

**Minutes of the Franklin County Humane Society Board
Zoom Meeting
November 19, 2020**

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

Board Members not participating: Keeuna King, Rodney Williams

Officers participating: Cheryl Broyles, Diana Taylor

Staff participating: Kerry Lowary, Terri Sorrel

Volunteers/Supporters participating: Susan Preston, Bill Klier, Richard Rosen

The meeting convened via Zoom at 5:33 p.m.

President's Report (Sam Marcus)

- On a motion by John Hibbard, seconded by Ray Smith, the October minutes were approved without objection.
- FCHS received forgiveness for its PPP loan; the date of record was October 28, 2020
- FCHS has a plat for boundary lines for the new shelter property at the Carpenter Farm site. Some easements are in place relative to adjacent properties and others will be needed; there should be no problems in working those out. A meeting has been scheduled with the city manager and FCHS consultants to discuss this. The meeting also will be an opportunity to work on a proper lease for the property, if it is to continue as a lease arrangement, and it is hoped that a contract for the funding agreement also will be finalized.
- Tentative planning is underway to have a ceremonial presentation at the site to recognize the mayor and outgoing commissioners before they leave office. The board will be notified once plans are finalized.

Shelter Manager's Report (Kerry Lowary)

- Shelter stats attached as part of record.
- October began with 120 cats at the shelter and ended with 86. There have been a lot of dog intakes – 30 as of today. As of tomorrow, our Rescue Coordinator Jeanine Sloan, will have moved more than 20 dogs to rescue; she is to be commended for this work.
- Surgeries were canceled last Friday after Dr. Malinda Ferrell tested positive for COVID. Dr. Casey Eckert performed TNR surgeries on Sunday and came today to catch up on shelter surgeries.
- Dr. Marie Gagnon of Louisville is a new veterinarian working with FCHS and will perform primarily spay/neuter procedures. There will be several surgery sessions in December, and surgeries are being scheduled into the middle of January.
- The shelter continues to be busy and everyone there is healthy.
- There has been no word on grants pending with Petco, the Rachel Ray Foundation and the amount of the grant FCHS will receive from the Bluegrass Area Development District. FCHS is receiving \$2,500 from a Kentucky Department of Agriculture spay/neuter grant.
- FCHS is still trying to fill two part-time positions and remains short-staffed.
- Bonuses are being planned for staff; details will be discussed in executive session. Richard Rosen suggested this be called hero pay to generate positive publicity and let the public know that these individuals are doing good work.

- 600 cats have been spayed/neutered under the All the Cats Campaign, and the total will be well over 700 by the end of the year; that is up from 291 last year. The board is to decide whether the program will continue in 2021.

Treasurer's Report (Cheryl Broyles)

- August report included as part of record.
- Total assets are now \$2,101,418.08.
- Supply costs are up resulting from a large order precipitated by a pricing special.
- More than \$58,000 was moved into FCHS investment accounts..
- On a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by John Hibbard, the treasurer's report was approved without objection.

Committee Reports

Capital Campaign (John Hibbard)

- \$387,628 has been raised to date; that is an increase of \$39,000 from last month.
- FCHS investments are 88% fixed income, 12% equity.
- The brochure on the new shelter has been reprinted and is being distributed. The focus this year is on tax benefits for donations.
- President Marcus noted that the committee is interested in producing some commercials or ads promoting the new shelter. Leo Haggerty agreed to assist with this and suggested spots of differing lengths depending on the venue. He will review the brochure and follow up with the committee on the best approach.
- Richard Rosen suggested that a visual image, such as the thermometer used in United Way fundraising, could quickly show how far FCHS has come and how much remains to be raised for the new shelter. Members could subsequently write letters to the editor referencing the visual representation and its impact on prompting them to contribute. He also suggested seeking different types of grants for the campaign, making personal overtures to corporate sponsors and a matching gift campaign.
- President Marcus noted the FCHS is eligible for the upcoming Good Giving challenge presented by the Bluegrass Community Foundation and will try to raise awareness of that.

Membership

- A mailer will be sent to approximately 2,000 people in December with the new shelter brochure and an appeal for support. That will be followed by a mailing of about 400 holiday cards.

New Leash on Life (Terri Sorrel)

- The shop has been closed this week since Franklin County is in a red zone with the incidence of COVID.
- Some volunteers have come to the shop to help with donations.
- Board guidance is needed on how to proceed. Keeping people six feet apart during checkout has been a problem.

Celebrity Waiters' Dinner

- President Marcus reported that a decision is still to be made on how to approach the Celebrity Waiters' Dinner in 2021. There is very little likelihood that an April event at the Country Club can happen. No immediate decision is needed. One option would be to do a live event later in the year or combine that with an online auction earlier in the year. The committee will try to discuss the issue after the holidays to provide enough time for planning.

On a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by John Hibbard, the board went into executive session at 6:48 p.m.

The executive session concluded at 7:56 p.m. at which time the board adopted a motion by John Hibbard, seconded by Fred Deaton, to approve a recommendation for employee bonuses with discretion being given the shelter manager to adjust the bonus for one employee with apparently extensive unused vacation time. This approach will be in effect for 2020 only.

The meeting adjourned following the motion's adoption without objection.