

Animal Welfare Committee Meeting August 25, 2016, 12-00pm, COA/VMCC, 2 Mayflower Street, Provincetown, MA

Attending were Brec, Jutsum, Brooke, MacDonald. Excused Murphy  
Doug Johnston, Town Clerk  
RuthAnne Cowing, ACO

Public: Christopher Brooke, Marsh Sirota

No public comments

1. Doug Johnston came before the Committee seeking a recommendation about the dog licensing fees, specifically, if we feel they should be raised. He stated the fees collected go into the Towns' General Fund. After a brief discussion, the Committee recommended the fee remain the same, \$6 for a spayed or neutered dog, \$20 for unneutered or unsprayed dog.
2. Elizabeth gave us a copy of Ballot Question # 3, which would prohibit certain methods of farm animal containment.
3. The minutes of 7/21/16 were approved.
4. Elizabeth is concerned that the Committee is not kept in the loop regarding health concerns as they relate to animals. Jeff suggested something along the line of a volunteer working with RuthAnne to report back to the group. Elizabeth suggested and Animal Resource Officer. RuthAnne explained that the position was more wildlife motivated, and reporting data. RuthAnne said she will keep us in the loop. Also stated that our by-laws have a bit more immediate "bite" than the States' animal cruelty law. IE, our by-laws allow the police to fine for an offense whereas the State law requires the perp as well as someone from the Police Dept to show up for a court appearance, which drains the system time wise and financially.
5. All of the foxes spotted around Town appear healthy. The ill ones have died. No rabies in Provincetown. RuthAnne discussed the new State reqs about rabies (see Attachment I).
6. The Seashore poisoning plan is on hold, however RuthAnne stated that people she know who have been on the beach say there is no wildlife. Discussion ensued about the AWC writing a letter to George Price (Supt National Seashore), to see what happened regarding predator control. Instead it was decided that Jeff would contact Mary Jo-Avellar (Ptown rep to Seashore).
7. Carol chatted briefly with Dennis Minsky, Chair of the ConCom. Trees are not to be clear-cut between January and September. Carol will invite Dennis to our next meeting to discuss further.
8. Carol spoke with Sandy from the DPW. She stated that the trailer was set with supplies.
9. Elizabeth distributed a handout about bats, what they do for our environment, and how to attract them (ie: bat houses). Stated the Birdwatchers store in Orleans would sell them to the Town at cost.

9. Sherry will make up bullet points for our meeting with the Selectmen.

10. Next meeting scheduled for 9/16/16

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherry Brec  
Clerk pro tempore

### Attachment I

Major changes:

- o There is no more "Primary Series" of vaccinations for dogs and cats. Dogs and cats receiving their first shot are considered currently vaccinated 28 days after they receive the shot, and it will be for a period of one year. Dogs and cats that have proof of a prior vaccination at some point in their life are considered currently vaccinated immediately upon receiving a shot, and it will be good for the longest period recognized on the label.

Dogs and cats that are possibly exposed to rabies:

- o No change for vaccinated animals. Still booster and still 45-day quarantine
- o Dogs and cats that have proof of a rabies vaccine **AT ANY POINT IN THEIR LIFE** can be vaccinated immediately and only have to complete a 45-day quarantine
- o Dogs and cats that have never been vaccinated (or don't have proof) get a booster shot immediately and do a **4-month** quarantine. **Category 1 exposures are 3 months isolation and 1 month strict confinement. Category 2-4 are 4 months strict confinement.**