

Centre County PAWS, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2020, 5:45 – 7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Board Members/Staff Attending: Dave Abler (presiding), Lisa Bahr, Maureen Casey, Mike Chilcot, Reenie Ferretti, Ginny Ishler, Ryan Macaluso, Ginny Newman, Heidi Petruzzi (recording), Joan Ritchie, Susan Strohm, Colleen Williams, Monica Wright

PAWS Members and Guests Attending:
None

Dave Abler called the meeting to order at 5:46 pm.

Member Questions and Comments

None

Action Item - Approval of September 22, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes - Heidi Petruzzi

Ginny I. moved to approve the minutes. Joan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Officer Reports

President Report - Dave Abler noted that Bob Conn resigned from the Board and from the IT Committee. Dave thanked Bob for his service.

Vice President Report – Ryan Macaluso did not have a report.

Treasurer Report – Reenie Ferretti did not have a report.

Recording Secretary Report – Heidi Petruzzi did not have a report.

Executive Director Report - Lisa Bahr

Operations - SNAP clinics will cease at the end of the year. The clinics are a small percentage of PAWS spays and neuters; eliminating the clinics will allow PAWS to focus on the voucher program and will free up veterinary appointments for animals moving into their forever homes. An analysis of past participants indicates that the only group that might be negatively impacted by this decision is out-of-county owners seeking dog spays/neuters. October was another triple digit intake month for cats. This is only the second time intakes have been this high, the other month being July 2020. PAWS is on target to surpass last year's number of cat intakes and adoptions in the near future. Dog intake numbers are down. There are about 30 puppies in homes as foster-to-adopt because of difficulties scheduling spays/neuters. Four transports tentatively are scheduled during the remainder of the year. Colin set up an IDEXX account so that non-urgent lab work can be sent out and completed at a reduced cost. The Management Team had some trouble keeping up with operations details, particularly on the cat side, while Lisa was on vacation, but Lisa is working with the Team to correct the issues. Mandy will be hiring more kennel assistants to compensate for fewer volunteers and zero community service hours due to COVID.

IT - Bob Conn resigned from the IT Committee and the Board. Lisa will meet with him soon to discuss his volunteer plans.

Events - The next Bingo is presented by By The Numbers and will take place on November 13. The Holiday Bingo will be on December 11. In mid November, PAWS will launch the paver campaign. The paver roll out was delayed since the Fur Ball went so well. The Fur Ball net income exceeded expectations with a total of about \$6,000 more than last year. The Fur Ball Committee is looking at continuing the fundraiser as a hybrid event going forward, especially considering the success of the silent auction and the raffle ticket sales. The event's marketing and outreach efforts, combined with the virtual format, attracted a largely new audience. There were many new names among the raffle and auction winners. Reenie noted that a hybrid event will capture both those that prefer an in person event and those the are more comfortable or are limited to participating virtually. The data captured by the virtual platform will inform next year's event. Lisa noted that thank you notes were sent to donors and that *PAWS for the Latest* will include a summary of the event. Colleen suggested emailing a thank you to all participants.

Development - Currently, the matching campaign is about \$4,000 shy of the goal. PAWS received almost \$6,000 from Target Red Circle and was awarded a \$5,000 Centre Foundation COVID Phase 2 grant. Lisa and Chris also resubmitted a grant proposal to the ASPCA. Centre County awarded free PPE to PAWS.

Finance - September was not a particularly good month financially. October will be better due to Fur Ball income. In October, PAWS received \$15,000 in feral funding and \$25,000 in matching funds. The estate gift mentioned last month has not arrived yet; Lisa is following up. Brian has not moved the budgeted operational reserves at this point. PAWS may be over budget for SNAP, but probably not to the same degree as last year. SNAP overage funds remain available. Reenie noted that the YTD budget line should look better once the Fur Ball income arrives.

Monica gave a shout out to the Fur Ball Committee for the awesome job they did.

Meeting Theme: PAWS Development Plan - Lisa Bahr (lead) and Everyone

The PAWS Development Plan revolves around the Events Calendar and the associated planning calendar. Lisa outlined her goals for 2021. She reviewed the proposed events for 2021 and asked for feedback as well as suggestions for filling gaps in the schedule. Board members brainstormed event ideas and, subsequently, high level donor rewards possibilities. Lisa then asked Board members for future donor email content suggestions and monthly giving program enrollment perk ideas.

Ginny N. gave a shout to Lisa for the new PAWS masks. Ginny has received positive feedback when wearing hers in public.

Unfinished Business

December Board Meeting Date and Time - Dave Abler

After discussion, it was decided that the December Board meeting will be on December 8 at 5:45pm.

New Business

Bob Conn's Board seat will be filled in May during the regular election process.

Ginny N. moved to adjourn the meeting. Joan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

The next PAWS Board Meeting is November 24, 2020.