

Town of Carlisle

Dog Control Committee

Carlisle Town Hall - Park and Rec Meeting Room

66 Westford St, Carlisle, MA 01741

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Minutes

Present: Dan Wells
Stacy Lennon
Larry Sorli
Sukey Provenzano
Lt. Leo Crowe

Absent: Todd Brady, Drew McMorrow, Luke Ascolillo

Meeting called to order at 7:05.

1. Review of Town Meeting
 - a. Passing of new Dog Control Laws: the committee discussed whether the state has accepted the bylaw.
 - b. Dog Walker Amendment: via floor amendment, the maximum number of permits a dog walking business can obtain was increased from 3 to 5
2. Discussion of FinCom Meeting article in 11/9/18 Mosquito
 - a. The committee discussed where money collected from dog licensing & violation fees goes – per the bylaw, it goes into the General Treasury. It was unclear whether/how those amounts could be earmarked by the Town Clerk for specific purposes.
 - b. The committee discussed the Clerk's intention to introduce a warrant next year to eliminate licensing fees for residents over 70 years old. It was noted that there are already tax abatements for low-income elderly folks. The committee was not clear about what problem the Clerk may be trying to solve.

3. Design of Dog Walker placard
 - a. The committee agreed that the following information should be included on the placard and card:
 - i. A permit # that is associated with the dog walking company
 - ii. The Carlisle non-emergency police number to call if someone has an issue or problem
 - iii. Permit expiration date
 - b. The committee agreed to recommend a \$50 lost/stolen placard replacement fine to the Town Clerk.
4. Special fund for Dog Related expenses
 - a. The committee agreed that a special fund for dog expenses would be helpful.
5. Special ticket book for Animal Control
 - a. The committee agreed that the Tewksbury ticket format would be a good one to use in Carlisle, with minimal adjustments to the information needed
6. Online licensing
 - a. It was noted that online licensing will be available starting in January
 - b. The committee compared the information requested online with the information requested in the printed license application that is distributed with the annual census.
 - c. Discrepancies between the two need to be addressed
 - d. The online registration system needs a way for applicants to send in their rabies certificate (upload or email a copy)
7. Dog officer attire
 - a. Larry has never had a problem with people questioning his role as dog officer; he prefers to carry something in his wallet for ID purposes.
8. Dog officer record keeping
 - a. Larry keeps a spreadsheet of incidents, which can be made available at any time to interested parties (Town Clerk, Dept of Health, etc.).
9. Public Input
 - a. No members of the public were present.
10. The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the Feb 21 and Mar 14 (amended to include Sukey) meetings.
11. Action Items:
 - a. Dan to talk to Sylvia about posting signs at conservation land with following language:
 1. **Keep your dog(s) under control at all times.** A dog is under control if it is (1) physically controlled by a person by means of a leash, cord or chain held by the person; or is (2)

at all times within sight of their person, actively monitored by that person, and immediately responds to a recall command by their person.

2. **Carry a leash with you at all times, one per dog. Couplers are allowed.**
3. **Clean up all dog waste.**

Failure to follow these rules subjects you to fines of \$50 for the first offense; \$150 for the second offense; and \$300 for the third and subsequent offenses.

- b. Larry to ask the Town Clerk about putting a legal notice in the Mosquito to alert commercial dog walkers that they must register
- c. Larry to convey to the Clerk that it would be helpful to provide the following information to residents and commercial walkers upon licensing or registering:
 - i. A “redux” of the key bylaw provisions:
 1. **Keep your dog(s) under control at all times.** A dog is under control if it is (1) physically controlled by a person by means of a leash, cord or chain held by the person, or (2) contained within a physical or electric fence; or (3) at all times within sight of their person, is actively monitored by that person, and that at all times immediately responds to a recall command by their person.
 2. **Do not allow your dog to run at-large.** A dog is at-large if it is not on the private property of its owner or keeper, or on private property with the express permission of that property’s owner, or is otherwise not a Dog Under Control as defined above.
 3. **Carry a leash with you at all times, one per dog. Couplers are allowed.**
 4. **Clean up all dog waste.**
 5. Failure to follow these rules subjects you to fines of \$50 for the first offense; \$150 for the second offense; and \$300 for the third and subsequent offenses.
 - ii. A modified copy of the Frequently Asked Questions document prepared for the Town Meeting
 - iii. A copy or link to the actual bylaws
- d. Sukey to find the version of the FAQ’s used for the Annual Meeting and forward to Stacy who will update/make final

12. Set next meeting date

- a. The committee agreed it probably does not need another meeting.

13. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm.