

Newtown Animal Control Advisory Board (ACAB) Minutes 1-17-19

Date: Thursday, January 17th, 2019

Location: Newtown Municipal Town Building, 3 Primrose Street, Muni Center Room #1

Attendance: Members: Chair Adria Henderson, Frank McCloskey, Jane Hellman, Jane Calverley, and Janice Butler. Also in attendance: MACO Carolee Mason and AACO Cindy Edgar.

Meeting began @ 2:37pm

No public participation

Correspondence:

Chair Henderson received an email from Renee Weimann from the town office to ensure the Board minutes has the correct title format and can't be approved by email.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sunny Update/adoption

AACO Cindy Edgar attended to discuss the situation with the Board and MACO Mason. Even though Canine Advocates of Newtown (CAN) has agreed to pay Sunny's ongoing prescription drugs, AACO Edgar still doesn't want to adopt Sunny since her medical bills are higher and she doesn't want to be responsible if Sunny causes any damage to the shelter facility when Sunny is there. Chair Henderson noted the town lawyer would have to approve AACO Edgar's request on not being liable for any damage to facility or any incident to a person upon adoption. Chair Henderson and MACO Mason will meet with the town lawyer and get feedback.

AACO Edgar also noted Sunny seems to be having panic attacks after talking to Dr. Vali. She's waiting for him to call back. AACO Edgar said she'd like to try increasing the dosage of the current med or try new ones before euthanasia. Sunny's past was discussed, including being at the shelter over 7 years after being found abandoned right after delivering her litter. Her anxieties have gotten worst over the years, even with meds and several adoption attempts, resulting in her deteriorating health (i.e. lost teeth, broken bones).

Frank McCloskey read the Policy & Procedure Welfare policy, approved by the BOS on 3/5/12, to the group for euthanizing impounded dogs for medical or behavioral reasons noting the required documented steps and safeguards. For now, MACO Mason was ok increasing the existing dosage but no new meds in order to experiment on Sunny. The Board was in agreement. MACO Mason and AACO Edgar will talk to Dr. Vali. Also MACO Mason will write a letter to the Chief of Police and Selectman about Sunny's situation and the potential liability to the town if adopted.

Cat Foster/Intake Agreement

It was adopted from the approved dog foster agreement. Chair Henderson will email it to MACO Mason and the Board.

Shelter visit

No issues were brought up from the Board's visit on 11/29/18.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dog park bite incidents

Chair Henderson heard there was an incident recently and asked about MACO Mason's responsibility. It was noted the park falls under Park & Recreation department but MACO Mason will get involved as needed. Chair Henderson will look into the signs posted at the park.

TNR program

Tabled until next meeting.

Next quarterly meeting TBD

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

These minutes are subject to approval by ACAB.

Respectfully submitted by Frank McCloskey