

Centre County PAWS, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2019, 5:45 – 7:00 pm
PAWS Adoption and Education Center

Board Members/Staff Attending: Dave Abler (presiding), Lisa Bahr, Kris Clark, Bob Conn, Brian Eppley, Chris Faust, Reenie Ferretti, Bill Harvey, Ginny Ishler, Ginny Newman, Heidi Petruzzi (recording), Joan Ritchie, Monica Wright

PAWS Members and Guests Attending:
No members were present.

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

Member Questions and Comments

No members were present.

Action Item - Approval of March 26, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes - Heidi Petruzzi

Bill moved to approve the minutes. Kris C. seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Officer Reports

President Report – Dave Abler reported that Yvonne is unable to attend tonight's meeting and that Joan will arrive late. Dave asked Bob to form an ad hoc committee to investigate alternatives to the donor management software used by PAWS. The committee members are Dave Abler, Bob Conn (chairman), Brian Eppley, Chris Faust, Kaitlin Grau, and Ryan Macaluso. In the March executive session, the Board decided to expand its membership to include as many as thirteen members.

Vice President Report – Yvonne Riley was not present. Kris C. reported that Chris F. sent out an email regarding Pennsylvania Business Central naming Lisa as a 2019 Woman in Business Top 20 Nonprofit Female Leader. Kris presented a congratulatory bottle of champagne to Lisa from the Board.

Treasurer Report – Reenie Ferretti did not have a report.

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

Staff and Committee Reports

Director of Finance Report – Brian Eppley emailed and distributed the financial report. PAWS should be at 25% of budget for the year. Expenses are on target. Income is lower than budgeted so far this year, but is still ahead of last year if planned giving is excluded. Summer program fees still are arriving and are exceeding anticipated income. The summer program is expanding by adding a few seats to each section. Spay/Neuter vouchers are coming in fast, about \$1,500 ahead of last year. Maintenance costs are up due to the amount of snow removal required in the first quarter. Most of the capital expenditures in the report are for the cat wing expansion. GivLocal is up and running.

Director of Operations Report – Lisa Bahr emailed her report. In the report, there is a link to a recent *Centre Daily Times* article regarding Bellefonte's feral cat population. Lisa would like to reach out again to Mayor Wilson about local resources available to address the feral cat problem. Ginny N. suggested meeting with one of the committees instead of the Council as a whole so that the approach and process can be more informal and robust. Lisa will ask Mayor Wilson which committee would be appropriate to approach.

Lisa highlighted a section of her report regarding Kaitlin Grau recently revamping the volunteer section of the website to be cleaner and more user friendly. Lisa really appreciates the significant amount of time that Kaitlin spent on this. She also shared that the Allegheny Spay and Neuter Clinic will be taking over the larger and newer All Creatures building in Centre Hall.

Lisa emailed two proposed policies. The Prohibition of Weapons policy is modeled on Penn State's document. Bill moved to approve the policy as presented. Bob seconded the motion. The Prohibition of Weapons policy passed unanimously. The policy will be communicated via an organization-wide email and added to the SOP and Emergency Preparedness manuals.

The Animal Rescue Partner policy makes clear what PAWS expects of all of its animal rescue organization partners. Bob moved to approve the policy as described. Ginny I. seconded the motion. The Animal Rescue Partner policy was approved unanimously. The "Transfer of Animals from Animal Rescue Partners to Centre County PAWS" and the "Termination of Relationship with Animal Rescue Partner" sections of the handout will be added to the Board's policies.

Lisa announced that PAWS is now open on Thursdays. PAWS is averaging four applications every Thursday and is consistently busy during those open hours. She also shared that Shadow was adopted after 1070 days at PAWS; Shadow is a 15 year old cat. Lisa invited everyone to stop by on Sunday from 12 pm until 2 pm to see the dogs from the Saturday Freedom Fences transport.

Development and Marketing Report – Chris Faust emailed and distributed the development report. News of the cat wing expansion has been well covered in local media, with print stories in the *Centre County Gazette* and *StateCollege.com* as well as coverage on WJAC-TV and WTAJ-TV. Chris F. played a video of Samantha York's Channel 6 story.

Chris F. expressed her thanks to Kris C. for the new, professional event supplies. Heather Mannion designed the materials.

Centre Gives, occurring May 7-8, is the single biggest fundraiser for PAWS. The two goals PAWS has for Centre Gives are to maximize the number of unique donors and the amount of money raised. Chris F. suggested that everyone to reach out to their contacts and encourage them to give to PAWS during Centre Gives. Anecdotally, many new donors support PAWS because of encouragement from volunteers. Chris F. is including Centre Gives cards in the upcoming donor mailer to let recipients know about both opportunities for giving to PAWS.

She encouraged everyone to donate during Centre Gives and to come to Yappy Hour. During Centre Gives, there is significant strategy that goes into how and when people donate. This year, the strategy will be adjusted since Centre Gives reduced the number of targeted power hours and increased the number of random drawings. Chris F. noted that many prize hours are won with fewer than ten donors. Technically, the money from Centre Gives is a grant from Centre Foundation and should be reflected as such in the budget. Ginny N. asked if the Finance Committee would consider using a separate line item for Centre Gives in the future.

Nominating Committee Report – Joan Ritchie reported that the 2019 Board candidates are Mike Chilcot, Kris Clark, Bob Conn, Sue Cromwell, Bill Harvey, Ryan Macaluso, Joan Ritchie, and Monica Wright. Candidate mini biographies will be posted on the website. The election will be held during the May Board meeting.

Personnel Committee Report – Yvonne Riley was not present.

Membership Committee - Ginny Newman did not have a report.

New Business

Monica received a solicitation from United for Animals asking for event sponsors for its Golf Tournament fundraiser on August 12, 2019. United for Animals is a new 501(c)3, created by Linette Courtney, that is raising money for regional animal rescue organizations, including PAWS. Chris F. confirmed that regional animal rescue organizations were sent information about United for Animals several months ago. When contacted, Chris F. was assured that there were no particular expectations for the beneficiaries and that United for Animals did not intend for its solicitations to overlap with the PAWS donor list.

Kris C. moved to adjourn the meeting. Ginny N. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm, followed by an executive session.

The next PAWS Board Meeting is May 28, 2019.