

**Town of Rehoboth  
Animal Advisory Committee  
Minutes of Meeting on February 20, 2018  
Town Hall Meeting Room**

**Present:** Amy Hurd, Richard Panofsky, Nancy Scott, Animal Control Officer Rob Johnson

**Absent:** Excused: Sarah Arrigo, Elizabeth Botelho

**Call to Order:** 7:40 pm

**1. Approval of the minutes of December 12, 2017**

- The January meeting was cancelled. N. Scott moved approval of the minutes. R. Panofsky seconded. There were no changes. Motion carried.

**2. Housekeeping, updates, announcements**

- S. Arrigo and E. Botelho are both unable to attend, and excused.
- Reminder that, per Town Clerk Laura Schwall, each committee member is to do the Ethics training.
- The 2018 Dog License has been revised to add the rabies statement required by the state, a change that we recommended last year.
- The choice of a new meeting time made at the last meeting turned out to be premature. After polling by email, we narrowed to three choices, First Tuesday or Third or Fourth Thursday of the month. We settled on the third Thursday. Members present prefer or can accept starting earlier, at 7:00. R. Panofsky will consult S. Arrigo before we determine that for sure. E. Botelho had informed Panofsky that 7:00 is fine with her, as are all three days.

**3. Status of by-laws amendments for town meeting**

- R. Panofsky explained that he has sent in our official notification to place the by-laws amendments on the warrant for the 4/2/2018 Town Meeting, and he received official notification of receipt. This was explained in an earlier email.
- The next likely step is for the matter to be on the agenda of a BOS meeting soon. Although we've presented a draft twice, responded to questions, and made changes, the BOS has not yet discussed our final version. The goal is to have a version the Selectmen will co-sponsor with us.

**4. Planning re shelter improvements**

- R. Panofsky drew attention to the BOS Workshop Meeting Re: Municipal Facilities event on Wednesday, February 28, at 7:00 pm in the Senior Center building. R. Johnson explained that he would attend. Although the topic of the shelter might not come up specifically, there could be a scenario to include a new shelter on the new land. Discussion brought out that the key implication for our shelter improvements planning is that the earliest for a replacement would be five years. Both R. Johnson and R. Panofsky plan to attend this meeting.
- We discussed the issue of work already done and in progress. The consensus is include both, indicating present status. In this way, the report will represent the entire improvement process.
- We discussed how to receive estimates of costs, details of construction, and so forth. R. Johnson explained how he has had town officers come in to make estimates and gauge work in progress. Much of the work is likely to be done by town workers or by contractors dedicated to town work. R. Panofsky will update Skip Vadnais, informing him that we will be taking in information on costs and plans from such sources.

- R. Johnson led a discussion of portals for cat cages (reference: <http://blog.millioncatchallenge.org/5-benefits-of-portals-for-shelter-cats/>). He has already decided to up-date cat cages that need them by adding portals.
- The group did a point-by-point review of the draft document. R. Panofsky will record the consensus of the group, edit the draft to reflect our ideas, and then send it around by email. Major points raised include:
  - R. Johnson reported on some substantial progress in accomplishing matters in the draft. As decided, we will keep them in the document, indicating status as done or in progress, appropriately.
  - R. Panofsky will review some details of wording with Johnson in making this new draft.
  - Johnson clarified a number of technical matters, such as how the building accomplishes venting to the outside, which will modify details of our plans.
  - The Committee remains strongly committed to expanding, responsibly, the Volunteer program.
- No vote was needed or taken.

### **5. Open session: Audience comments**

- No audience was in attendance.

### **6. Any other business**

- There was none.

### **Adjournment**

- A. Hurd moved to adjourn at 8:50 pm. N. Scott seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Richard Panofsky, Chair

### **Attachments**

Attachment A: Updated Draft for an Action Plan for Shelter Improvements

Agenda  
Animal Advisory Committee  
February 20, 2018, 7:30 pm  
Goff Hall Annex, Blanding Library

1. Approval of minutes of December 12, 2017
2. Housekeeping, updates, announcements
3. Status of by-laws amendments for town meeting
4. Planning re shelter improvements
5. Open Session: Audience Comments
6. Any other business