



The Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals

Meeting Minutes

30 January, 2017

1. The regular meeting of the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals was called to order at 2:00 PM in the Legislative Office Building (LOB) Room 206 by Chairperson Trish Morris, Esq.
2. **Members Present:** George Cook, Sled Dog Owners Association; James Phinizy, NH Farm Bureau; Sheila Johannesen, Animal Control Officers Association of NH; Patricia Morris, Chair, Equine Association; Jerilee Zezula, General Public; Jane Barlow Roy, NH Vet Med Association; Katherine Rogers, General Public;
3. **Excused Members:** Dr. Steven Crawford, NH State Veterinarian; Regina Birdsell, Rep. by Senate Pres.; and Steven Sprowl, NH Federation of Humane Org.
4. **Others Present:** Lindsay Hamrick, NH State Director for The Humane Society of the United States.
5. Call to Order- Roll Call- Chair Trish Morris, Esq.
6. Introduction of Members
7. History of Commission-Published Documents (handouts)

A discussion of the executive order by Governor John H. Lynch, Executive Order 2006-3, an order re-establishing The Governor's Commission On The Humane Treatment Of Animals. And a discussion of Governor Margaret Wood Hassan, Executive Order 2016-01, re-establishing the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals that was signed January 22, 2016, took place. Chair Trish Morris also spoke about the web site.

8. Introductory Business.

- The Commission reviewed and discussed the Executive Order.
- Schedule of Meetings- The Commission discussed meeting times and days they would meet. A motion to meet on the last Monday of the month was made by Trish and 2nd by Jay, motion passed.
- Structure of Meetings- The Commission discussed having alternates when he or she is not available. A motion was made by Jay to allow alternates to attend the meeting if the member is unable to attend,

2nd by Jane, motion carried. A motion was made to elect Trish Morris as Chair by Jay, 2nd by George, motion carried.

- Web Site (www.nh.gov/humane) The web site was discussed
- Secretary- Trish stated they are looking for someone to take the minutes of the Commission's meetings.

9. Legislation Update- HB-381-FN

Lindsay Hamrick, the NH State Director for The Humane Society of the United States, presented on House Bill 381-FN, a bill that would add non-captive wildlife to the felony level animal cruelty statute. The hearing was last week and the majority of testimony supported the intent of the bill but wanted to clarify the exemptions for hunting, trapping, other Fish & Game related activities, pest and nuisance wildlife issues, etc. The committee established a subcommittee but only gave them an hour to work on the bill before the full committee will vote. HSUS and the sponsor are urging the committee to retain the bill to allow more time to work on language because of the complexity of the law. If the bill is retained, the Governor's Commission and member organizations can send feedback to the committee as well as invite Fish & Game to participate in a future meeting to discuss further. Fish & Game is interested in

Motion to adjourn by Trish, 2nd by George. Meeting adjourned at 3:13pm.

The next meeting of the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals is scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2017, 2-3:30 in Concord Rm 206 Legislative Office Building (LOB).

Minutes Submitted by

Sheila Johannesen

Commission Member