

2017 TICA MA Regional Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2017 at Lehigh Valley Cat Club

Great attendance and participation during the near 45 minute meeting with over 30 TICA MA members present during all or part of the meeting.

Standing Business

Statement about Regional Communication Forums, Activities and Inclusion

The Mid-Atlantic region has a website (ticama.org), yahoogroup list serve (maregion@yahoogroups.com), and facebook group (TICA Mid-Atlantic Region). None of these mediums are exclusive. Efforts will be made to use all three for announcements, notices and news. Direct email or phone calls, as in other professional arenas, are the best medium for direct and/or private communication with regional leadership or individual members. Social media, in the opinion of the regional director, discourage thoughtful and respectful exchange with the greatest productive potential.

Appreciation – Fellow Board Members, Club Members, TICA Members, Exhibitors

Ellen Crockett (TICA NW Regional Director), **Lisa Dickie** (TICA Int. Regional Director, Past MA Regional Director), **Vicki Jo Harrison** (TICA SC Regional Director), **Susan Adler** (TICA Legal Counsel & Immediate Past MA Regional Director), **Members of 6 MA Clubs** (Capital, Central Jersey, Christmas City, Keestone, Lehigh Valley, PACE) more than 20 regional members, members of other regions and new exhibitors attended.

- **Regional Membership** – 339 April 7, 2017, 331 March 9, 2017, 326 Feb. 10, 2017, 317 Jan. 11, 2017
- **Regional Accounts Treasury** - \$411, Dickie

Noted that \$15 monthly maintenance fee for regional account, because of less than \$1000 daily balance, has taken \$180 from the regional treasury.

Check provided for \$200 to Jersey State as the 2017/2018 regional charity.

Check provided for \$45 to Cheryl Leigh Chamberlin for annual fees for regional website hosting & name.

- **Regional Show & Banquet** – Keestone Katz, August 2017, DiNunzio
- **Website** – Updates & Content Request (see New Business), Chamberlin

New Business

TICA

TICA WINTER Board Meeting – Jan. 25-27, 2017 Portland, OR

Board Decisions please see tica.org or ticama.org for the minutes from TICA Winter Board meeting for decisions and votes by Anthony Hutcherson.

Members may ask Anthony Hutcherson privately about the reason behind any of his votes or offer their opinions.

TICA Board Activity Feb. – May 2017

- Appointment of EW Regional Director Steven Meserve
- Sponsorship and Attendance at International Canine & Feline Genomics Conference
- Delay of Rule 212.3 & 212.4 implementation – Alter Class after Membership vote

Ellen Crockett provided detailed explanation of the problems with the alter vote implementation and why it had to be delayed. There were no questions about it. It was noted that President Fate Mays cast the tie breaking vote in favor of the delay. Anthony Hutcherson voted in favor of the delay, a motion made by **Ellen Crockett**. **Vicki Jo Harrison** also voted in favor of the delay.

Employee & Contractor Oversight

- Non-Profit Governance and Industry Standards

Vicki Jo Harrison, Susan Adler and Ellen Crockett concurred with Anthony Hutcherson that there have been many discussions of the TICA Board via email. Vicki Jo Harrison noted how the quantity of the emails and manner of discussion could be overwhelming. Anthony Hutcherson agreed.

Linda Swierczynski asked what a 501(c)4 non-profit is, like TICA. Anthony Hutcherson noted that it is a social welfare organization that pays no federal taxes and may spend up to 50% of its budget on political causes. Ellen Crockett noted that donations are not tax deductible.

TICA SPRING Board Meeting - May 18-21, 2017 Harlingen, TX

- Pending Agenda Items
- TICA Strategic Directions Meeting & Regional SWOT

Teri Matzkin asked how members will contribute to meeting. MA members will receive an email from Anthony Hutcherson with directions for completing a survey to include SWOT analysis.

MA Region

Website – A new classified section of regional website will feature cat products and goods made and/or sold in the Mid-Atlantic region for a cost of \$25 (\$20 company has been a vendor at a MA show) to raise enough money annually to pay for website hosting and domain registration.

Regional Awards – Saturday, April 22, the variety of potential rosettes, plaques and photo awards were presented for Members to see and chose. An online survey will allow members to vote on the awards for this year that will include images and prices.

Cheryl Chamberlin noted that photo awards require high resolution photos and ample lead time. Regional Members who will receive a regional award will have the opportunity to select if their award will be rosette, plaque, both or none allowing the sponsorship to go to the regional fund & regional charity.

Local and State Regulations affecting Breeders, Breeds and the Cat Fancy Hobby – **Jessica and Michael Petras**, whose cats were seized by US Fish & Wildlife upon importation in October, talked about the importance of engagement with authorities on all levels to understand what domestic breeds. Anthony Hutcherson mentioned restrictive local ordinances and licensing which makes no distinction between hobbyist breeders and commercial animal production. **Ellen Crockett** mentioned the importance of being aware and engaged in your local community in the understanding of animal definitions and licensing.

Susan Adler would like to create a regional legislative committee to monitor and be proactive on restrictive breed and cat ownership regulations. Anthony Hutcherson appointed **Susan Adler** chair of **Mid-Atlantic legislative committee**. The committee is seeking members in all of the states of the Mid-Atlantic region.

Regional People Awards & Years Active

This year's regional Awards will recognize regional members with service awards in 5 year increments for TICA membership and include TICA pins in the style of **Vicki Jo Harrison's** TICA pins.

2020/21 TICA Annual Proposals Clubs were asked to begin seeking bids and costs for hosting the TICA Annual in 2020 or 2021 in the Mid-Atlantic region as a consortium. **Susan Adler** will be getting a bid from Jersey Expo Center in Metuchen, NJ, Anthony Hutcherson from DC & Richmond areas, **Brenda Russo** from Pennsylvania area, Anthony Hutcherson from Pittsburg area.

Regional Good Deed – Jersey State Feline Fanciers will receive funds from the region for their continued good work on behalf of cats throughout the MA region.

Teri Matzkin noted that “JERSEY STATE FELINE FANCIERS” receives donations through amazon.com if you select them as a charity and log in through smile.amazon.com .

Membership Activity & TICA Incentive Pilot Program – Cheryl Chamberlin has agreed to keep track of regional exhibitors, club members and participation to amass points. The points will be useable for reduced or free show entry the following year to a Mid-Atlantic regional show or education show.

Regional Drive – Anthony Hutcherson will organize more clerking schools, judging schools and educational opportunities to increase the number of TICA clerks, judges, exhibitors and members in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Show Schedule –

Capital Cat Club June. 17, 2017 La Plata, MD

Keestone Katz Regional, York, PA August 26 & 27, 2017

Karousel Kats, Wyomissing, PA September 22-24, 2017

New show in Pittsburg (Nov. 3-5, 2017) first show in that region in 21 years

Central Jersey Feline Fanciers, Somerset, NJ, Nov. 11 &12, 2017

Christmast City Cat Club, Lebanon, PA, Dec. 2 & 3, 2017