

**Village of Brockport
Code Review Committee (CRC) Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2018**

Called to order at 5:29 PM by Chair Blair

Members present: Mark Kristansen, Vice Chair Bob Duff, Secretary John O’Kane, Chair Kent Blair, Lyle Stirk.

Present: Trustee Annie Crane, Trustee Kathy Kristansen (Village Board liaisons) Margaret Blackman Mayor, Chad Fabry Code Enforcement.

Guest: Humane Society of Greater Rochester, Reno Di Domenico Vice President for Law Enforcement

→ Motion by John O’Kane, second by Bob Duff, unanimously carried to approve the 8/27/2018 minutes as written.

Minutes:

Blair explained purpose of meeting to review and discuss code related to animals especially cats.

Blackman explained that Village has had previous meetings and Included were trap neuter vaccinate release considerations.

Di Domenic reviewed concerns and issues of population control approaches especially domesticated versus feral. The SPCA is law enforcement branch of the Humane Society with full law enforcement Authority. Their role is to protect animals from abuse. In general the dominant animals are more aggressive well fed and harder to trap.

New York state has thus far refused to pass laws related to cats. Caretakers even of feral cats (caretaker harbor) are considered owners. As such they are responsible for the care of that animal (see 5-20 definitions).

There are some municipalities that simply have no code.

Brockport has several individuals who volunteer to trap, neuter, vaccinate, release (T-N-V-R).

“Community cats” include strays lost or abandoned and feral wild cats see chapter 26 (7/2018) of Village code.

NY Agricultural and Markets law stipulates cats are considered companion animals. Issues related to neighbor disputes really require legal intervention initiated by the complaining party.

Officer Di Domenico offered to bring training to the Brockport Village
Reference: Managing Community Cats: a guide for municipal leaders, Humane Society of the United States.

Using volunteers is only partially successful. Cooperation and support from area veterinarians is essential.

Brockport is one of only a few communities that has cats in their code.

There is community support for moving toward proactive plan to formalize T-N-V-R and increase public awareness through education.

Actions needed:

1. Remove cats from dog control officer responsibilities in Village code.
2. List Municipal enforcement agents example, Village Code Control, Sheriff, SPCA Authority having jurisdiction needs to be approved by board.
3. Formalize responsibility for cat control for perhaps County Wide Animal Control Officer.
4. Continue to promote more public awareness and support for T-N-V-R.

Stirk emphasized the importance of creating enforceable code. Educating the public is important to manage the problem.

Agenda for next meeting to discuss process for formalizing recommendations.

Adjournment:

→ 7:00 PM John O'Kane moved, second by Mark Kristansen, that meeting be adjourned unanimously carried.

Next meeting dates:

10/22/18 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM