



Advocacy Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes - Monday, October 7, 2019

Present: Brad Shear, Kara Maltabano, Pat Leonard, Charlene Karns, Marisa Desautel, Betsy Leslie

Excused: Liz Cottrell, Anita Oliver, Alma Davenport, Howie Naugle

Minutes submitted by: Betsy Leslie

The meeting's discussions included a review of two of the PL's white papers, a review of the Action/Item Chart (updated and attached), an exploration of how to move forward on the topic of funds collected in each RI town for the subsidizing of Spay-Neuter efforts and, finally, a topic to be considered in future meetings.

White Papers

Two papers (TNR of Community Cats and Access to Veterinary Care) were discussed and deemed to need simple, minor changes for submission to the Board for approval at the next full board meeting. (Actions: Pat Leonard, Howie Naugle)

Action/Item Chart

The committee worked through the Action Item chart presented at the August 5, 2019 meeting. There were changes made to the status of many items and a new chart is provided herein.

The suggestion was made that the chart might be more easily referred to if the items were organized according to their most recent status.

Spay/Neuter

Rhode Island Law Chapter 4-24-13 (titled Low-cost spay neuter accounts) states that each city/town in RI will deposit revenue generated from licensing fees into an account - 50% of which will be used to fund spay/neuter procedures to help families who qualify.

It's unclear how many towns actually follow this and who manages any account in the town.

Creation of a form that can be presented under the statute: Access to Public Records Act while be created (Action: Marisa)

Members of the committee will be assigned specific towns. The question of whom to address in each town will vary and be determined by the contacting committee member.

Discussion of Future Topics

Potter Pet University's program on Rhode Island Legislation (including 2 state reps) was very successful. The question was raised that it might make sense for the PL to take that program directly to the state house.

<u>ACTION ITEM/ DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ASSIGNEE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
4b) Create a "one sheeter" for front desk Staff & Volunteers addressing pet limitation & impoundment regulations	<u>9/25/18</u>	Alma	Open
7) Recirculate Pet Policy for review and Comments	<u>11/15/17</u>	Howie	Ongoing-see 7a,b,c,d)
7a) Followup with NHA	<u>11/15/17</u>	Brad	On going
7b) Update Policy, contingent upon 7b)	<u>11/15/17</u>	Committee	On hold
7c) Develop listing of pet friendly housing- contact Noel Shiland NCBR	<u>8/7/18</u>	Brad	On going
7d) Under consideration to host breakfast session with NCBR	<u>12/12/18</u>	Brad	Open
8) Address T&R change to Cat Abandonment Bill	<u>8/7/18</u>		On hold-passed House in 2018
9) Status and future of Pet custody (divorce) bill	<u>12/14/17</u>	Kara/Marisa	Deffered to 2020session
13d) Complete Whitepapers	<u>8/15/19</u>	Committee	Open
15)Research utilizing town fees collected through licensing to subsidize Spay-Neuter Program(s)	<u>8/15/19</u>	TBD	Open
15a) Develop form addressing pertinent info of town/city Spay/Neuter accounts	<u>10/7/19</u>	Marisa	Open
15b) Assign committee members to towns	<u>10/7/19</u>	Committee	Open
<u>ON-GOING ACTIONS</u>			
2) Schedule/Conduct follow-up public sessions to engage community and legislators in animal legislation			
13) Committee Focus Issue Assignments			

The next meeting of this committee is TBD.