

**Town of Rehoboth
Animal Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting on December 12, 2017
Town Hall Meeting Room**

Present: Sarah Arrigo, Elizabeth Botelho, Amy Hurd, Richard Panofsky, Animal Control Officer Rob Johnson

Absent: Excused: Nancy Scott

Call to Order: 7:33 pm

1. Approval of the minutes of November 14, 2017

- S. Arrigo moved approval of the minutes. A, Hurd seconded. There were no changes. Motion carried.

2. Housekeeping, updates, announcements

- S. Arrigo asked the group to consider a different meeting time. After discussion, we settled on a regular meeting time on the third Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be January 16, 2018.

3. Update on issues for animals and agriculture

- Agriculture bill HB 441, renamed HB 4050, was reported favorably out of the Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Committee for the House Ways and Means Committee to consider. This means it is progressing. R. Panofsky distributed copies of the new bill and pointed out the various simplifications in Sections BB and CC, as Selectman Vadnais had predicted. Brief discussion brought out our continuing interest but a feeling it will be some time in the future before actions needing attention might result.
- As citizens we could decide to urge its passage, but the committee has no action to take.

4. Planning re shelter improvements

- R. Panofsky reported that he had sent to members by email a discussion draft of the Animal Advisory Committee's walk-through in October. After receiving some corrections, he then sent it to Selectman Vadnais for an indication about next steps. Selectman Vadnais gave copies to each Selectman. The BOS agenda for its December 11 meeting included Discussion w/ Animal Advisory Committee Re: ACO Structural Action Plan & Evaluation of Volunteer Program. The selectmen gave the following charge to the AAC (Panofsky's wording; official BOS minutes can be consulted later):
 - The Committee and ACO should develop a plan for improvements in the shelter operation and facility. The plan will consider costs, timing, and other implementation issues. The plan will go to the Selectmen for directions as to implementation.
 - The plan should focus first on remedying things we must do for compliance and then address things that are just "good to do."
 - The plan should review how to use volunteers better.
- R. Johnson discussed the draft, point by point, giving clarifications, comments, and updates. Attachment A reflects those additions to the Shelter Walk-Through Discussion document.
- The Committee, with R. Johnson's active participation, then went also point-by-point, considering the original observations, new ideas and information, and Johnson's input, in order to identify actions needed. Each was given a priority indication whether they are must-do for

compliance or can wait some time. Appendix B is a Preliminary Draft for an Action Plan for Shelter Improvements.

5. Open session: Audience comments

- No audience was in attendance.

6. Any other business

- There was none.

Adjournment

- S. Arrigo moved to adjourn at 9:00 pm. E. Botelho seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Panofsky, Chair

Attachments

Attachment A: Discussion of the Shelter Walk-Through document, with R. Johnson's additions (AAC Shelter Walk-Through on October 10, 2017, rev December 12.docx)

Attachment B: Preliminary Draft for an Action Plan for Shelter Improvements

Agenda

Animal Advisory Committee
December 12, 2017, 7:30 pm
Town Hall Meeting Room

1. Approval of minutes of November 14, 2017
2. Housekeeping, updates, announcements
3. Update on issues for animals and agriculture
4. Planning re shelter improvements
5. Open Session: Audience Comments
6. Any other business