

## Community Animal Watch Committee Meeting

February 17, 2011

Attendees: Linda Smith, Tina Morrison, Will Watson, Jacqui Deveneau, Kim Hatch, Arlene Dolgon, Nancy Tate, Jessica Bergeron, Katie Lisnik, Linda Frechette, Tim Deluca

Introductions were done.

Jacqui asked that we find alternates, as our Committee is short one. No one in attendance is stepping in, so we will continue to look.

Jacqui gives us the Treasurer's report as \$525.26. She would still like to reimburse Lisa Sylvestre. Jacqui has listed that \$200 has been paid towards the bill. Linda Frechette will check with Lisa as to what has been paid. Jacqui will check with Jill Eastman to see what has been given.

Kim motioned that Arlene receive another \$100 towards her bill. Jacqui seconded. Votes were 4 yeas, no neas, with Arlene abstaining.

The Salvation Army is letting us keep donated pet food at their facility. They have agreed to distribute the pet food also on food distribution days. We have had donations from some individuals. Jacqui has spoken with Hanniford, who will be returning her call. She has spoken to Shaw's also, who may donate gift cards. She will update us next month.

Will has received a pallet of dog food for the holding facility from Sam's Club, and has offered to bring some bags to the Salvation Army. This is large breed dog food. He will bring a few now, and as the supply gets lower, will bring more as needed.

Tina said if anyone offers open food bags, have them contact her, as she has a person who runs a shelter in Portland that can use the food.

Tina asked what the need guidelines. We have agreed that we will trust the Salvation Army's guidelines to release the food to the pet owners who are truly in need.

Jacqui will contact Radley's Market to see if they will donate anything.

Katie Lisnik from the Maine chapter Humane Society of the United States joins us this evening. The closest shelter is in Massachusetts. Her organization does not run the state shelters, nor are they a law enforcement agency. They are an educational group. Spay Day is a spay/neuter day that is utilized around the world. There are different groups that are offering services.

Some local vets are participating with \$25 cat neuter, and \$40 spay along with a rabies shot. There are still 400 spay/neuter slots available for the months of February and March. The

Humane Society also offers a Spay Day pet photo contest yearly. The fund raiser is to get votes at a set amount of money for a particular photo. The money goes to shelters that have registered.

There are training days that we may benefit from. The New England Federation of Animal Shelters has training days listed on their website, [Newenglandfed.org](http://Newenglandfed.org). Many rescue groups and volunteers attend these events.

There is a new Maine Equine Welfare Alliance group that can offer care at lower costs. They have a membership available to help fund their efforts.

The State Legislature has many animal welfare bills coming up. LD 74 is one to hold landlords responsible if their renters' pets attack someone. The Humane Society will be fighting against that one since it will lower the amount of rental housing available for pet owners. The Humane Society will be testifying against passing the bill.

There is also a bill that wolf hybrids not be allowed to be pets in Maine. Wolf hybrids will be reclassified as wildlife, which would require anyone who currently owns one to get a wildlife permit.

There will be 1500-1600 bills offered during this legislative session, so Katie will be watching as the bills are printed. She offers to us any brochures that we may need for tabling.

Tina asks Katie whether stone dust is considered healthy as a dog park ground covering. Katie will check to see what she can find out.

Katie will continue to send out alerts when she needs more people to speak out about issues going before the Legislature.

We will wait until the next meeting to hear from Steve on website updates.

Jessica has set up the Facebook page. OOB Community Animal Watch is what we need to search for and friend, so we can pass the word along.

Sherri Macdonald has ordered a banner which should be available on Monday. We still plan on having Steve approach the Rotary Club for funding of the banner.

Animals just placed include an orange tabby female that went to AWS today, and a kitten that found a home that was offered up from outside of the holding facility.

Arlene reports about the cats at Camp Ellis. A three week old kitten was at Camp Ellis at the town landing parking lot and reported to Jacqui. Arlene took it in to feed it. Nancy went to trap in the colony the next morning, she trapped the mother cat, took her to get spayed, and rereleased her back to the same spot, hopefully to continue to care for the rest of the litter. Arlene and Nancy did not spy the rest of the litter when checking the area. Hart Shelter has taken the kitten in.

Southern Maine Vet on Route 1 in Arundel the vet who is doing the spay/neuter for Nancy and Arlene's group. Most funding is coming from FOFF and AWS certificates.

There is a new clinic in Freeport called Community Spay Neuter Clinic that will do the feral fixing for a \$10 fee.

Will just did a survey for AWS who are considering a spay/neuter clinic in house.

Upcoming events for tabling are 26<sup>th</sup> from 10-4 we can do a CAW table. We can advertise that we will take any food donations then. Jacqui is asking for volunteers for that day. Linda Smith and Jessica will work the 10 to noon shift. Kim will come in at noon until too cold to continue.

There is another event is April, the swap meet that was so cold last year. Date to be announced at the next meeting. Taste of OOB, balloon event and Memorial Day event will also be coming up later this year.

Keep thinking about fundraising events.

Tina is still looking for ideas for ground cover for the dog park. Will suggested washed pea stone, and Jessica suggested wood chips. Chips spread but are a good idea.

Tianna is looking for people to table at the Portland Flower Show for FOFF. Please let her know if you are interested.

Will reports that we should be able to meet in the new Police Station for our April meeting. The holding shelter should be up to code for plumbing soon. Will got Public Works to chip in budget wise.

Tim Deluca complimented Will Watson on his knowledge as ACO. He also offered to have the Canine Unit come in to demonstrate for us. "Dogs Decoded" is a documentary that Jessica and Tim have both seen. It is available through Netfliks.

Our next meeting will be March 17<sup>th</sup> in the OOB High School library.