

**Minutes of the Franklin County Humane Society Board
Zoom Meeting
May 27, 2021**

Board Members participating: Fred Deaton, Leslie Driskell, Matt Freire, John Hibbard, Keeuna King, Sam Marcus, Ray Smith

Board Members not participating: Leo Haggerty, Brian Logan, Rodney Williams

Officers participating: Cheryl Broyles, Diana Taylor

Staff participating: Kerry Lowary, Terri Lynn Smith

Volunteers/Guests participating: Mike Ball, Gae Broadwater, Bill Klier

The meeting convened via Zoom at 5:41 p.m.

President's Report (Sam Marcus)

- The April board meeting minutes were approved without objection on a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by John Hibbard.
- President Marcus confirmed that the board approved three motions via email on May 8: to expand the FCHS gaming license to full-license status, to appoint a general contractor committee and allow it to interview and recommend a general contractor for the new shelter, and to make an additional funding request of the county for \$200,000. All received eight votes; there were no votes against.

New Leash on Life (Terri Lynn Smith)

- Report included as part of record.
- Sales have been strong, and the last three weeks have brought numerous donations, prompting a 75% off sale on certain items.
- The store manager's billfold was stolen while she was working. Precautions are now being taken to avoid another such incident. The board discussed possibly installing cameras to monitor activity at the cash register and the use of Crime Stoppers to offer a reward for information on the incident.
- 85 raffle tickets have been sold. Board members were asked to contact NLOL if they could sell tickets to individuals/groups.
- Treasurer Broyles noted that the April NLOL income after expenses was \$9,715, the most she has seen since becoming treasurer.

Board Election

- President Marcus noted the high quality of all the nominees for board vacancies and expressed the hope that all will become involved in FCHS whether or not they are elected to the board.
- The nominees were Michael Ball, Miche' Branscum, Fred Deaton, Leslie Driskell, Shirley Elkin, Barbara Hayes, Steven Middleton and Karen Powell. Four positions were open – one for a two-year term and the rest for three-year terms. The board agreed that the person receiving the fourth-highest vote total would serve the two-year term.
- Board members submitted their votes via email to Secretary Taylor, who tallied them while the meeting progressed. Those elected were Michael Ball, Fred Deaton, Leslie Driskell and Miche' Branscum.

Shelter Manager's Report (Kerry Lowary)

- Shelter stats included as part of record.
- Intake increased in April; there are now 125 animals in the census. The live release rate continues to be in the mid-to-high 90 percent range.
- FCHS staff members and operations have completely returned to the shelter after recovery from the flood.
- Planning is underway for a rabies vaccination clinic.
- Chain link fencing will need to be replaced at the shelter. Two bids have been received; the cost will be approximately \$8,400 to replace 15 panels and 13 kennel gates.
- FCHS will apply for a Petfinder capital improvement grant to help cover this cost.
- FCHS employee Cheryl Douthitt is retiring in July. She is the longest tenured employee at the shelter, beginning her work in 2009. The board concurred that she would be recognized at the annual meeting.

Capital Campaign (John Hibbard)

- President Marcus reported that the general contractor committee met and interviewed the three finalists for the work, unanimously recommending Bosse Construction of Louisville. The capital campaign committee subsequently endorsed the recommendation. The three finalists were equally qualified, financially sound and capable of doing the job, but Bosse Construction's responses to interview questions – on litigation, direct contractor support (donation or in-kind) for the project, addressing cost escalation and other matters – set them apart from the rest. Ray Smith moved, and Fred Deaton seconded, to engage Bosse Construction as the contractor for the new shelter. The motion passed without opposition.
- President Marcus reported that the Franklin County Fiscal Court declined to honor the FCHS' request for an additional \$200,000 in shelter funding; this was followed by a discussion of the fiscal court members' positions on the issue. The board concluded that the best approach at this point is to accelerate efforts to raise the remaining \$600,000 needed to reach the capital campaign goal.
- President Marcus noted that FEMA could be an opportunity to obtain shelter funding. Discussions have been held with a FEMA specialist, who believes FCHS could qualify for a buy-out with a FEMA grant due to shelter flooding. If this develops, it would involve demolition of the current facility, reclamation of the property, attorneys' fees, appraisals and costs related to property acquisition. The property would have to be deed restricted from future development. The grant would cover 87 percent of costs, with a local match of about 13 percent. FCHS believes the city should not turn down this opportunity to secure this money from FEMA.
- FCHS also has been meeting with consultants and city representatives regarding the access road to the new shelter site. The FCHS position is that the road will not be used exclusively by the Humane Society, so the city should pay for it. FCHS' responsibility is for the shelter driveway and parking lot. Consultants estimate the access road cost will be \$137,000.

General

- President Marcus noted the need to have a budget meeting and present the budget to the board at its June meeting. He will communicate with the committee – Cheryl Broyles, Ray Smith, John Hibbard and Mike Ball.
- The online auction for the 9th annual Celebrity Waiters' Dinner will be held June 9-15.
- A membership mailer is being sent in June; thanks to Betsy Kennedy for organizing this.

New Business

- President Marcus suggested June 27 for the annual meeting. This will be held as a virtual meeting. The new board can decide in July whether to move to in-person board meetings in the future.
- FCHS officers were re-elected by acclamation on a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by Ray Smith. The officers: President Sam Marcus, Vice President John Hibbard, Treasurer Cheryl Broyles, Secretary Diana Taylor.

On a motion by John Hibbard, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.