

**Annual Meeting Minutes of the Franklin County Humane Society Board  
June 30, 2019**

**Board Members present:** Fred Deaton, Billie Dollins, Leslie Driskell, Matt Freire, John Hibbard, Sam Marcus, Jaime Rice, Ray Smith

**Board Members absent:** Rodney Williams, Keeuna King, Leo Haggerty

**Officers present:** None

**Staff present:** Kerry Lowary, Jean Unglaub, Terri Sorrell, Cheryl Douthitt, Shaun Cunigan, Christina Alves, Nona Comley, Shannon Isaac

**Committee Chairs present:** Gae Broadwater

**Members present:** Eileen Hogan, Bill Klier, Barbara Murray, Sharon Parrish, Gail Smathers, Diana Taylor, Susan Taylor, Jill Williams

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**President's Welcome** – Sam Marcus

**Shelter Manager's Report** – Kerry Lowary

- Report is attached as part of the record.
- Kerry introduced the hard-working shelter staff and thanked them for their dedication.
  - Cheryl Douthitt (dog adopt)
  - Shaun Cunigan (dog stray)
  - Teresa Masters (dog floater)
  - Christina Alves (vet tech)
  - Nona Comley (cat & kitten)
  - Shannon Isaac (cat & kitten)
  - Jonathan Seaton (cat & kitten)
  - Julie Terrell (office)
  - Jeff Clark (office)
  - Jean Unglaub (Volunteer Coordinator)
- The shelter took in approximately 1,800 animals during the last fiscal year (including 1,000 cats) and adopted out 1,500 for a live release rate of 90 percent – the highest it has ever been. Kerry thanked the board, staff, volunteers, members and the community for supporting the shelter's efforts.
- The Pets for Life program continues to grow. When someone is in a circumstance where they cannot afford to care for an animal in need and contacts the shelter, staff look into the situation and tries to help with some

expenses. The program enables people to keep their pets. The participation by year:

- First year, 25
  - Second year, 32
  - Third year, 66
  - Current fiscal year, 82
- The shelter also works with displaced people to temporarily house their animals until they move into a home. The average stay for these animals is two weeks.
  - Approximately 600 animals were treated under the low-cost spay/neuter program, 121 during Spay Days; the number of kittens has decreased by 20 percent over the last three years, the result of the Trap Neuter Return program.
  - The flooding problem at the shelter has been addressed with help from Inside/Out Design and the city sewer department (many thanks to Katie Beard and Kenneth Hogart). Currently, there is no flooding of the kennels. Other improvements include new kennel gates and fencing and new guillotine doors
  - Kerry said the staff has 8 to 20 contacts with the public every day.
  - The goals for the coming year: continue to improve conditions at the shelter, repair stairs and decking, improve landscaping.

### **Treasurer's Report**

- (Report to be attached as part of the record.)
- Sam Marcus presented the report in the absence of Cheryl Broyles.
  - Assets at the end of May totaled \$1.1 million, an increase from \$935,000 as of May 31, 2018.

### **Finance – John Hibbard**

- John explained the budget preparation process.
- The budget is attached as part of the record.

### **Membership**

- Ray Smith and Sam Marcus reviewed the membership information in the absence of Betsy Kennedy.
  - There are currently 518 members.
  - Volunteers will meet July 13 to work on the membership drive.

### **New Shelter – Sam Marcus**

- The biggest issue remains securing financial support from the city and county government.
- Sam and other FCHS representatives are to meet July 8 with some city and county officials and staff to discuss how to move forward on the project.

### **Public Relations – Fred Deaton**

- Many thanks are due to our community partners – Cable 10, Capital City Communications, The State Journal, newspapers in nearby counties and others for spreading the word about the Humane Society’s work.
- Members spreading the word are the most important part of the communications effort.
- Both FCHS and TNR have Instagram accounts

### **Rescues – Kerry Lowary for Jeanine Sloan**

- Jeanine’s work is adding great value to the Humane Society’s work, and her volunteer efforts continue to have a strong impact on our live release statistics.

### **TNR – Gae Broadwater**

- Report attached as part of the record.
- For the fifth year in a row, the program treated more than 400 cats; 2,700 have been treated since the program began.
- The program is in the fourth year of a five-year pilot program with the city and operates out of the old Health Department building on East Main Street. There are more cats from the county than from the city.
- Fundraising has been successful, and the program is now nearly self-sustaining.
- October 16 is Global Cat Day.

### **NLOL – Terri Sorrell**

- A huge number of donations arrived in June.
- Through May, the thrift shop had income of \$101,860.01 and expenses of \$50,029 for a net of \$51,830 going for the Humane Society’s work.
- The staff going forward will be all volunteer except for Terri Sorrell, the manager. There is an average of 24 volunteers who work on rotating schedules.
- If items are not sold through the thrift shop, they are donated to the women’s and men’s shelters and other charitable programs.

### **Volunteers – Jean Unglaub**

- (Report to be attached as part of the record.)

### **President’s Report – Sam Marcus**

- Sam expressed appreciation to staff, members and the board for their outstanding work and support.
- Progress has been made during the past year and the hope is that it will continue and we will realize success on the new shelter.
- The Celebrity Waiters’ Dinner was held in honor of the late Laura Morrison, who contributed so much during her time as a board member

and volunteer for the Humane Society. The dinner generated a net income of approximately \$30,000; about 300 people attended.

- Jaime Rice reported Trails for Tails was a success and that the third annual race was scheduled for September 7<sup>th</sup> with \$3500 in cash sponsorships to date.
- Becky Wells was recognized for her many years of service as the board secretary; she is being succeeded by Diana Taylor, who was also recognized.
- Sam pointed out that increasing the live release rate – now at an all-time high of 90 percent – is the most important thing we can do.
- The Humane Society now has an endowment fund through the Bluegrass Community Foundation, which will provide administrative support. The fund, which will be separate from fundraising efforts for the new shelter, will help with sustaining operations in future years. We thank member and supporter Eileen Hogan for establishing the fund.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Adjournment – 3:00 p.m.