

Minutes of the Franklin County Humane Society Board of Directors
Zoom Meeting
April 28, 2022

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

Board Members not participating: Miche' Branscum, Matt Freire, Leo Haggerty

Officers participating: Cheryl Broyles, Diana Taylor

Staff participating: Kerry Lowary, Terri Lynn Smith

Volunteers/Guests participating: Keith Ballard, Gae Broadwater, Barbara Hayes, Bill Klier, Steve Middleton, Jody Spaulding

The meeting convened at 5:35 p.m. EST.

President's Report (Sam Marcus)

- Newly hired program manager Jody Spaulding was welcomed to FCHS and the board meeting.
- The March meeting minutes were approved without objection on a motion by Fred Deaton, seconded by Leslie Driskell.
- Shelter construction update:
 - Biweekly meetings have begun among the FCHS, the architect and contractor.
 - The rainy weather has made site preparation difficult. The hope is that work will begin this week on the foundation.
- There were two issues to address relative to FCHS and city government:
 - President Marcus and Vice President John Hibbard met with City Manager Laura Hagg to discuss the city service contract, which expires June 30. FCHS is requesting a two-year extension with an increase from \$65,000 to \$71,500 annually. She had a favorable response to this proposal.
 - A discussion with the city manager on the access road construction at the shelter site had a less positive outcome. The city manager indicated there was nothing the city could do to help with the expense of the road, although it is a public road and the shelter is located on city property being leased to FCHS. Additional points during the board discussion:
 - It would appear the city is considering FCHS as it would a private developer instead of as a nonprofit. Unlike a developer, FCHS will not realize any revenue from the road.
 - There are additional costs related to the site development that were not part of the original plan, including rock removal, water/sewer lines, electrical conduit and parking requirements. The total cost for the access road and items outside the construction contract is \$621,821.
 - Board members said they did not understand the city's position on requiring FCHS to pick up all the costs.
 - President Marcus said the mayor and city commissioners would make the final decision on the matter. The issue was discussed further in executive session, with the board subsequently approving a motion by President Marcus, seconded by Leslie Driskell, to formally request \$150,000 from the city for the access road and, in consideration of the extreme amount of extra site expenses that were not part of the original contract, that the city deed the property to FCHS upon completion of the shelter construction.

Shelter Manager's Report (Kerry Lowary)

- Shelter stats included as part of the record.
- The current census is 135 animals. The shelter took in 25 cats over the weekend and 20 dogs from a hoarding case. Kittens are the bulk of the census; the shelter is looking for places to foster those too young to be neutered.
- Spay/neuter operations are busy and tracking similarly to last year. As of April 22, 433 spay/neuter surgeries had been performed.
- The March 27 vaccination clinic was very successful. Contact was made with 375 animals for various vaccinations and micro-chipping. The event was supported by a grant from Petco Love. To date, FCHS has received more than \$9,000 under the foundation grants. FCHS has about 70 dog vaccinations and 200 cat vaccinations remaining to distribute. Another vaccination clinic will be held in the fall.
- A shipment from Chewy's is expected in June with 30-35 pallets of pet food and supplies. This will be distributed to the community at Lakeview Park with assistance from the Franklin County Regional Jail staff and trustees.
- FCHS, in conjunction with the Humane Society U.S., will host a police-dog interaction training program for law enforcement. This is designed to help law enforcement and animal control officers learn ways to interact with the public and their pets in ways that contribute to animal and human safety.
- Online training has begun under a \$10,500 Racial Equality, Diversity and Inclusion grant with approximately six weeks remaining. The training is specific for shelter employees who work with the public. FCHS will be eligible for more funding as this training is completed.
- Shelter Manager Lowary attended a HSUS conference earlier in April, the first held since 2019, and described it as a tremendous learning experience. Information shared confirmed what FCHS is experiencing in longer lengths of shelter stays for animals, which affects intake since fewer animals can be admitted. Another problem is a shortage of veterinarians. According to the HSUS Kentucky representative, 42 Kentucky counties do not have a veterinarian who lives and practices there.
- Shelter Manager Kerry was recognized on the anniversary of her official start date as shelter manager. She began volunteering for FCHS 10 years ago in December.

New Leash on Life (Terri Lynn Smith)

- Report included as part of record.
- The volunteer situation is becoming critical, with a particular need for someone with cash register skills. She will discuss this further with John Hibbard about making changes to address the problem.

Treasurer's Report (Cheryl Broyles)

- The FCHS organizational financial report was revised to comply with gaming commission requirements. This will be finalized soon.
- Stripe has not yet forwarded the proceeds of the FCHS bourbon raffle. The treasurer will follow up seeking payment on a date certain to determine whether contact by an attorney representing FCHS will be needed.

Nominations (Fred Deaton)

- Individuals nominated for three-year terms beginning July 1 to fill vacancies created by the end of the terms of Sam Marcus and Matt Freire were Barbara Hayes and Steven Middleton.
- Nominated for a two-year term following the resignation of Mike Ball was Keith Ballard.
- The board will vote on new members during the May meeting.
- Mr. Deaton expressed appreciation to members of the nominating committee for their work on identifying new members.

Capital Campaign (John Hibbard)

- The building fund account is \$2,375,414. The reserve fund is \$142,062 and the Myrna Mitchell fund is \$216,233.

Membership/Fundraising

- The membership report submitted by Betsy Kennedy is included as part of the record.
- Diana Taylor reported that donations have been received for more than 60 of the 120 baskets to be included in the online auction, June 9-15. Current or former shelter pets will be featured as “special waiters” for the 10th Annual Gala.

TNR (Gae Broadwater)

- The TNR report submitted by Gae Broadwater is included as part of the record.
- March Madness for TNR cats raised more than \$4,000; the goal was \$3,000. Lionel’s “it’s hip to be tipped” effort generated more than \$465.

Executive Session

On a motion by Ray Smith, seconded by Leslie Driskell, the board went into executive session at 6:49 p.m. The session concluded at 7:08 p.m. with action taken as noted above regarding the shelter access road and other costs.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.