

Centre County PAWS, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
March 30, 2021, 6:30 – 7:30 pm
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

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

PAWS Members and Guests Attending:
None

Dave Abler called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Member Questions and Comments

None

Action Item - Approval of February 23, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes - Heidi Petruzzi

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

Officer Reports

President Report - Dave Abler reported that long time PAWS volunteers Diane Kerly and Rick Ellenberger passed away recently. He expressed condolences to the families. In executive session last month, the Board decided to move the Board election date to Saturday, May 29. The election will be online, with voting taking place over a 24 hour period. Dave thanked Ginny N. and Mike for their work updating the membership list.

Vice President Report – Ryan Macaluso did not have a report

Treasurer Report – Reenie Ferretti noted that PAWS recently received a very large donation to help sustain feral SNAP in the long term. The benefactor requested that the donation be invested to produce dividends for supporting the feral SNAP line item. The investment committee recommended a high yield Vanguard fund that will produce dividends to cover a significant portion of the feral spay/neuter expense each year.

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

Executive Director Report - Lisa emailed a link to her report notes.

Operations - The first dog transport by airplane did not work out, but the puppies (and one cat) were delivered by No Dog Left Behind via van. The second airplane transport is scheduled for two weeks from now. The dog humane case that arrived pregnant last month had her puppies shortly after arrival; the mother and puppies are doing well. The humane cases that have come to PAWS this year have worked their way through the courts and all have resulted in guilty pleas or verdicts; PAWS supplied supporting factual evidence in these court cases. The Home Depot improvements were completed successfully. The lobby pet pantry has become overwhelming, so Lisa is working on obtaining a shed for those supplies.

IT - Salesforce is completely up and running, with records being checked for accuracy by volunteers. As of yesterday, FormStack forms are automatically entered into Salesforce. PAWS probably will switch from PayPal to Stripe for credit card transactions since Stripe has significantly lower fees. The PAWS phone messages were personalized recently.

Events - The paver fundraiser is moving forward. The initial purchases did not produce much income, but all bricks purchased from now on will benefit PAWS directly. The PJ Party made significantly more money than the Comedy Club did last year. Lisa is very pleased with the results.

Development - PAWS received estate gifts from the Katz Foundation and from the Fidelity Fund. Ginny N. gave a shout out to Lisa and Chris for the excellent Development Report.

Finance - Brian emailed the summary statement. So far, income looks good. Cat medical expenses and medical supply expenses are very high so far this year. Non-feral spay neuter is a little over budget. A separate bank account was set up for the VET Fund. The VET Fund web site is being tested and is on schedule to be active at the end of April.

Nominating Committee Report - Joan Ritchie

Joan emailed biographies of the new Board candidates to current Board members.

Unfinished Business

Revised Employee Policies - Lisa Bahr

Lisa reviewed the few minor revisions that she made to the Employee Policies after she went over the document with staff members. Mike moved to approve the Employee Policies as revised. Reenie seconded the motion. The Employee Policies were approved unanimously.

Meeting Theme: How the Board Can Help in Donor Relations - Lisa Bahr, Chris Faust, and Everyone

Chris recapped suggestions from Gail Perry regarding how nonprofit Board members can help support development and donor relations. Board members, Chris, and Lisa discussed PAWS development and events. Reenie noted that PAWS is well prepared to directly accept and manage large donations.

Monica moved to adjourn the meeting. Ginny N. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm, followed by an executive session.

The next PAWS Board Meeting is April 27, 2021.