

**Minutes of the Franklin County Humane Society Board
Zoom Meeting
June 24, 2021**

Board Members participating: Fred Deaton, Leslie Driskell, Matt Freire, Brian Logan, Sam Marcus, Ray Smith

Board Members not participating: Leo Haggerty, John Hibbard, Keeuna King, Rodney Williams

Officers participating: Cheryl Broyles, Diana Taylor

Staff participating: Kerry Lowary

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

The meeting convened via Zoom at 5:39 p.m.

President's Report (Sam Marcus)

- The May board meeting minutes were approved without objection on a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by Leslie Driskell.
- Harrod and Associates have asked for a decision about whether to conduct an audit or prepare agreed-upon procedures (AUP). The cost of the audit would be \$9,800; AUP would be \$6,100. President Marcus recommended going with AUP; an audit was conducted last year. On a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by Leslie Driskell, AUP was approved without objection.
- There has not yet been a meeting with the mayor and city manager. President Marcus reported that the purpose for the meeting is two-fold – to discuss options for possible funds from FEMA, depending on the disposition of the current shelter property; and the location of the access road to the new shelter, who pays for it and what type of road will be developed. Further discussion with the city is needed on the width of the road and related expenses. President Marcus also plans to ask the local officials their plans for the American Rescue funds.

Shelter Manager's Report (Kerry Lowary)

- Shelter stats included as part of the record.
- The shelter census is increasing, with 99 cats and 48 dogs currently in residence.
- The Kentucky Board of Veterinary Examiners has lifted all restrictions on vaccination clinics; work will begin to schedule a countywide clinic.
- There have been 717 spay/neuter surgeries through last week, not including TNR.
- The Kentucky Department of Agriculture spay/neuter grant has been announced. FCHS can request \$3,000; the application is due July 15.
- Work is underway on a reopening plan for the shelter. The number of people who can come into the building is still limited and appointments are requested. Ben Gash has done all the needed fencing repairs; the cost was just over \$9,000. The shelter is now at capacity for the number of dogs it can house.
- Staffing levels are almost back to normal; there are two new employees from drug court and both seem to be doing well. One is apprenticing to be the lead dog staff member when Cheryl Douthitt retires on July 8. An open house at the shelter is being planned that evening to recognize her work. On a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by Ray Smith, the board voted to name the larger dog kennel at the new shelter for Cheryl. Local government also will be asked to declare July 8 as Cheryl Douthitt Day.
- FCHS has received a \$10,000 grant from the Kentucky Colonels; it will be used for equipment that can be used now and moved into the new shelter

New Leash on Life (Terri Lynn Smith)

- Report included as part of record.

Treasurer's Report (Cheryl Broyles)

- No new figures are available. Nothing out of the normal course of business occurred during the past month.

Capital Campaign (Sam Marcus)

- The investment account balance is currently \$2.3 million. The capital campaign, as of June 15, has raised \$1,080,000.
- A mail campaign based on income level will be conducted. The board was asked to review the provided mailing list for possible additions or personal contacts.
- The bourbon collection for the raffle is coming together well. Special thanks were expressed to Bill Klier, Charlie Jones and Penny Peavler for their work to organize the raffle. The current target for the raffle is mid-to-late July.
- Ralph and Sandra Ludwig have donated 100 share of stock with a value of more than \$45,000; this is in addition to their previous contributions of more than \$10,000. The tax benefits of stock donations could make them an attractive donation avenue for some people, particularly since the stock market is doing well.

Budget (Sam Marcus)

- President Marcus asked for questions, concerns or comments about the draft budget, which was developed by the finance committee.
- Upon a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by Brian Logan, the budget was approved without objection.

Fundraising

- The online auction marking the 9th Annual Celebrity Waiters' Dinner did well, with funds almost matching what was raised last year.
- Leslie Driskell reported that Trails for Tails will be promoted on all Facebook platforms. The planning committee is hoping to attract participants from across the country since the race will be virtual; it will end on September 4, 2021.
- Broadway Clay will partner with FCHS this year for the Empty Bowl Project. The bowls are now being made and will be sold in August. Efforts are underway to find a sponsor to cover costs; Broadway Clay is donating much of its work.

Membership (Betsy Kennedy)

- There are 4,231 email subscribers for the FCHS newsletter.
- 3,500 membership letters were just mailed with an FCHS brochure and a capital campaign brochure. There are now 475 members, which will increase as a result of the mailing.

TNR (Gae Broadway)

- The report is included as part of the record.
- The April/May numbers might seem a little lower but are picking up again. There is still a clear divided regarding where the cats are coming from (county or city).
- Volunteers are working hard to help people understand that indoor cats should be handled through the All the Cats Program while stray, free-roaming cats should be taken through TNR.

On a motion by Fred Deaton, the board went into executive session at 6:40 p.m. Upon coming out of executive session at 7:13 p.m. the board approved the president's recommendations for evaluations and salary increases for the shelter manager and New Leash on Life Manager. The action was taken without objection on a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by Ray Smith.

On a motion by Fred Deaton, the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.