

**Centre County PAWS, Inc.**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 24, 2019, 5:45 – 7:00 pm**  
**PAWS Adoption and Education Center**

Board Members/Staff Attending: Dave Abler (presiding), Lisa Bahr, Mike Chilcot, Bob Conn, Brian Eppley, Chris Faust, Ginny Ishler, Ryan Macaluso, Ginny Newman, Heidi Petruzzi (recording), Yvonne Riley, Joan Ritchie

PAWS Members and Guests Attending:  
None

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

#### **Member Questions and Comments**

There were no members present.

#### **Action Item - Approval of August 27, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes - Heidi Petruzzi**

Bob moved to approve the minutes. Ginny N. seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **Officer Reports**

President Report - Dave Abler reported that Reenie and Monica would not be at the meeting. The PAWS strategic plan ended in August, but will stay in place until the new executive director position is filled so that person can contribute to the development of the new strategic plan.

Vice President Report – Virginia Ishler did not have a report.

Treasurer Report – Reenie Ferretti was not present.

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

#### **Staff and Committee Reports**

Director of Finance Report - Brian Eppley emailed and distributed the finance report. The loss for this month was not as large as usual. There was income from donations for the new play yard and also from the annual matching campaign. The youth program brought in some money and so did the Fur Ball. It was another good month for cats in all categories. There were a couple of small expenses for the cat wing expansion that were paid out of the expansion donation. Year to date, PAWS has received \$5,230 from Facebook fundraising donations.

Director of Operations Report – Lisa Bahr emailed her report. The cat program took in ten cats from the Huntingdon County Humane Society to assist that organization with space constraints due to two hoarding situations. Most of the transferred cats have been adopted already. PAWS will bring in another group of cats from Huntingdon in the near future. Currently, the PAWS cat waiting list is relatively manageable. Dog adoption numbers remain low, but should go up in September and October. The total dog adoption numbers have not rebounded from the deficit created by the extremely low adoption rates in the first two months of this year. The adoption team continues to tweak adoption procedures in order to improve the number of adoptions.

Lisa reached out to Susie's Senior Dogs regarding a grant for Augie's \$2,000 surgery. The organization quickly agreed and paid the bill over the phone. Lisa complimented the work that went into the new PAWS sign on Trout Road. She also gave a presentation on Quigley and his significant medical progress over the past two weeks. Additionally, she noted that Whiskey was found in the small play yard last Sunday night. The PAWSome Kids Club held its first session on Saturday. The class focused on how to properly interact with dogs, how to meet them, and how to handle them. The Club will meet once a month for the next seven months.

Lisa distributed a draft of the new mission, vision and values statements as well as a copy of the current mission statement. An ad hoc committee has been meeting periodically to draft the new statements. Lisa asked Board members for initial reactions and also to take the statements home for additional consideration. Any feedback or changes should be emailed to Lisa. The Committee used the current mission statement as a guide for the new statements. The draft is concise and follows accepted standards for mission, vision, and values statements. The next step is to create a survey asking active volunteers for specific feedback. The Bylaws require 30 days notice to change the mission statement.

Lisa will give the first of two OLLI presentations on Monday. The second presentation came about due to the high interest level in the first event. Each group of fifteen people will come to PAWS for a tour and information session.

Development and Marketing Report – Chris Faust emailed and distributed the development report. PAWS recently received two \$1,000 donations. The one from the National Independent Truckers Insurance Company will recur annually. The second donation was from a first time donor who also is interested in fostering cats.

Chris and Lisa attended a strategic planning workshop last week through Leadership Centre County's Brown Bag series. Chris will send a link to their 90 minute presentation to Board members. Chris felt that the workshop was very well done, informative, and helpful.

The Matching Gift Campaign reached its goal on September 19, a very quick turnaround of about five weeks.

The Fur Ball is this Saturday, September 28. There are a few tickets left, with current attendance filling about two tables fewer than last year. The silent auction items are exciting this year and there is an amazing gift card board, where one winner will bring home almost \$1,300 in gift cards. Last year's popular Snip and Stitch will be available again this year during the live auction; there are new auction items as well as

favorites from previous years. Chris thanked Reenie for stepping in to chair the Fur Ball. Mr. Quigley will be at the Fur Ball to show why PAWS does what it does.

This year's Tattoo-PAWloosa, featuring tattoo artist Gab Yunis, will be on November 3 at High Street Tattoo in Bellefonte. This event was very popular last year, raising about \$2,400. Gab Yunis also creates pet portraits at her studio.

Nominating Committee Report – Joan Ritchie did not have a report.

Personnel Committee Report – Yvonne Riley did not have a report.

Executive Director Search Committee Report – Monica was not present, but Ginny I. noted that the Committee is planning to post the job description on October 1. Ginny N. will send a list of the job posting sites to Board members.

Bob moved to adjourn the meeting. Joan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm, followed by an executive session.

The next PAWS Board Meeting is October 22, 2019.