

FERAL CAT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE

March 5, 2024

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Members and The Public

RE: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Please be advised that a public meeting of the Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 3:00pm virtually via Zoom.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS THE FOCUS,
PROGRESSION, AND ROLE OF THE FERAL CAT ADHOC
COMMITTEE GOING FORWARD.

CC: Courier Post and Philadelphia Inquirer
File

FERAL CAT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE

March 5, 2024

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

AGENDA

DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Members and The Public

RE: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

- Call to Order
- OPMA STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE –
“In conformance with the Open Public Meeting's Act, a copy of the notice of the meeting, was posted in a prominent place in City Hall and copies were delivered to two (2) newspapers with circulation within the City of Camden.”
- Reading and Approval of Meeting Minutes
- Discussion by Each Ad Hoc Committee Member as to progression of goals
- New Business
- Public Comment Period
- Selection of Next Meeting date – and whether in-person or via zoom
- Adjournment

FERAL CAT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE

December 15, 2023

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 15, 2023
TO: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Members and The Public
RE: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Please be advised that a public meeting of the Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee will be held on Friday, December 15, 2023 at 3:30pm virtually via Zoom.

**THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS THE FOCUS
AND ROLE OF THE FERAL CAT ADHOC
COMMITTEE GOING FORWARD.**

CC: Courier Post and Philadelphia Inquirer
File

FERAL CAT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE

December 15, 2023

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

AGENDA

DATE: December 15, 2023

TO: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Members and The Public

RE: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

- Call to Order
- OPMA STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE –
 - “In conformance with the Open Public Meeting's Act, a copy of the notice of the meeting, was posted in a prominent place in City Hall and copies were delivered to two (2) newspapers with circulation within the City of Camden.”
- Reading and Approval of Meeting Minutes
- Discussion by Each Ad Hoc Committee Member as to progression of goals
- New Business
- Public Comment Period
- Selection of Next Meeting date – and whether in-person or via zoom
- Adjournment

FERAL CAT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE

October 17, 2023

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 10, 2023
TO: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Members and the Public
RE: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Please be advised that a public meeting of the Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 3:00pm virtually via Zoom.

**THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS BY-LAWS
AND THE FOCUS AND ROLE OF THE FERAL CAT ADHOC
COMMITTEE GOING FORWARD.**

CC: Courier Post and Philadelphia Inquirer

File

FERAL CAT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE

October 17, 2023

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

AGENDA

DATE: October 11, 2023

TO: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Members and The Public

RE: Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

- Call to Order
- Election of Committee Chair
- Discussion of the Committee's role as provided for by MC 23:8888
- Discussion by Each Ad Hoc Committee Member as to goals
- Public Comment Period
- Selection of Next Meeting date – and whether in-person or via zoom
- Adjournment

FERAL CAT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

- Virtual meeting begins via Zoom.com – October 17, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.
- Ad Hoc Committee members attending:
 - Council President Angel Fuentes
 - Councilwoman Nohemi Soria-Perez
 - Councilwoman Jannette Ramos
- OPMA Statement of Compliance read into record by Counsel, Howard McCoach, Esq.
- Members of Public in attendance
 - Brooke Stigben
 - Kathy McGuire
 - Kathi Liszewski
- Council President Fuentes opens meeting by asking for comments from the public. Each is to be given 5 minutes.
- **Ms. Stigben**
 - Ms. Stigben begins by indicating that she was happy that the Committee has begun its work
 - Ms. Stigben raised the issue of how to address feral cats in and around the Ablett Village area when she attends to cats.
 - Ms. Stigben also indicated that the Committee should also address stray dogs in the community.
- **Ms. McGuire** – was initially given 5 minutes by the Committee extended that time by 2 minutes during her discussion by Council President Fuentes.
 - Ms. McGuire spoke next
 - Ms. McGuire focused on the role of law enforcement officers and the need for advocacy.
 - She indicated she had attended the Camden County Freeholders meeting to advocate for changes to the Camden County shelter contract currently being handled by Homeward Bound.
 - She noted the following:
 1. Camden County residents are to receive feral cat spay/neuter services for free
 2. However, there are limited appointments available for such services
 3. Microchipping of feral cats is not occurring in some cases.
 4. Some people are making use of TNR services available in Pennsylvania
 - She indicated that she had reviewed the Homeward Bound Newsletter and noted the following: There were only 524 feral cat spay/neuter surgeries that occurred from January – September 2023 which averages out to approximately 14 cats per week.
 - The City of Camden should verify services provided by Homeward Bound by reviewing the underlying documents supporting the invoice submitted. Such underlying documents should include intake and disposition records.
 - Ms. McGuire indicated she had documents to be shared with the Committee. Counsel provided his e-mail address to send any documents.

*** After the meeting, Ms. McGuire provided the Homeward Bound newsletter for Committee review.

- **Ms. Liszewski**
 - Ms. Liszewski spoke about Gloucester Township having its own system to address feral cats.
 - She indicated that sheltering feral cats is not the most ideal way to address the feral cat population.
 - She indicated that some trappers are not happy with the current TNR process.
 - She indicated that there were instances of overcharging which ultimately required a credit to be issued to the municipality.
 - She indicated that she was aware of an instance where a cat was brought to the shelter, released to a person for adoption, that person turns it in to another municipality which is then returned to the shelter and may have led to double-charging for this cat.
- **Brooke Stigben**
 - While Ms. Stigben had previously utilized her comment period, Council President Fuentes gave her the ability to make a short comment.
 - Ms. Stigben indicated that she wanted to thank and support the Committee in its work.
- **Councilwoman Perez**
 - Councilwoman Perez spoke about how important the work of the Committee was and looked forward to further discussions.
- **Councilwoman Ramos**
 - Councilwoman Ramos also spoke about the importance of addressing this significant concern.
- **Council President Fuentes**
 - Council President Fuentes then thanked everyone who attended the virtual meeting and adjourned the Committee meeting.