

Community Animal Watch

Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2011

Present: Jacqui Deveneau, Chair; Paul Niemczyk; Arlene Dolgan; Nancy Kelly; Officer Will Watson, Animal Control Officer; Lynda Smith; Traci Gikas; Kim Schwichrath; George Valz; Peg Bayles; Dick Bayles; Julie Dean; Linda Frechette; Michelle Greenlaw

Next meeting: September 15, 2011, 6:00PM, OOB Police Department

I. Announcements

- Friends of Feral Felines Fundraiser – September 3, 2011/Rain date September 4, 2011. Location: 147 Preble Street Ext., South Portland. Donations should be dropped off by August 26, 2011 and stacked in the shed. Jacqui Deveneau has flyers.
- Autumn Festival – Saturday, September 24, 2011 – Asked for volunteers to table the event.
- CAW Garage Sale – Saturday, October 1, 2011 – Asked for volunteers to work the fundraiser, for donations of items and for a site to hold the sale.
- Woofstock – Sunday, October 16, 2011 – Asked for volunteers to table the event.

II. Committee Reports

- **Treasurer's Report** – Reports a balance of \$557.98 available.

III. Discussion

- **Topic #1** – Final payment to Lisa Sylvester for reimbursement of veterinary bill incurred on behalf of a stray kitten. The committee members were all in favor of issuing this final payment however there weren't enough board members present at that moment to take a vote. Later in the meeting two more board members arrived and a vote was taken. It was unanimous.
- **Topic #2** – Committee Web Site – It was decided that the following items would be updated or added to the site: Minutes; Agenda. Paul reported that the CAW logo had been moved to the Main Page. Lynda Smith asked the information from the site could be transferred to an individuals' FACEBOOK page. She was instructed that the required information would have to be copied and then pasted to the destination site. Jacqui gave an overview of what is currently on the website for the new people at the meeting.
- **Topic #3** – Animals in Custody or Recently Re-homed – Two cats have been taken to AWS. Baxter has found a new home. There was a report as to the status of Barney.
- **Topic #4** – Animal Control Officer, Will Watson advised everyone that they should have current ID pictures of their pets. Pictures should be in poses which allow clear identification of the animal and show any identifying marks and/or color patterns. He continued with a review of the laws regarding stray animals as listed below.
 - a. Can't pick up an animal on someone's property
 - b. Feed an animal for 10 days and it belongs to you
 - c. Individuals can trap animals and then call Animal Control
- **Topic #5** – Demonstration of Have a Heart Trap by Nancy Kelly – The set up and workings of the trap were demonstrated. The way to lay out food so the animal is drawn into the trap was discussed. Tuna juice should be dribbled around the front of the trap to entice the animal then small pieces of food should be placed in the front of the trap and larger pieces back behind the spring mechanism. When Nancy had finished the demonstration Animal Control Officer Will Watson demonstrated a modified device he had had specially made to be used in conjunction with a trap. The

device is designed to move the animal to the rear of the cage for easier management and for the safety of the animal and the person handling the animal.

Officer Watson also provided information on the basic necessities a person should have on hand when handling a trapped animal.

a. A blanket

b. First Aid Kit – equipped with Quick Stop and Blue Coat, an equine supply for dealing with cuts.

- **Topic #6** – Animal Control Officer, Will Watson requested that a Thank you letter be sent to the New Hampshire SPCA for being asked to teach a class in Stratem, NH. Jacqui Deveneau will compose and send the letter.
- **Topic #7** – Pet Food Donations – Arlene Dolgan advised that she is continuing to collect cat food for distribution by the Salvation Army Food Program. Officer Watson is continuing to collect dog food. The hope is that by distributing pet food to those in need it will enable them to keep their pets and decrease the increasing rise in owner surrendered animals.
- **Topic #8** – AWS update – Sharon Secorich is running the spay/neuter program is working with Arlene and Nancy to get the local feral population in for the procedure. There is a need for temporary foster homes for the animals after the procedure. They have to be fostered for 72 hours afterwards to insure there are no complications. Arlene and Nancy will write a blurb for media tv explaining the need for temporary foster homes for the post-procedure animals. They will include the fact that rabies shots can be obtained for \$8.00 at AWS. Arlene also reported that 182 cats have been adopted out by AWS.
- **Topic #9** – Fundraising Ideas – Media tv ad to memorialize your animal.
- **Topic #10** – CAW Brochure needs to be redone. The issue was tabled for future discussion.
- **Topic #11** – CAW Photographic Record – Julie Dean will create a photographic scrapbook of the committee's work. This notebook will be used at tabling events to visually show the committee's work and to illustrate the very real issues we face. The notebook can be created for a cost of between \$20.00 and \$30.00. Traci Gikas will supply a 3-ring binder and sheet protectors for the project to be delivered to either Steven or Jacqui for delivery to Julie Dean.

IV. New Business

- The Center for Wildlife in York, ME
Information was given about the work this organization is doing to rehabilitate injured animals and return them to the wild. Anyone interested was encouraged to contact the organization to arrange a visit.

V. Agenda for Next Meeting

- There was no discussion

VI. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm by Jacqui Deveneau, Chair. The next general meeting will be held September 15, 2011 at 6:00pm at OOB Police Department.