

TNR Committee

July 17, 2024

Attendees: Members: John Talty (Chair), Councilman Perry Albanese, Catherine Daley, Doreen Gesslein, Scott Smith

Excused: Joanne Lambusta

Absent: Zack Prawdzinski (A-Academy)

Scribe: Joanne Bergin

10 people in attendance

Roll Call and Welcome

Please turn all cell phones on silent

Colony Caregiver Update & Discussion

Doreen reported that we have 3 new caretakers. The program has added nine adult cats since last meeting: 4 females and 5 males. To date 46 cats have been TNR'd this year (since January 1). There are now 76 registered colonies. There is a new colony on Poppy Court.

Sponsor Update

Doreen reported there is nothing new.

Veterinarian Update

Doreen reported that all is well with East Coast Vet. Doreen reminded everyone they can go to Holmdel (Spray and Neuter Center of Holmdel) if they prefer. Brick TNR gets charged what East Coast charges (which is the approved pricing) and Doreen, through Animal Birth Control, pays the balance. This gives people more options where to go. The Holmdel clinic does not take walk-ins, they only take appointments. Doreen has to authorize use of the clinic in advance and make the arrangements because of the payment structure. Appointments are harder because you have to act when your trap.

Animal Control Update

Zack not present.

Issues or complaints

Gloucester Avenue

John provided an update on attempts to meet with the colony caregivers on Gloucester Avenue. She was told that the shelters she installed on Township property need to be moved. Trying to mediate the situation has been going on for 2 years. Last meeting, the Committee voted to send her a letter removing her from the program. The letter was first refused but Brick PD then hand-delivered it. The colony caregiver did respond that she wanted to meet, we scheduled a meeting,

and she cancelled. She asked to reschedule, which we did, and she was a no-show, no call. DPW was given instructions to dismantle the habitats. They got that done recently. It is with much sadness that we had to do this, John said, but we had no choice. She refuses to adjust or respect the rules of the program. Neighbors have been more than patient. John received a call from the neighbors that the caregiver is re-constructing the shelters and continuing to feed the cats. John asked Scott to address this – the area is township property and she does not have our permission. We need to give Scott some direction in terms of next steps. John asked Scott to look into it. Scott guessed there's been 12 – 25 cats

John reported that there's no longer structures, there's pads.

509 Manchester – Complaint that A-Academy is non-responsive to request to trap stray kittens.

TNR Rider Account

There is currently \$5,578.31 in the rider account. Chairman Talty said we will accept donations from anyone so that we can do more work for the betterment of the entire community. Thanks to Perry and Joanne (with help from Mayor Crate) The Committee received \$2,400 from the July 4th Summerfest concert 50/50 and \$1,310 from the July 11th Summerfest 50/50. There is one more concert scheduled for July 18th.

2024 events

National Night Out Against Crime August 6th.

Next meeting date

August 28th at 5:30 pm.

Public Comment

John has Omaha Steak coolers that were donated that he will distribute to colony caregivers. John offered them to the members of the public.

A member of the public asked for an additional screen on BTV asking for volunteers. John said TNR has two slides in the rotation including one for volunteers.

Someone wishing to remain anonymous donated \$100 in cash to the program which will be deposited tomorrow in the Rider account.

Another member of the public suggested we request an article in the Brick Times. Joanne suggested a Crate Conversation and can arrange.

One member put a box at Greenbriar 2 for donations. They also put an article in the newsletter. The member showed the group the volume of things donated. We need to discuss who would get the donations/distribution.

If you take time out to come to the meeting, you should get a donation. Everyone in the audience is a colony caregiver. John said the caregivers are reasonable and can decide among themselves when they come to the meetings. He doesn't think keeping them as storage is a good use of the donations. Everyone agreed. Greenbriar said TNR can leave the donation bins indefinitely. The Committee will send the Association a thank you letter.

Another member of the public wants to approach veterinarian offices for donations.