

NH Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals

Workshop Notes
November 19, 2021

Workshop Purpose

The regular meeting of this Commission scheduled for November 15th was cancelled due to the inability to achieve a quorum. This special remote workshop was subsequently scheduled to discuss the following time-sensitive topics. It is important to note that voting and other actions reserved for formal meetings were not conducted.

The November 19 Special Remote Workshop for the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals began at 1:05 pm.

Attendance

Members Attending

- Jozi Best – NH Farm Bureau
- Jeb Bradley – (R-Wolfeboro) NH State Senator
- Barbara Comtois – (R-Center Barnstead) NH State Representative
- George Cook – Dog Owners of the Granite State & NH Musers
- Tom DeRosa – General Public
- Jennifer Eber – Co-Chair, General Public
- Kurt Ehrenberg – Humane Society of The United States
- Sheila Johannsen – Animal Control Officers Association of NH
- Wendy Munroe – NH Veterinary Technician Association
- Dean Rondeau – NH Police Chief's Association
- Tom Seymour – General Public, Secretary
- William Wright – NH Sheriff's Association
- Dr. Jeri Zezula – Co-Chair, General Public

Members Absent

- Cynthia Collins – General Public
- Marga Coulp – General Public
- Dr. Stephen Crawford – State Veterinarian
- Elaina Enzien – UNH Co-Op Extension
- Heather Faria – NH Federation of Humane Organizations
- Gary Lambert – NH Sportsmen
- Patricia Morris – Equine Associations
- Jane Barlow-Roy – NH Veterinary Medical Association
- Steven Sprowl – SPCA Humane Cruelty Investigator

Public Attending

- None

Meeting Location / Dates / Times

The NH Department of Safety (DOS) has advised that the conference room we have been is needed for police training at the same dates that this Commission meets. Several other dates were offered that we could use, and we settled on Monday, December 16, 2021, for our next meeting at DOS.

There was significant difficulty reaching an agreement on future meeting days with conflicts arising from Senator Bradley, Representative Comtois, Steve Sprowl, and others. Mondays are problematic as some find Mondays to be a busy day playing catch-up from weekend events and activities. Tuesdays

NH Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals

Workshop Notes

November 15, 2021

were also tough, especially for the Commission members also serving in the State Legislature – though the legislative calendar has yet to be set. Most agreed that Fridays should be avoided.

Options were presented where the Commission could meet at other locations and maintain its standard meeting schedule of the 3rd Monday each month. Formal selection of meeting dates and times will take place at the next regularly scheduled meeting in December.

Jozi Best, of the NH Farmers Bureau, offered the conference space of the NH Farmers Bureau. The space has conference table seating for approximately 20 with additional seating on the outer periphery of the room. WiFi is available, though ZOOM connectivity was not available.

Belknap County Sheriff William Wright, of the NH Sheriffs Association, offered the conference space of the Belknap County Sheriff's Department. The space will hold approximately 120 people and has WiFi and ZOOM connectivity.

Discussion on meeting location(s) will continue at the next regularly scheduled meeting in December.

Remote Meetings

The question regarding continuing the use of remote meetings, aka ZOOM, was raised. Some indicated it would make attendance easier and more frequent, especially with winter weather arriving soon. Some also felt that it would increase participation by those having to travel long distances (time and / or mileage). Fully remote meetings by all participants is not permitted as the Executive Order allowing it has expired. It was noted that remote participation by some, not all, in meetings have always been available provided:

- a legal quorum must meet at a physical location where the public may also attend,
- those at the physical meeting space can communicate directly with all remote attendees,
- all remote attendees can communicate with everyone at the physical meeting space,
- and all votes must be conducted by roll call.

State Senator Jeb Bradley offered to confirm with legal counsel that remote meetings, as stated above, are permitted. Jennifer Eber also offered to verify with the Governor's Office.

LSR Review

George Cook provided an updated LSR listing that included links to those that now have language available. Discussion ensued regarding language content and legislative dates for consideration. The LSRs will be reviewed in greater detail at the next regularly scheduled meeting in December.

Survey

Dr. Zezula asked for all to review and provide feedback regarding the survey that is intended to aid in data collection. She let everyone know that the survey will be sent to Major Marasco, of the NH State Police, for review before returning it to the Commission.

Adjournment

With nothing further to discuss, the workshop concluded at 1:38 pm.

Next Meeting

NH Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals

Workshop Notes

November 15, 2021

The Commission plans to hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, 16 December 2021, at 1:00pm in the second-floor conference room of the New Hampshire Department of Safety (33 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH). Jennifer Eber will confirm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Seymour, Secretary
Dr. Jeri Zezula, Co-Chair
Jennifer Eber, Co-Chair

DRAFT