

TNR Committee

July 27, 2022

Attendees: Members: John Talty (Chair), Councilman Perry Albanese, Catherine Daley, Doreen Gesslein, Jo Anne Lambusta, Marcus Perry (A-Academy)

Excused: Scott Smith

Scribe: Joanne Bergin

Roll call and Welcome

16 people in attendance including Committee members.

Colony Caregiver Discussion

John Talty spoke with Police Chief Riccio who agreed to help us make ID cards for our Colony caregivers. If we develop a mock up of an ID card the Chief can help us laminate and provide us with ID. Colony caregivers will be provided with one so that the Police Department or Animal Control can know who is approved and active in this program. Notes will be included on the card that it's for ID purposes only and cannot be used for solicitation. Joanne will ask Ed to design one. In the old days, the back would be a person's driver's license, but that's not required.

Marcus reported that all is going well with the colonies. He did help a woman who needed help trapping a cat so that she could take it to the vet, get it spayed and neutered and ear tipped, and then keep the cat although she does not want to be a colony caregiver.

Sponsor Update

No updates from Marcus; everything is going well. No news is good news.

Veterinarian Update

Doreen reported that 9 cats were trapped this month (July), 8 of which were trapped this week. Doreen trapped 5 herself. All feral cats are getting spayed. There's a new colony #55 and Doreen worked with the colony caregiver and trapped 4 females and one male. One of the cats was nursing and 2 were pregnant. In total, 290 cats were spayed or neutered.

18 cats have been spayed/neutered since the program started back up earlier this year. Currently, there are 42 registered colonies with 266 cats in total.

Doreen reported on a better offer for dealing with pregnant cats. There is another facility in Holmdel that offers better pricing. To take a cat there, you need to have an appointment. Holmdel is not a walk in so a lot of people won't go. Right now, they're booked through September.

Doreen is getting reimbursed in a timely manner for the spay and neuter services.

Brick TNR has trapped 18 cats since April when we started using East Coast. East Coast is a spay and neuter specific facility. They provide specific services including rabies vaccine and ear clip with chips we provide. East Coast is one of the few walk-in clinics in Ocean County. Most places you have to make an appointment, which is almost impossible with TNR.

The chips are registered to Brick TNR. A question was asked if the colony caregiver can be listed as a primary point of contact. The chips cannot be modified to adjust the primary contact, but a second name can be added. East Coast is working very well. John asked Joanne to total the number of cats in the spreadsheet and send to the Committee.

Issues or complaints

Joanne reported on the TNR hotline calls which lately, have come from people who only have 1 or 2 cats, which is perfectly fine.

Fund-Raising/ Upcoming events

John reported that TNR received an email from the Pet Ministry at St. Paul's Church asking if we would like to have a 10x10 space at their event to promote what TNR does. The event is October 22nd if you'd like to help man the table. Hopefully we can display the feral cat shelter. Joanne will send out an email to determine if we have volunteers to man the table.

We have \$4,000 more in our account thanks to Perry and Joanne who sold 50/50 raffle tickets at Summerfest. The TNR Rider Account has a balance of \$12,949.61

Next meeting

The next meeting date is September 14th at 5 (Board) and 5:30 (Public).

Public comments

One member discussed her Homeowner's Association will no longer allow her to TNR on their property. She explained how beneficial the program is in regards to containing the feral cat population, but they would not modify their position. John reiterated that approval to use property is a must. If they do not agree, we cannot approve a colony at that location.

