

Minutes of the Newtown Animal Control Advisory Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday, October 18th, 2016

Location: Newtown Municipal Town Building, 3 Primrose Street, Meeting Room 1

Attendance: Members: Adria Henderson, Chair, Frank McCloskey, Jane Hellman, Joy Brewster, and Laura Branchini. Alternate: Jane Calverley.

Meeting began @ 10:35 am

There was no executive session, public participation, or correspondence

ACAB Board 8/16/16 minutes were approved with no changes

NEW BUSINESS:

Board members

Laura Branchini is now a permanent member and Jane Calverley has joined as an alternate member. There is still one open alternate member position available. Applicants must be town resident, but any party affiliation can be accepted.

Nominations & Election of Officers

Jane Hellman nominated Frank McCloskey for Secretary again and Joy Brewster seconded it. No further nominations. All approved.

Joy Brewster nominated Adria Henderson for Chair again and Laura Branchini seconded it. No further nominations. All approved.

Shelter Staff and Board Liaison

Chair Henderson will follow-up with ACO Carolee Mason before the next meeting to either obtain or compile with ACO Mason a prioritized list she'd like the Board to work on with the staff.

Local Rescue groups

Chair Henderson has located two local rescue groups (Furry Friends and Foster in Milford & Thank Dog Rescue in Newtown) who are possibly willing to take/adopt problem dogs (i.e. pit bulls) and then place them into foster homes until they are adopted. Chair Henderson has already spoken with Leslie Rich at Furry Friends.

Further discussion was tabled until next meeting when ACO Mason is present to get her input on the rescue groups and next steps.

There are five dogs currently at the shelter. Five surrendered Akitas were being picked up by the Akita rescue group today, and one (Misty) remains at the shelter and is still available for adoption.

"Dogs Playing for Life" is a new shelter program that has been developed to help socialize shelter dogs.

Petfinder for volunteers

Chair Henderson noted ads can be put on Petfinder for shelter volunteers and will discuss it with ACO Mason at the next meeting, including who on her staff maintains information on Petfinder.

OLD BUSINESS

Adult Volunteer Agreement

#1 priority. Chair Henderson will get the latest version from ACO Mason and email it to Board prior to next meeting. Also, she'll confirm if the weekend kennel person, Paula, has started staying extra hours to coordinate volunteer walkers on Saturday as discussed at the last Board meeting.

Volunteer Dog Walker Training Program

#2 priority. Chair Henderson will request that Police Sgt. Bahamonde attend the next meeting. Before the next meeting, Laura Branchini will follow-up with ACO Mason and Amy Sullivan to set a date to work on it since the Akitas have gone to the rescue group which they were waiting for in order to have more time to focus on this topic.

Cat Committee: TNR program, intake, etc

Priority #3. Chair Henderson & Laura Branchini will meet and work on it prior to next meeting

Cat Room Renovations

Priority #4 & tabled for now due to other priorities

Next Meeting – Tues. Nov. 15th at 10:30-12 if Chair Henderson gets confirmation Sgt. Bahamonde & ACO Mason are available. If not, Mon. Nov. 14th is the backup date.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40

These minutes are subject to approval by ACAB at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Frank McCloskey