

Centre County PAWS, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
March 26, 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, Heidi Petruzzi (recording), Yvonne Riley, Joan Ritchie, Monica Wright

PAWS Members and Guests Attending:
Kaitlin Grau and Heather Mannion

Dave Abler called the meeting to order at 5:49 pm.

Member Questions and Comments

There were no questions or comments.

Action Item - Approval of February 26, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes - Heidi Petruzzi

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

Officer Reports

President Report – Dave Abler did not have a report.

Vice President Report – Yvonne Riley did not have a report.

Treasurer Report – Reenie Ferretti reported that the Finance Committee met with GivLocal last month to hear their pitch for credit card services. Reenie distributed a handout containing the details from this meeting. Using GivLocal will save money, so the committee approved moving forward with them as the new vendor for merchant card processing. If anyone has questions or would like additional information, please contact Reenie.

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. Facebook and Amazon fundraiser income is not separated out this month, but will be added to the spreadsheet notes soon. PAWS should be at 16.7% of budget. Income is a little bit low, which is typical for February. Expenses are under budget. Medical expenses are good for this point in the year. SNAP vouchers are up.

Director of Operations Report – Lisa Bahr emailed her report. This is the second month in a row that PAWS was able to take cats from another shelter. SNAP is good for this time of the year. Volunteers still are not consistently recording their hours. It is more difficult for some volunteers to track hours than others due to their individual responsibilities. Please note that PAWS Night at The Greek is April 11. Lisa was informed recently that a Columbia Gas project will be impacting the PAWS property. Columbia will be running a pipeline underground and they will pay the original fence builder to move some fencing panels and also will pay to extend the fencing about 100 feet. Bill agreed to chair the ad hoc committee on Mission, Values, and Vision. The first meeting is April 9. Lisa shared a picture of the cat intake team and described the intake procedure. Lisa is very proud of the work this team is doing.

Chris F. gave a shout out to Lisa for how well she handled a problem with the recent cat litter delivery. After Lisa initially refused delivery, a group of wonderful dog volunteers helped unload thousands of pounds of litter by hand because the driver did not bring the proper equipment for unloading. Lisa pursued the issue with the company and, eventually, they decided to donate the litter. Kudos to the dedicated dog volunteers who went above and beyond their responsibilities, especially after putting in a full shift of dog walking.

Development and Marketing Report – Chris Faust emailed and distributed the development report. April and May are exceptionally busy for the Development and Publicity Teams. Recently, Chris F. began attending Centre Gives training. She wondered if Board members can recruit three to five friends who are willing to make donations during Centre Gives activities, either in person or online. PAWS has two goals during Centre Gives: maximize the number of unique donors and maximize the amount of money raised. Centre Gives is, by far, the largest fundraiser for PAWS. Thanks to Kaitlin Grau and Heather Mannion for all of the hours they spend planning for this event.

Chris F. had a great month of visits with both new and familiar donors. She also hired a part time event assistant, Alicia Starr. Alicia's first day will be April 5, which is Bingo Night. Alicia has a lot of energy and relevant experience. By the Numbers and Dave Abler are sponsoring Bingo again. Thanks to Reenie for gathering Bingo prizes.

Chris F. also distributed "Paw Prints: 2018 Year in Review." Many kudos and thanks to Heather Mannion, who designs and puts together the annual review on her own. The last two pages recognize donors.

On Saturday, April 13th, Laura Van Velsor will be lead "Yoga and Wine: Purr-fect Pairing for PAWS" at Mt. Nittany Vineyard.

Nominating Committee Report – Joan Ritchie reported that the committee members have agreed on three new people to run for Board positions.

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

Membership Committee - Ginny Newman is out of town, so Bill reported that Ginny met with the Publicity Committee and members of the IT Committee on February 27. The Membership Committee will meet to review and discuss the responses from these groups after they hear back from the Publicity Committee.

Unfinished BusinessAction Item - Adoption Fee Policy Change – Yvonne Riley

After discussion with Dave and Lisa, it was decided that the best way to implement the proposed adoption fee policy would be to add a 24th item to the Animal Placement Policy. It reads, "Adoption fees are overseen by the Director of Operations, in consultation with the Cat and Dog Teams."

Bob moved to approve the adoption fee policy as emailed. Reenie seconded the motion. The policy change was approved unanimously.

Bob moved to adjourn the meeting. Kris C. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm, followed by an executive session.

The next PAWS Board Meeting is April 23, 2019.