

TNR Committee

September 14, 2022

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

Scribe: Joanne Bergin

Roll Call and Welcome

19 people in attendance including Committee members.

Colony Caregiver Discussion

Since our last meeting on July 27 we have 5 new caretakers. We have 44 colonies, 307 registered cats, and have trapped 21 since our last meeting. We have TNR'd 37 cats since April.

Doreen has quotes for traps. Six traps for \$600 or 4 for \$438. These are a better grade trap. It's a gravity trap and locks when it shuts. We need a policy so that people return them – 2 weeks tops – and a guarantee that if it gets damage or breaks under their care they agree to repair/replace. Board motion to approve the purchase. Jo Anne Lambusta made a motion to approve; Scott Smith seconded. Motion unanimously passed.

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.

Most recently working on somebody new who signed up who lives off Adamstown Road.

Veterinarian Update

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

The people that are signing up and giving us their number of cats but we do not know if they are currently fixed or not, this is something we need to ask them when we get their agreement. People can't just sign up so they have permission to feed, they need to understand they also need to fix in order to get the Brick TNR benefits. If you feed, you must fix.

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

A resident who lives off Jackson is feeding cats there was an approved colony but there is a new owner who doesn't want the cats but the lady feeding them won't stop. Scott Smith will follow up; she had a deadline which passed some time ago.

TNR Hotline Calls

Call from a resident on Kaiser Boulevard inquiring about the program. There are feral cats on his dead-end having kittens and he was wondering if this is part of the TNR program. If the cats are having kittens, they're not part of our program. He doesn't know which neighbor is feeding them and doesn't want to get anyone in trouble or see the cats euthanized. Marcus left door tags to try and figure out who is feeding the cats and educate them on the program.

A gentleman under contract to purchase 519 Riverside Drive South in Vanada Woods is concerned about a feral cat colony in the area.

Janet Kelly called after reading about the issue of feral cats in Lavallette. She reached out to Brick TNR because she wanted some information on how she can help. She has a home in Ocean Beach 2 and would be willing to help. She has experience with trapping and neutering in Middletown.

Resident on Burton Parkway in Breton woods hoping to start a colony

Princeton Commons resident cannot start a colony because of her Association but will pay for care for 2 cats if Doreen can help trap

Update on TNR Rider Account balance

The TNR Rider Account has a balance of \$11,314.61

2 donations received – Susan Schultz from Cranford \$75.00 and Roberta Shields from Morristown \$150

A third donation of \$40 was received at the meeting by a supporter.

Fund-Raising/ Upcoming events

Blessing of the Animals October 22nd from 10 am to 2 pm at the United Methodist Church on Herbertsville Road. Two volunteers so far, Jo Anne and Catherine. John will be there throughout the event. Perry will check his schedule and respond.

Next meeting

The next meeting date is at Wednesday, November 2 at 5 (Board) and 5:30 (Public).

Public comments

One member asked what's happening with sponsors. John responded that we developed a flyer and posted it on the web site. We haven't had a lot of inquiries. The Committee will look at identifying more sponsorship opportunities.

Doreen reported that People for Animals are now doing dental services for dogs and cats.