

Centre County PAWS, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2020, 5:45 – 7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

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

PAWS Members and Guests Attending: None

Dave Abler called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm.

Member Questions and Comments

None

Action Item - Approval of June 26, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes - Heidi Petruzzi

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

Officer Reports

President Report - Dave Abler reported that the 2020-2021 officers were elected during the June executive session. Dave was elected as President, Ryan as Vice President, Reenie as Treasurer, and Heidi as Recording Secretary.

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 emailed her reports.

Operations - Lisa encouraged everyone to follow the Shelter Animals Count link that she included in the Operations Report. It shows a tremendous dip in both dog and cat intakes nationwide since COVID-19 began; adoptions also are lower. In comparison, PAWS' dog intake numbers are somewhat low, but cat intake numbers are very high. In June, the Cat Intake Team brought in 105 cats, the largest cat intake month ever. The foster response and building addition have kept the situation from being overwhelming. Colin Assadina is working on his Fear Free for Shelters certification. The Fear Free model attempts to make the veterinary experience less stressful for animals. To assist with reducing stress, Lisa and the Medical Team split the PAWS medical area into separate cat and dog sections.

Education - The refunded Summer Program fees are in the spreadsheet this month. Almost \$7,500 was refunded to participants and about \$2,100 was donated to PAWS.

IT - PAWS may need to hire temporary help to assist with the transition to Salesforce. The data in GiftWorks needs to be cleaned up in order import it into Salesforce

Events - The first virtual bingo did well, raising about \$5,000. It brought in about half of what a typical in-person event usually does because ticket sales were limited, 50/50 drawings were not possible, and special sales could not be held. However, the net income was good since there were few expenses. There will be another virtual bingo in a month that will include some adjustments to increase income, such as raffles and a multiple card purchase option. One nice feature of virtual bingo is that people from out of town can participate easily.

CPI and Landserv were not responsive to inquiries regarding the brick project, but Scotts Landscaping responded quickly.

Finance - Spot bonuses will be distributed to staff members starting tomorrow. The Finance Report was not distributed to the Board; Lisa will forward the report after the meeting. Overall, June was a low donation month. Last year, June included Centre Gives, but that money arrived in July this year. As a result, the income numbers for June look low; July should be strong. Expenses were low for June also. Reenie noted that the SNAP budget is fully spent year-to-date as of June, so the Finance Committee will keep a close eye on SNAP expenses as the year progresses.

Development - Lisa talked to Fred Metzger recently about plans for the PAWS "Alternatives to Rehoming" program and he verbally committed to a large donation for the program. Lisa hopes to obtain matching funds in order to create an even larger pool of money from which PAWS can offer medical assistance to pets in need. Ultimately, the program may help with PAWS' medical expenses since these funds would keep pets with their families instead of seeing them surrendered to PAWS when the pets have significant medical needs. "Alternatives to Rehoming" will include policies that ensure PAWS is not lending money and that funds distribution is equitable. Maureen previously helped draft guidelines for a similar program and will forward that information to Lisa.

Centre Foundation COVID Relief, July 2020 - PAWS will apply for a grant when the application opens next week. The grants are intended to replace income lost due to canceled in-person events.

Personnel - Lisa extended an offer to one of the Operations Manager candidates. He will visit PAWS next week for a tour as well as to meet staff and key volunteers.

Meeting Theme: Making the Case for Supporting PAWS

PAWS' annual *PAW Prints* overview is a glossy magazine-like publication that includes statistics, outcomes, and donor names from the previous year. It is time consuming and difficult to produce. Instead, Lisa would like to create a Case for Support, which is a standing document that can be utilized by anyone explaining what PAWS does. An online version of the Case for Support would be updated frequently and a print version sent out occasionally. Using the "Developing Your Case for Support" chart that Lisa sent out ahead of time,

the Board brainstormed answers to the chart's questions in order to provide input into developing the PAWS Case for Support. Lisa will share drafts of the Case for Support as the document progresses. Dave noted that the Case for Support will highlight the work PAWS does and it will be a resource for PAWS, donors, and the community.

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting. Reenie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.

The next PAWS Board Meeting is August 25, 2020.