

Animal Welfare Committee Meeting July 19, 2018, 12-00pm, at the COA/VMCC, 2 Mayflower Street, Provincetown, MA

Attending were: Brec, MacDonald, Murphy, Brooke. Absent: Jutsum

RuthAnne Cowing, Animal Control Officer

No public comments

1. The minutes of 6/21/18 were approved.
2. Service animal cards should be available next week.
3. Pet safety cards were approved, and to be printed.
4. Barnstable County coyote killing contest. Our BOS is reserved to tell other Towns what to do. Elizabeth suggested everyone write a letter to the Cape Cod Times. Sherry presented a draft letter to be sent to Barnstable Town Council. The letter was approved 4-0-0. (Attachment 1). Sherry to mail out.
5. There is a mange outbreak in Truro. Someone in Truro is poisoning foxes.
6. Provincetown foxes appear to be dispersing. No raccoon complaints.
7. The Stop & Shop has their own temperature gun to measure heat in parked cars.
8. Look into silent fireworks (Sherry). We are a cruelty free community. The noise from fireworks disturbs domestic and wild animals. Also, affect people with PTSD. Approach the BOS to get on a future agenda (Carol). Also contact VSB regarding the issue (Sherry).

Next Meeting: September 20, 2018

Meeting adjourned at 12:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Brec
Clerk pro tempore

Attachment 1

Animal Welfare Committee
Town of Provincetown
260 Commercial Street
Provincetown, MA 02657

July 19, 2018

Barnstable Town Council
Barnstable Town Hall
367 Main Street
Hyannis, MA 02601

We are writing to encourage you to ban the coyote killing contest held yearly in Barnstable County. This contest is inhumane and ecologically irresponsible.

Participants routinely use powerful and unsporting weapons, including electronic calling devices that lure these curious and social animals by imitating the sounds of a fellow coyote or prey in distress. Contest participants often toss away the bodies like trash.

Coyote communities themselves become unbalanced, and these contests could even trigger a rapid increase in breeding, tipping the scales in the other direction. Killing native animals like coyotes fails to address any real problems, and can actually lead to more conflicts with livestock. And the demonization of coyotes is not only unfair but untrue: coyotes are an important part of keeping rodent and other 'pest' populations in check. They do not deserve to be killed en masse.

We urge you to ban this killing contest.

Sincerely,

Animal Welfare Committee
Town of Provincetown
Carol MacDonald, President
Sherry Brec, Clerk
Elizabeth G. Brooke
Jeffrey Jutsum
Barbara Murphy