

Animal Welfare Committee Meeting May 19, 2016, 12-00pm, COA/VMCC, 2 Mayflower Street, Provincetown, MA

Attending were Brec, Jutsum, Brooke, Murphy. Excused, MacDonald

Katy Ward – Banner reporter.

Katy had some questions about mange, which Elizabeth answered (see prior minutes for at length discussion). It was stated by the Committee that at no time had the AWC condoned the medical treatment of ill foxes by non-licensed personnel (as had be previously stated in the Banner). Katy also asked if we knew of any follow-up to the letter sent to the Town from Fisheries and Wildlife. We did not have any information on that, and she was going to follow-up with Tom Donegan (BOS).

Elizabeth also told the Committee that Lynn Miller (Cape Wildlife) had 10 interns that were going to be researching mange in foxes on the Cape. This will be a legitimate scientific study that will probably take years to complete, but it is a start.

1. Approval of the 3/17/16 minutes was postponed pending additional information being added.
2. Animal Facts Handout – The Committee came up with information regarding domestic and wild animals to be drafted by Sherry for a handout to be distributed around Town (see Attachment I).
3. The Committee came up with goals to submit to the Selectmen (see Attachment II). Elizabeth to draft and submit to the selectmen prior to the deadline of 6/6/16.
4. Mary Ellen Dwyer had submitted her resignation as alternate on the Committee as she is unable to attend the meetings.
5. Elizabeth suggested the Committee draft our own goals.
 - Monitor State wide bills that affect animals so as to submit letters when appropriate
 - Educate the public via lectures (the Wednesday series at Napi's).
 - Continue PSAs.
 - Address using harmful poisons and destruction of wildlife Habitats.
6. Elizabeth brought to the Committee's attention that many trees had been clear cut at the Stable Path construction site. This caused the loss of many bird and squirrel nests. Jeffrey volunteered to contact the Conservation Commission to follow-up.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Brec
Clerk pro tempore

ATTACHMENT I

DOMESTIC ANIMALS

Never leave pets in parked cars on hot or sunny days. Temperatures inside cars can rise dangerously high in minutes. It is a General By-law in Provincetown that no animals shall be left in an unattended vehicle under conditions that may endanger the animals' well being.

It is dangerous to drive with your pet on your lap. Please have your pet restrained while driving.

Please clean up after your pet.

Be aware that the sand on the beaches can become very hot during the summer. This can cause pain and damage to your dogs' paws.

Please keep your cats indoors. Your cat may be hit by a car. More cats die yearly from being hit by a car than are euthanized by animal shelters. Cats outside can be prey for wild animals, as well as predators to birds.

Contact Information:

Provincetown Animal Control - 508.487.1212

CASAS (Carrie A. Seaman Animal Shelter) - 508.487.4243

CARE (24 emergency care for domestic animals) - 508.398.7575

WILDLIFE

Never approach an ill or injured wild animal. Contact the appropriate agency.

Seals come on shore to rest. If you see a seal on the beach, that is most likely what it is doing. Do not approach, and please keep your dogs away. If it appears injured, please call IFAW.

Turtles become cold-stunned and come ashore during the winter months. They need assistance. Please call Turtle Rescue and, if possible, stay with the animal until help arrives.

Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary (Turtle Stranding Rescue) - 508.349.2615

WildCare (Birds and Small Mammals) - 508.240.2255

Cape Wildlife (Larger Mammals) - 508.362.0111

IFAW (Injured Seals) - 508.743.9548

Provincetown Animal Control - 508.487.1212

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PROVINCETOWN, MA

ATTACHMENT II

Suggestions from The Animal Welfare Committee Selectman's Annual Town-wide Policy Goals for Fiscal Year 2017

In continuation of Article 34 *Designating Provincetown a Cruelty Free Zone* that was passed at the April Town meeting, the Animal Welfare Committee encourages the Selectman to consider creating policies and regulations that support and protect the quality of life for all living beings and the environment in Provincetown

End permitted hunting for sport on town land

Encourage the use of organic alternatives for gardens and lawns as opposed to the use of harmful chemicals and pesticides

Disallow the sale of cruel, lethal and poisonous materials for the management of "nuisance" animals or pests

Disallow the sale of toxic materials that could potentially leach into our water supplies

Publish information about non lethal alternatives to resolve conflicts with animals

Publish information about environmentally friendly alternatives for landscaping