

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Franklin County Humane Society  
June 26, 2022**

The annual meeting of the Franklin County Humane Society was held Sunday, June 26, 2022, at the Franklin County Extension Office. The meeting convened at 1 p.m. EDT.

Attending board members included Keith Ballard, Leslie Driskell, John Hibbard, Keeuna King, Sam Marcus and Ray Smith.

**Shelter Manager Kerry Lowary's** annual report is included as part of the record.

Manager Lowary recognized staff members Christina Alves, Teresa Masters, Sherry Reyes, Samantha Coke, Cheryl Douthitt, Angie Bartley and Taylor Downey; veterinarians and veterinary technicians Malinda Farrell, DVM; Marie Gagnon, DVM; Casey Eckert, DVM; and Sara Salyers, LVT.

Volunteer coordinators Jeanine Sloan, Gae Broadwater, Lori Macintire, Jill Williams, Christy Mobley, Todd Mobley, Mary Quinan and Bill Klier were recognized as were spay/neuter volunteers Ray Smith, Lori Macintire, Virgie See, Ruth Webb, Cindy and Tony Popolilo, Sara Endicott, Sherry Weber and Sue Steinbrecher.

The year's statistics show:

- Intakes – 650 cats, 493 dogs
- Fosters – 188 cats, 50 dogs
- Adoptions – 467 cats, 209 dogs
- Reclaims – 28 cats, 155 dogs
- Transfers – 64 cats, 83 dogs, 44 cats transferred in from out of county
- Euthanized – 43 cats, 37 dogs

Manager Lowary noted the death of staff member Shaun Cunigan in October 2021 as a result of COVID.

Large-scale intakes included animals from Spencer and Wayne counties; 639 cats were included in the All the Cats program, funded by a \$20,000 grant from the Bluegrass Area Development District; total spay/neuter surgeries totaled 748.

Grants included \$2,100 from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture; \$20,000 from BGADD; \$10,500 from the Cares REDI Grant; and \$12,047 from the Petco Love Vaccination Grant. Chewy provided 12,000 pounds of food and supplies for the community.

Vaccination clinics were held in September 2021 and March 2022. Pets 4 Life provided services to 54 animals, with referrals increasing from Simon House, the Women's Shelter and the Men's Shelter.

Restrictions have eased from the pandemic. Walk-ins are now available at the shelter but appointments are still encouraged.

**Treasurer Cheryl Broyles** reported that FCHS net assets increased more than \$404,000 during the past year, not including the new building fund, while expenses were below budget. Total net assets as of April were \$3,820,244.29.

**Capital Committee Chair John Hibbard** reported that the FCHS bourbon raffle raised \$292,185; he commended volunteer Bill Klier for his leadership for this event. Another raffle is probable in the coming year. Chairman Hibbard reported that fundraising is still needed for the new shelter; the balance for the new building fund is \$1,636,259 and invoices are being paid every month now

that construction is underway. The reserve fund has a balance of \$135,817, and the Myrna Mitchell fund totals \$210,244.

**Membership Committee Chair** Betsy Kennedy reported that the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala online auction raised nearly \$25,000; a calendar featuring this year's special waiters of shelter pets will be sold at New Leash on Life to raise additional funds.

A membership mailing on June 15 is generating additional memberships and donations. FCHS has 524 members and 4,705 e-newsletter subscribers on Constant Contact.

**Volunteer Sharon Parrish**, in the absence of New Leash on Life manager Terri Lynn Smith, reported that thrift store revenues increased by 43.6 percent over the past 11 months to total \$187,053.58 (the 11-month report was the result of June report not having been finalized). The report is included as part of the record. She also noted the many generous donations received from the community.

**Program Coordinator Jody Spaulding**, who recently took the position, reported on her activities in the various FCHS programs and expressed excitement and appreciation for the opportunity. She also is focusing on recruiting more volunteers for the thrift store and other activities.

**Trap-Neuter-Return Volunteer Coordinator Gae Broadwater**, whose report is included as part of the record, noted that 14 TNR clinics were held during the year. To date, 3,844 cats have received services under the program. Fundraising during the past year included more than \$800 from the Lionel's Bowls for Feral Friends project and almost \$4,000 from March Madness. Appreciation was expressed to the many volunteers, board members, the community and the shelter manager and staff who make TNR possible.

**Outgoing President Sam Marcus** reported on fundraising efforts for the new shelter, noting that FCHS raised \$4 million privately and the city and county commitments totaled \$1 million each. Unexpected developments have increased costs, resulting in the need for additional fundraising. President Marcus also spoke about the issue related to the shelter access road, a city-owned road that is not receiving city support, and stated that FCHS should insist that the matter be addressed in a city commission meeting.

President Marcus shared his recollections of almost 11 years as president, noting operational dysfunction, a 65 percent euthanasia rate and other problems were the subject of news reports and community concerns in 2010. He and several other new members joined the board in 2011, and he became president in December of that year.

As the profile of FCHS became more positive, he said two developments were particularly helpful – the opening of the New Leash on Life thrift shop and the Celebrity Waiters' Dinner that invited the community to a gala where local elected officials and other notables served as waiters.

He described incoming president John Hibbard as being committed to the organization and ready for the leadership position. President Hibbard noted that Sam Marcus' business skills, personal connections and commitment has made him the best person to lead the organization. He also commended Shelter Manager Lowary and her staff for their work and said his goal for the next year is to finish the construction of the new shelter.

Throughout the meeting, speakers commended and thanked President Marcus for his leadership. Shelter Manager Lowary specifically noted that the FCHS leadership, including the board, has brought the organization to the point of being one of the best in the state.

She and President Hibbard presented Mr. Marcus with a plaque engraved with a tribute; a larger version of the plaque will be displayed permanently in the new shelter building.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.