petition to include Pot-bellied Pigs as Pets in West Allis

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I agree that pot-bellied pigs should be allowed in the city of West Allis and support an amendment to the West Allis Municipal Code relating to the Keeping of Animals to include language that allows pot-bellied pigs to be kept as domestic pets or exempt them from the definition of Wild Animals.

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Signature						
GARCA DR	1St. With					
	John Rohde 1353 S. 109th S.					
Name Address Circle Stands Address Michael Cohle 1253 Stanton						

Possible concerns about allowing pot-belly pigs in West Allis

1. If we allow pot-bellied pigs everyone will get one.

Although pot-belly pigs are a novelty and nay people find them to be adorable, the cost and time commitment to care for pot-belly pigs is too great for most people, thus limiting the number of pigs bought as pets.

There are two cities in Wisconsin that have amended their code to allow pot-bellied pigs. They are Racine and Waukesha. Racine changed its ordinance in 2005, and currently has one (1) pot-bellied pig registered and licensed. Waukesha amended its ordinance in 2000, and currently there are two (2) pot-bellied pigs registered and licensed there.

Pigs are cute and exciting, but the fact is, if the West Allis approves pot-bellied pigs in the city, the number of people who will keep pot-bellied pigs as pets will be relatively small.

2. Pigs are large and will need a large amount of space to live and grow.

Pot-bellied pigs can range in size from 40 to 300lbs with the average pig weighing 150lbs. They are usually only 18 inches tall, making the roughly the same size as a large breed dog. These pigs do not require daily walks, or large spaces to run. They primarily stay inside, and the average city lot has more than enough space for this pig.

3. Pigs root around and will destroy property.

Most pigs like to nose around the yard, as they have sensitive sense of smell, however not all pigs dig. Similarly to dogs that like to dig, you can train your pig not to dig, or provide them with a sand box to allow them to exercise this behavior.

4. What if a neighbor doesn't want to live next to a pig?

Pot-bellied pigs do not bark or smell. They eat pig food and not garbage or slop. They don't have an extreme odor, or any odor at all. Despite this, some people may not want to live next to a pig. This can be addressed through the language of any amendment to West Allis' code. By requiring neighbor consent prior to getting a pig as a pet, you can honor the wishes of all people living in West Allis and still allow for pot-bellied pigs as pets.

The Miniature Potbelly Pig as a Housepet: A Comparison with Cats and Dogs

The following discussion compares the suitability of keeping a particular breed of pig – the MINIATURE Potbellied Pig – as a housepet in residential areas with the suitability of keeping cats or dogs for the same purpose and in similar surroundings.

The criteria used for comparison are the size of the animals, human health considerations in terms of risk of animal to human transmission of disease, disposition of the animals, shelter needs, exercise needs, and the role of these animals in human allergic syndromes.

In the United States, the miniature potbelly pig is commonly referred to as the Vietnamese Potbelly, the Chinese Potbelly, or the Asian Potbelly. Two different scientific names are used Sus scrofa jubatus Muller or Sus scrofa bittatus.

I. SIZE

A "farm hog", or non-domesticated pig, raised for food consumption, weighs in the range of 400 to 900 pounds. In comparison a full-grown potbelly will generally weigh less than 95 pounds, stand less than 18 inches at the shoulders, and be less than 30 inches in length.

The standard for the breed set by the North American Potbellied Pig Association for pigs is a maximum height of 18 inches at the shoulders and a maximum weight of 95 pounds. An unusually large potbelly at full-growth, even if overfed, will be less than 200 pounds, stand less than 20 inches at the withers and be less than 40 inches long.

Clearly, the potbelly is larger than any domestic cat and smaller than the large to giant breeds of dogs. (e.g. The Great Dane, St. Bernard, Newfoundland, Mastiff, and Rotweiller.) The minimum standard height for the tallest dog breed, the Akita, is 32", and the average height is 30 to 40 inches. The weight of the heaviest dog, the Old English Mastiff, averages 240 – 340 pounds.

Because of the more compact body build of a potbelly pig, it is a fair comparison to say that the potbelly is smaller in stature than moderate to large dogs (e.g. Retrievers, Setters, Shepherds and Collie.) although they are equal in weight to some of the larger dog breeds. Perhaps the best overall comparison in size is to a large basset hound.

Therefore, in comparison to dogs, the potbelly is equally suitable to be a house-pet in a residential area by the criterion of size.

II. DISPOSITION

The pig is an animal of prey, whereas; dogs and cats are predators. Both cats and dogs will attack other species of animals, including their own, as a part of their natural instinct. Pigs, as prey animals, are non-aggressive by nature. Their first instinct is to retreat (run) rather than attack.

IV. FOOD

Cats and dogs are both carnivores whose diet consists of meat. The feces of both the cat and dog have a strong pungent order.

Pigs are omnivores, both vegetarians and meat eaters. The potbellied pig's diet, however, consists of grains and vegetables. Commercially manufactured feed is available. This feed is formulated to eliminate the smell of the pig's feces. It is not recommended to feed meat to a potbellied pig.

V. INTELLIGENCE

The potbellied pig, or pigs in general are ranked number three in intelligence behind the ape and the dolphin.

VI. ROLE IN HUMAN ALLERGIC SYNDROMES

Dogs and cats are allergenic due to their fur (i.e. thick coat of fine hair) and dander (small flakes of dead skin, often light enough to float in the air). Potbellied pigs do not have fur or dander in the sense that dogs and cats do. Rather, a potbelly has hair and dandruff in the sense that people do. The possibility of developing allergies to potbellied pigs is quite remote; although the possibility is greater than a human developing an allergy to other people.

VII. HUMAN HEALTH

Dr. Barry Dorfman, MD, MPH conducted an analysis that compares dogs, cats and potbellied pigs in terms of the potential of these animals to play a role in disease transmission to humans in a residential setting where these animals would reside as house pets.

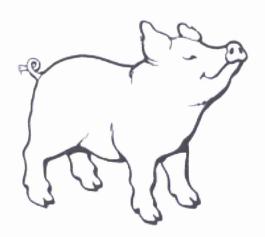
Dr. Dorfman has twenty years experience as a physician specializing in public health and preventative medicine. His experience includes being a County Health Officer responsible for animal control operations. His current position is with the California State Department of Health Services in the Infectious Disease Branch.

In Dr. Dorfman's comparison between potbellied pigs, cats and dogs, his analysis assumes that all the animals:

- (1) Have been spayed or neutered;
- (2) Were healthy and disease free when acquired; and
- (3) Are kept as a house pet (live in the house) in a residential area and are not normally in contact with animals on farms.

The actual analysis, including the disease specific chart, is attached as the article entitled Human Heath Considerations and Potbellied Pigs.

Pot-Bellied pigs are considered pets by the United States Department of Agriculture and are Taxed as Pets by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue





Pot-bellied Pigs

(608) 266-2776

tdr

dorsalesanduse@revenue.wi.gov

DOR Sales and Use Tax < DORSalesandUse@revenue.wi.gov> Thu, Jun 25, 2015 at 8:54 AM To: Ayame Metzger <ametzger@wifamilylegal.com> Dear Ayame, Thank you for your email. The sale of feed for pot-bellied pig feed would be taxable unless it qualifies for the farming exemption. To qualify for this exemption, the purchaser must use item(s) exclusively and directly in the business of farming, including dairy farming, agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, silviculture, or custom farming services.) This exemption does not apply to hobby farms and other noncommercial activities. If you qualify for the farming exemption, you will have to complete form S-211, mark the appropriate farming exemption and present it to your supplier. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance. Sincerely, Wisconsin Department of Revenue **Customer Service**

** OF THE BROS. 262-679-1717 ********* REG 06-11-2015 06:29 AM BILL H 000019 \$16,95 CONS FEED T1 \$17,81 TL \$16,95 TAX-AMT 1 \$0,86 TAX 1 \$0,86 TAX CHARGE \$17.81 ********* SINCE 1927 ********* MUSKEGO WI TAX paid on PET Pig Food.

HORN BROS. INC. W180 S7725 PIONEER ROAD MUSKEGO, WI 53150

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INVOICE 0011
Batch #: 000824
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Mode: 0nline

SALE AMT \$17.81

CUSTOMER COPY



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service 4700 River Road Riverdale, MD 20737

17/524-7701

Ms. Kathleen M. Caren Mt. Springs Lake 16 Quince Tree Lane West Milford, NJ 07480

DEC 24 1997

Dear Ms. Caren:

This is in response to your letter of December 16, 1997, requesting a copy of the definition of "Farm Animal" and "Exotic Animal" as stated in the Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations.

Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations, Subchapter A-Animal Welfare, Part 1, Section 1.1 defines "Farm animal" as "any domestic species of cattle, sheep, swine, goats, llamas, or horses, which are normally and have historically, been kept and raised on farms in the United States, and used or intended for use as food or fiber, or for improving animal nutrition, breeding management, or production efficiency, or for improving the quality of food or fiber. This term also includes animals such as rabbits, mink, and chinchilla, when they are used solely for purposes of meat or fur, and animals such as horses and llamas when used solely as work and pack animals."

"Exotic animal" is defined as "any animal not identified in the definition of "animal" provided in this part that is native to a foreign country or of foreign origin or character, is not native to the United States, or was introduced from abroad. This term specifically includes animals such as, but not limited to, lions, tigers, leopards, elephants, camels, antelope, anteaters, kangaroos, and water buffalo, and species of foreign domestic cattle, such as Ankole, Gayal, and Yak." The animals mentioned in the definition of "animal" include dog, cat, nonhuman primate, guinea pig, hamster, and rabbit.

We wish to clarify that—in most cases—we do consider pot bellied pigs as pets. A pot bellied pig is considered livestock only when these animals are in import or export status. Restrictions are imposed only to prevent disease transmissions that may affect the health status of the domestic swine industry in either the importing or exporting country. However, USDA—for all other purposes—considers pot bellied pigs to be pet animals because they are not bred and raised in this country for food or fiber purposes. Accordingly, their care and protection fall within the jurisdiction of State and local authorities.

We hope this information is helpful in explaining the status of the pot bellied pig as it relates to our regulations.

Sincerely,

Bettye K. Walters Veterinary Medical Officer Animal Care Post-it® Fax Note 7671 Date 6-26 pages 6

To TIMA (NOUNICE) From Kathleen

Co. Dept. Passman - Dought, Co. Prentice Hall

Phone #073-226-8877 Phone #201-23/- 7123



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at and Health iction ce

sington, DC 0 1. 21 297

Ms. Pamela J. Winston 2630 Avenue S, NW. Winter Haven, Florida 33881

Dear Ms. Winston:

Thank you for your letter of September 19, 1997, to President Clinton concerning pot bellied pigs. Because our Agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) enforces the Animal Welfare Act (AWA)—a law that governs the treatment of many animals—the White House forwarded your letter to us for response.

We share your concern for the growing population of unwanted animals and commend your efforts to care for such animals in your area. Under the AWA, our Agency is charged with the responsibility of licensing or registering certain breeders, researchers, exhibitors, and dealers to ensure that they provide their animals with living conditions that meet or exceed specified standards for veterinary care and animal husbandry. Included are areas such as handling, sanitation, food, water, transportation and protection against extremes of weather and temperature. However, animal ownership laws are under the jurisdiction of State and local governments, and we suggest you continue working with these authorities on this matter.

In regard to your request that the Federal government recognize pot bellied pigs as pets, we wish to clarify that—in most cases—we do consider these animals to be pet animals. A pot bellied pig is considered livestock only when these animals are in import or export status. Restrictions are imposed only to prevent disease transmissions that may affect the health status of the domestic swine industry in either the importing or exporting country. However, USDA—for all other purposes—considers pot bellied pigs to be pet animals because they are not bred and raised in this country for food or fiber purposes. Accordingly, their care and protection fall within the jurisdiction of State and local authorities.

We hope this information is helpful and that you will continue your efforts to ensure the well-being of these animals.

Sincerely.

Terry L. Medley

Administrator

Craiga. Bleed



Legal Status of Potbellied Pigs - Household Pets or Farm Animals?

(Article contributed by Barry Dorfman, MD, MPH - Sacramento, CA)During the past year, the number of localities that have made it legal to keep potbellies has increased. There has been so much activity that I have not been able to keep up with it all. However, I have been able to discern some patterns. Suitability of potbellies as pets and potential workload increase are the substantive concerns most often mentioned by local officials in considering an ordinance for potbellies. Based on my conversations with many animal control offices the additional workload related directly to potbellies has been nil to nonexistent. Of course, there has always been some indirect workload involved in staffing the development of the ordinances.Procedurally, the usual approach has been to change local ordinances, although a special or accessory use permit approach has been used in one instance I know of and may be in process in another. Generally there have been some sort of restrictions or requirements pertaining to issues such as: the numbers kept, the neutering of males, the spaying of females, the size of property, the consent of neighbors, or registration/licensure. However, no one locality has imposed all of these restrictions or requirements and some have imposed only one. Issues related to numbers kept, neutering or spaying, and registration / licensure appear to be determined by the already existing policies towards dogs and cats as household pets. Issues related to size of property (i.e., minimum lot sizes) and consent of neighbors appear to be determined by the already existing policies towards keeping farm animals as an accessory agricultural use in an urban area. Thus, we have two perspectives the household pet versus the farm animal perspective. The problem with the farm animal perspective is the imposition of minimum lot sizes, special set backs, and neighbor consent. Minimum lot sizes and special set backs effectively exclude potbellies from areas where most of urban populations live. Neighbor consent is not a problem if no one objects or no one who moves in next door at a later time objects or the potbelly owner moves only to places where current neighbors do not object. If any one objects there is a problem. Existing nuisance laws provide neighbors with rights under the household pet perspective, the same rights they have to complain about cats or dogs. Neighbors do, however, play a critical role in getting ordinances passed. Without strong community support, or at least the open support of one's neighbors, passage of any ordinance from either perspective is unlikely. Fortunately, the household pet perspective seems to be the more common when legalization efforts have been successful. I say fortunately because I have a definite point of view! Potbellies kept in residential, urban situations living in the house of their owner(s) are household pets. Acceding to the farm animal perspective may resolve an individual local conflict about a specific potbelly on a specific property. However, such an approach is an expedient, and a potentially misleading one at that, which only defers resolution of the underlying conflictual issues. On the other hand, the farm animal approach may be the only progress that can be achieved at a particular point in time. The caution is that using the farm animal perspective means trouble down the road. The recommendation is to use the household pet perspective in all initial efforts and view the farm animal perspective as a fall-back position. The best example of the household pet perspective is the recently enacted ordinance for the city of Sacramento, California. The May 28, 1991 city staff report to the city council reads, in part (with my comments in italics):Staff began devising the standards and restrictions which should apply to the keeping of mini-pigs as pets within the City. Based on staff's research, the following standards were proposed and adopted:

All mini-pigs over the age of four months must be licensed. The license period is three years. (The same provisions already applied to dogs.)

Male mini-pigs must be neutered when they reach the age of four weeks.

Mini-pigs shall be subject to the leash law.

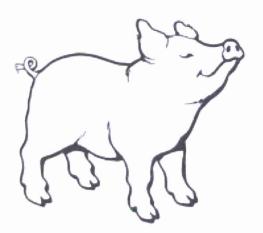
No one may keep more than three dogs, mini-pigs, or any combination thereof at any one residence. (There was

already a three dog maximum.)

Mini-pigs in excess of 22 inches in height or weighing over 150 pounds are prohibited. (The actual ordinance refers only to swine and does not specify a particular species or type of pig which may be kept as a pet. The specification of height and weight serves the purpose of restricting pets to small pigs without getting into arguments over what breeding line is the true mini-pig or true Vietnamese Potbelly and the like.) These requirements are very similar to the regulations applied to dogs, with the exception of the requirement that minipigs weigh less than 150 pounds and males be neutered. This additional condition was proposed due to evidence that unneutered males may behave aggressively and emit a strong body odor. (When asked why pet female minipigs were not required to be spayed the reply was that although this might be desirable, such a requirement would be inconsistent with the treatment given dogs or cats. The actual ordinance however does require spaying of impounded female dogs, cats and swine which are subsequently sold.) There is also no requirement that minipigs be vaccinated, as there is no evidence which indicates that vaccinations are necessary. Under the ordinance the fee for a mini-pig licensed will be the same as for the fee for a dog license...The additional revenue generated from licensing mini-pigs is expected to be insignificant due to the relatively small numbers of licenses issued. "Back To Zoning Committee



Veterinarian Letter's in Support of the Pot-Bellied Pig as a Pet and not Wild, Farm, or Exotic Animal





To Whom It May Concern:

I have worked with Potbellied Pigs for over 5 years. In this time, I have seen marginals over 10 years of age, that is, at their full adult size. These animals range from 50 to 150 pounds. Their height is considered proportionate to their weights rarely exceeds 20 inches at the withers. This size should be compared to a 3 year commercial hog that can, and will, weigh in excess of 300 pounds. Mature sows weigh as much as 400+ pounds. I hope that this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Sczepanski, DVM

Managing Partner

Horton Animal Hospital-Forum

QUAKERTOWN VETERINARY CLINIC, PC.

2250 North Old Bethlehem Pike Quakertown, PA 18951

D. C. Streams, D.V.M. S. J. Geller, V.M.D. R. S. Bimes, D.V.M. Small Animal: 215-536-6245 Large Animal: 215-536-2726 Fax Number: 215-536-0226

March 30, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a large animal Veterinarian with over 600 pot-bellied pigs under my care. All of these are pets and most of them are house pets. These animals range in adult weight from 350 pounds to 45 pounds. Any pig over 170 pounds would be considered unusually large. I consider 60-150 pounds to be the average adult weight for this breed and normal height being 12-24 inches.

Please feel free to contact me at 215-536-2726, if you have any further questions or concerns.

7.1/

Arlen M. Wilbers, DVM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to support my view that miniature pigs should not be considered livestock. Instead, they are companion animals, or pets, and should be treated as such in the rules and regulations governing our local community, West Milford Township.

I have been a tour guide at the Bronx Zoo and also at a children's petting zoo; therefore, I have had considerable experience explaining the differences between wild animals and domesticated animals, between livestock and pets, to the general public. In my capacity as educator, I have always presented horses, cows, sheep, goats, and large pigs as examples of livestock, all of which have a useful or economic value to the farm on which they are kept. Farm pigs would fall under this classification; they weigh from 500 to 1,000 pounds at maturity and are generally raised as meat-producing animals(pork, bacon, ham), although their skin and bristles are also commonly sold by the farmer for use in leather products, hair brushes, etc.

Miniature pigs, on the other hand, are not part of the "meat market". They are valued solely as pets. Just as certain breeds of dogs are divided into categories according to size (e.g., toy, miniature, standard, and giant poodles), miniature pigs also fall into into two categories based upon their body proportions: midget and dwarf. The American Miniature Pig Association has set the size limit for miniature pigs at 125 pounds, or approximately the size of a large dog. Most companion pigs never reach that limit. True miniatures, at adulthood, usually weigh between 20 pounds and 60 pounds; they stand between 10 and 16 inches in height, the size of a Cocker Spaniel or small German Shepherd. They are easily housebroken and trained to the leash.

There are currently five breeds of miniature pigs. One is the familiar Vietnamese or Pot-bellied Pig, which has become a favorite companion animal in the past 10 years in the United States because of its appealing appearance, its intelligence, and its docile nature. It has never been considered as livestock because it is much too small to have any economic value in the meat and leather markets. Its sole value is as a companion animal, and it usually shares the house of its owner, along with other pets such as dogs and cats.

In my opinion, the diminutive and cute Vietnamese Pot-bellies deserve their reputation as the "YUPPIE PUPPIES" of the 1990's. In rural West Milford, many residents consider companion animals to be a vital part of the fabric of their lives. I, for one, would not want to live here if I could not have my animals around me. I know you will find that others in West Milford are equally attached to their pet, whether it be a cat, a bird, a dog, or a miniature pig.

Sincerely,

Mary Loudin

111 Banker Road

Hewitt, NJ

December 19, 1997

853-7243

Juno e-mail for RDINOLFI@juno.com printed on Friday, November 05, 2004.

From: The Hollenbacks <pygsty@comcast.net>

To: Rdinolfi@juno.com

Date: Tue, 10 Aug 2004 15:29:57 -0400 Subject: Letter from vet for zoning issues

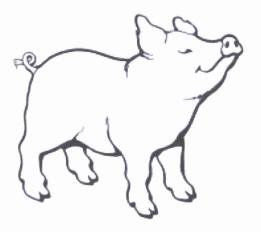
August 10, 2004

To Whom It May Concern,

The pig is an ideal companion for man. They have lived in peoples homes as part of the family for man thousands of years. The pig is smarter than the average dog and can be trained to complete any canine task. The pig is an extremely clean animal and the smaller breeds can make ideal pets for many households. Because the pig does not jump up, makes it particularly adapt for households of elderly people and children, would normally be frightened of dogs and cats. The pig is a faithful friend which can be easily trained to be a well behaved, safe and full member of the modern family.

Dr John Carr College of Veterinary Medicine 1710 Vet Med Ames Iowa 50011 Tel: 515 294 8455

Fax: 515 294 1072



To Whom it May Concern:

We first treated "Piggy" a pot belly pig as a patient on 11-22-2011 as a five week old piglet for deworming and needle teeth trim. We next saw "Piggy" on 12-6-2011 for a routine vaccination and deworming. On 1-23-2012 we spayed and vaccinated. She was four months old and weighed 13.1lbs.

We next saw "Piggy" on 9-30-2013 for routine vaccinations and a broken toe nail. The last appointment was 7-30-2014 for vaccination, nail trim, health certificate and microchip. She was three years old and weighed 142lbs.

P iggy has been a pet pot belly pig to the Colgrove Family since she was five weeks old. They have taken care of her routine veterinary care and have been good owners.

Respectfully,

Dr Jim Fallen

Large and Small Animal Clinic 320 Ranchitos Rd NW Albuquerque, NM 87114

Dr. Jim Fallen

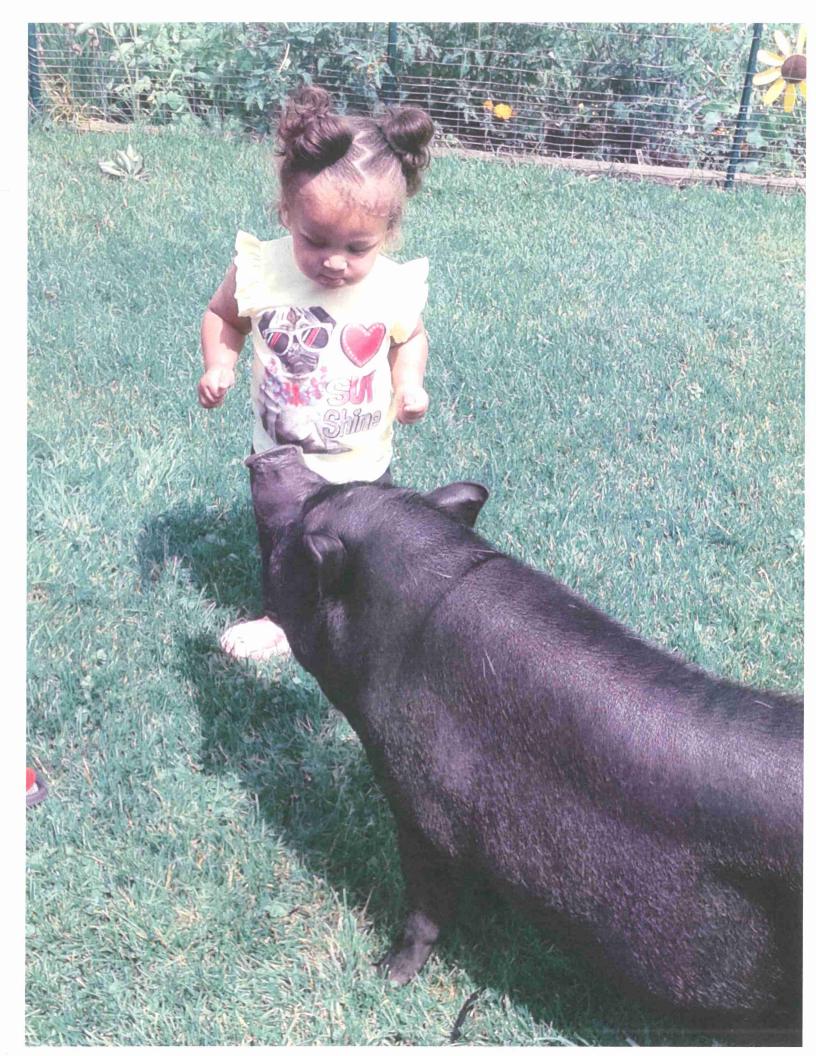
1-505-897-3787



Application for Registration North American Potbellied Pig association

Pig's Information

Full Name <u>Piggy</u> Nickname
Date of Birth: 10/17/11 Date Piz Acquired: "132/11 Height: 7" Weight: 4165
Primary Breed Vietnamese Pothellied Pig Secondary Breed
Altered? yes Permanant 1D Method/Number: Microchip #0007532134
Left Markings Right
Right side of body Left side of body
All Black Scattered white Hairs All Black All Black
How many pigs are in your household?
Owner's Information:
Full Name: Stephen & Cheryl Colgrove
Mailing Address: 1361 South 109th Street West All'is, Wi. 53214
Email: Steveand cher @ AOL. Com Phone Number: 414-758-4171
Breed Standard verified by: Jim Fallen DVM
Veterinarian's Phone: 505-897-3787
H(we) hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information
given on this application is true and accurate
Signature: Maphen Colgrone Date: 07/30/14



Colgrove, Stephen

From:

steveorcheryl <steveandcher@aol.com>

Sent: To: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 10:03 AM

Subject:

Colgrove, Stephen Piggy Pictures

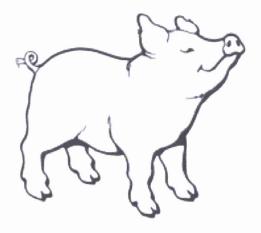








General Information about Pot-Bellied Pigs



Rev.REBECCA DINOLFI

Telephone (570) 842-8118

E-MAIL RDINOLFI@ juno.com

ZONING CONSULTANT

NAPPA Zoning Advisor

www.PetPigZone.com

To Whom this may concern,

My name is Rev.Rebecca DiNolfi . I am an international zoning consultant and zoning advisor to an international Potbellied Pig association The North American Potbellied Pig Association I am also the President of The Delaware Valley Potbellied Pig Assn , and an x- representative of The Delta Society Pet Partners AAT Program ,but most importantly I am the proud care giver of 2 Potbellied Pigs. Who better to defend the Pig as a companion pet than the very ones of us that live with, and in some cases sleep in the same bed with these amazing animals. Yes, some of us really do sleep with our PBP's, just like some people sleep with a dog or cat.

In the past I have made numerous appearances at zoning hearings on behalf of the pet pig. It is my contention that the very people that are trying to eliminate the Pet pig from their good homes ,don't know anything about the PBP and don't want to know anything about the Pig as a companion Pet. I can not understand how any person can make a decision about a subject they don't know anything at all about.

The PB has been in this country as a pet since the early 1980's It has always been here as a pet. It has only been recently that the pet status has been in question.

It is documented that the Potbellied pig has been accepted as a pet by, The US Department of Agg, The Delta Society Pet Partner Program, Life Magazine, The Governor of Pa. The Governor of Florida, numerous Hospitals, Nursing homes, Special Needs Schools, Adult Day Care Centers, They are also recognized as a Companion pet in., Lancaster, Pa., Chicago Ill., New York, N.Y., Anaheim Ca., and numerous other city's and municipalities, all over the USA.

The closest estimate we have of pet pigs residing in homes in the USA is around 500.000.

It is my personal opinion that all communities should be proud ,not ashamed to have a PBP living in their community. At this time the pet PBP is the most sought after pet in the U.S. to do AAT work for, nursing homes, hospitals, special needs schools, etc. The Pots residing on the East Coast are some of the most active pets in this service today. We had 11 Potbellied Pigs from all over this area receive the very prestigious Random Acts of Kindness Award, at the Potbellied Pig Congress in Pottstown Pa. There are many more that deserve to be honored also. Our Reggie was one of these. She was also honored in May 1997 heroes edition of Life Magazine for all the therapy work we have done all over the area. The pet pigs that were honored have made numerous TV appearances, They have had newspaper articles, magazine articles written about what they do for their communities. These pets do more for the morale of a community than most of the people that live there.

I have personally received numerous testimonials from places that are accepting the PBP not only as a pet ,but also as a very important part of their health care program. My Potbellied Pig Reggie and I have been featured in numerous magazines, newspapers, and periodicals, allover the US. ,for all the therapy work that we have done in the Delaware Valley ,and it has never been questioned whether or not she was my pet. She was always accepted as such, and so were the other Potbellies that are doing this work .

Potbellied Pigs are the most intelligent animal that anyone can have as a pet in the home, not only are they smart but they are very clean, they have no odor. They cry real tears, pout, they understand what no means, they can figure things out, they never forget anything or anyone, they feel real love, they bond to their humans very deeply, they are very loyal

,They are the most human of all house pets. They have the intelligence of a 2 to 3 year old child when they are full grown at 3 years of age. This is the very reason it is such a crime to have them taken away from their homes. In a lot of cases the Pig will just die of a broken heart.

We have a documented a case in Fla, where a little PBP named Emily was taken away from her family, and put into a sanctuary because of zoning issues, within 2 weeks the little girl's attitude started to change, she sulked around, wouldn't sleep, Emily was giving up. She had just figured out that her family was not coming back to take her home. Later on in the week she would not eat so she had to be forced fed by a vet. On Fri Feb. 14 th 1999 at 8:00 am. Emily died of a broken heart. Because of the high intelligence of the pet Pig they are able to understand what is happening to them. This is a documented case of death from a broken heart. There are many more.

A study was done in the Mid west about why the Potbellied Pig was losing their home and they found that 34% of the Pet Pigs are losing them because of zoning not because they are throw away pets, or because they did anything bad. In a lot of cases these Pet Pigs have taken the place of the children that people do not have for one reason or the other and in a lot of instances they belong to empty nesters like myself. They are so much like a toddler that they make a good substitute for a child in some cases. They are also not the pet for everyone but they are great for the ones of us that do want them. I would also like to state here that just because a municipality makes it legal to have a Potbellied Pig as a pet dos NOT mean that everyone will want to run right out and purchase one. The ones that want them as a pet already have them. In a lot of places they have them in hiding because they are so fearful that they will loose them to the powers that be. Would you want one? Probably NO, That is my exact point.

I feel that the crime in this instance is not having the Potbellied Pig as a Pet, but putting the pig, and their family through this heartache. I feel that the people that try to take our pigs from us are infringing on our constitutional right to our pursuit of happiness by having our pet Potbellied pig.

I don't know whether you have a pet, but if you did what would you do if someone came to your door and handed a piece of paper to you stating: You have so many days to dispose of your dog/cat. The first thing you would ask is. Was there anything that your pet did to cause this action? Did it keep anyone awake all night? Did it bite someone? Did it destroy someone's property? Was it found running loose? To all these questions you receive a NO, nothing!. Then this person tells you, "There is some old law on the books that says so, that's why". What would you do? Would you have thousands of dollars to fight for the right to keep your pet? This is what it costs, and people are paying it just because they believe in the pig as a pet. and they love them. One of our club members from Phila has already paid \$14,000.00 to keep their pet pigs. Would you do this for your pet?

I hope this helps you to see what these pet pigs mean to those of us that have them. They are as much a part of our family as any other member. I have found in most of these cases the problem is not with the Pig at all ,but with the people that have a grudge against a person that has a Pot BP, and uses the law against the pet pig owner as a way to get even with them.

I sincerely hope that the testimony you receive will give you a little better picture of the true nature of the Pet Pig, so you can make an educated decision on allowing the Potbellied pig to stay in their homes with the families that love them dearly.

. The Potbelly is here to stay people. Hopefully with more education of the true nature of the Pet Potbelly Pig we can all enjoy their unique human nature and love for us. The issue needs an intelligent answer.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely

Rev.Rebecca DiNolfi

Zoning Consultant

NAPPA Zoning Advisor

DVPPA/Pres.

WHAT IS A POTBELLIED PET PIG?



Potbellied Pigs, also referred to as Pot Belly Pig, Vietnamese Potbellied Pigs, Miniature Pet Pigs, and some have falsely call them Micro-mini Pigs and Tea Cup Pigs, are a smaller member of the pig family that have been on this earth for some 50 million years. Descendents of the wild boars of Europe, they migrated to South East Asia where they adapted to the geography and became smaller then their cousins.

The Pet Pigs we are familiar with today in the US were first imported from Canada about 1988 and quickly became popular as a household companion pet because of their pleasant disposition, relative small size and ability to bond with their human companions.

WHAT ARE THEIR CHARACTERISTICS?

Pot Bellied Pet Pigs are not a breed but a breed type.

Members of a breed, by definition, are "bred" to look as much alike as possible.

A "breed type" will share common characteristics however they can look quite different from one another. Because the pet pig is a breed type you will encounter a wide range of "looks" & In general they are small.

The Potbellied Pet Pig is small weighing about 80 to 150 lbs and about 16 to 20 inches at the shoulder. By comparison the domestic pig (hog) at maturity can weigh over 800 lbs and stand over 36 inches at the shoulder.

Pet Pigs have a natural gentle disposition. Because they are a herd animal they can get along well in a family situation as they treat the other members of the family as a part of their herd. Sometimes this can be a problem because they are a pray animal they may become cautious of strangers.



WHAT KIND OF PET DO THEY MAKE?

They make great pets/companions. They are clean, almost odor free, smart and like people &but consider this. Winston Churchill is quoted as saying that "Dogs look up to you, cats look down on you and pigs are willing to treat you as an equal".

Imagine that you go out for the evening. Your dog is happy to see you when you get home, your cat may not even know you were gone. Your pet pig looks at you and asks "So where have you been?". They are not for everyone. You need the right environment, access to a good vet, the proper food, a good sense of humor, and a tolerant disposition

Origin Of The Potbelly

Most of us know that the potbellied pig, in America today, can be traced back to Keith Connell's import to the U.S. from Canada (originally for zoos) in the mid-eighties. By today's standards they were relatively large (60 to 80 kg), all black, wrinkled, particularly about the head and face and with the other characteristics we associate with the "breeder", usually referred to as the foundation stock. Keith named them the <u>Con Line</u>.

However, shortly after the original importation, at least two other "breed types" were brought into the U.S., the "Lea Line" imported by Leavitt (gentle disposition, white and black markings, somewhat smaller) and the "Royal Line", imported by Espberger (mostly white, somewhat larger than the Lea Line).

In fact, these pigs, Con, Lea and Royal represent most of the foundation stock found in America today.

The different lines provide a larger gene pool to work with, give us a healthier breed type and enable breeders to develop more desirable characteristics (size, disposition, color, conformation, etc.) better suited for domesticated companion "House Pets".

The question is...Why is there such a wide variety of breed types in the first place? To answer the question, we must first understand the origin of the species.

Taxonomy - The potbellied pig is a direct descendent of the old world wild pig family: Order (Artiodactyla), Suborder (Suina), Family (Suidae), Genus (Sus Scrofa) the wild boar.

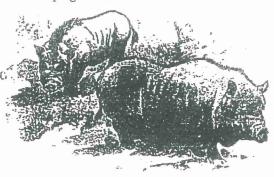
Range - Spread across Eurasia, for over 40,000 years, they range from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast, and from the Mediterranean to as far North as the fringe of Siberia. The variety of habitat combined with the adaptability of this omnivorous (but mostly vegetarian) mammal has produced a wide variety of species which share many common traits (nesting, hair, spiked ears, etc.)

Potbellied Pigs - The potbellied pig we share our homes and lives with, is generally associated with South East Asia and, in particular, Vietnam. It is technically not a breed ("a group of animals that have been selected by man to possess a uniform appearance that is inheritable and distinguishes it from other groups of animals within the same species"), but a "local type" (generally indigenous to an area). The variety we see in America today is probably the results of the cross-breeding of four "local types" of Vietnamese pigs. They share many common characteristics (pointed ears, sway back, straight tail, potbelly, size and gentle disposition) and originate in different parts of Vietnam.

North Vietnam: The "i" (The shortest breed type name in the world) is found in the West near the Red River Delta. It is the type most common in Vietnam and the pig known as the Vietnamese potbellied pig...the original "Con Line". A larger pig (up to 90 kg) but still very small compared with domestic pigs. Its black skin is wrinkled, particularly about the head with a dished face, narrow

forehead and small upright ears.

The
"Mong
Cai" is
found in
the
Northeast
near the
Chinese
border and
Gulf of
Tongkine.



It is slightly "i", typical Vietnamese pot-bellied pig larger than the "i" (100 kg) with more hair, white with a black head, white snout (sometimes a white star) and black patches elsewhere on the body (sometimes with saddle markings). This general appearance is associated with the "Lea Line".



Central Vietnam:
The "co" is a very
small (up to 40 kg)
pig. Originally
wide-spread in central Vietnam, it is
now restricted to
the high plateau
region.With a

Mong Cai (Vietnam) cubby body type (short) and more of a slope than sway to its back, it is obvious that this breed type has greatly influenced our "American" potbellied pigs.

South Vietnam: The "Heo Moi" sometimes referred to as the Vietnamese primitive, originally roamed the mountain area on the



South. Also very small Co, a miniature from Vietnam (40-45 kg), they were sway backed with hanging stomachs and a longer snout. Today mainly in the rich Mekong delta they have been bred to be larger (60kg) but still possess veracity and many characteristics of their free range mountain kin. Here too we see many of their traits in our American "breed types."

What To Look For: When looking for a pet, or going to a show, or just enjoying your own pet pig, see if you can spot the unique characteristics of the i, Mong Cai, Co, and Heo Moi breed types. Our judges are looking for a blending of many traits. All of us are looking for healthy happy pets.

Richard Magidson, Ross Mill Farm, Rushland, PA;
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Thank you.

This matter is very dear to our heart. Piggy is a loved member of our family and we are a part of the community of West Allis. Our goal is to be able to keep Piggy in our home and stay in the city of West Allis. We appreciate you taking time away from your important business to hear our petition and understand its importance to us.

Respectfully,

Cheryl and Steve

