

Iowa County Humane Society
Board Meeting
September 14, 2015

Board members present: Marcia Thompson, Lisa Cvengros, Pam Richardson, Mike Van Sicklen, John Mutschler

Staff present: Jen Siegel

Absent: Binga Manwiller and Bonnie Zimmerman

Public present: Arnette Small, Terri Davis, Marla Lind

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

The minutes of the August meeting were submitted and after minor corrections were approved.

The **Treasurers report** was submitted and approved and will be available on the website.

Lisa C. noted that the anonymous donor that had so generously loaned ICBS the money to pay our property taxes has agreed to forgive the outstanding amount.

Lisa C. moved that we accept the amount of \$5000 to be forgiven by the anonymous lender. This will mean that the loan is now paid in full.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Memorial giving has been strong and is up \$10,960, of that amount \$10,000 has been designated to the Building Fund.

Fundraising from events is down due to fewer events.

Building expenses are up \$13,250 primarily because of the furnace project and the new outdoor kennel area work.

Cat expenses are down since the switch to Mounds cat food but medical costs are up with kittens adding to that cost.

Dog expenses are down with medical costs and mod squad spending both down as well as lower food costs since the switch to Mounds dog food

The Humane Officer Training will be held this month and Jen Siegel, Arnette Small and Sharon Shea will all attend. The fees and their expenses will be paid by ICHS. They are requested to keep track of all expenses.

Marcia requested that while at the training they should find out what is recommended to be done about townships who choose not to contract with ICHS.

Once the training is over and Jen has successfully completed the course, Sheriff Michek will be contacted to determine appropriate payment for 2015.

The **Kennel Managers report** was submitted and approved. There are 77 cats at the shelter and 4 in foster care. In the last month, there were 18 Cats adopted and 2 euthanized.

There are 6 dogs at the shelter and 3 in foster care. In the last month there were 6 dogs adopted and 2 redeemed.

The **Office Managers report** was submitted by email and approved.

Binga notes that it has been a quiet month but the office staff and volunteers have been delighted by some visits from "old friends"! Some of the visitors include Gus, the Great Pyrenees who was adopted as a puppy and later completed the ICHS Canine Good Citizen Class; Wrangler a black Lab who is doing very well in his training and is very happy in his new home; Jingles who was at the shelter for 3 years before being adopted and Olivia who was adopted as a puppy in 2011 and has grown into a big beautiful Hound!

It was noted that there have been more animals returned this year than last. Binga will be asked to compile any information that might give insight on why this has happened to see if there is anything that can be done to prevent returns in the future.

The **Outreach/Fundraising Managers report** was given and approved.

Jen S. reported that the discussion about the possibility of holding Quadrupedal next year is ongoing.

The NBC 15 News segment was filmed on 9/2/15 and went very well. It was aired on 9/3/15. The News 15 reporters have indicated that might like to do more features on our shelter, in the future.

Ads have been placed in the Spring Green, Mt. Horeb and Dodgeville newspapers for the September cat adoption special, the spay/neuter program and Paintnite.

Terri D. notes that we have 50 kittens available for adoption and suggested that we run ads in the Wisconsin State Journal. It was felt by everyone present that this would be worthwhile and Jen will pursue this.

As a school project, several UW Platteville students have volunteered to help with fundraising and this should prove very helpful.

The Canine Good Citizen Classes will start in October. They will be held every Sunday in October from 1PM to 3PM. Jen will make sure that the office staff is aware so that sign up can begin and she will put information on the website and facebook. She will look into the possibility of newspaper advertising as well.

The Bucky Book fundraiser will start soon and the books have arrived. Jen will look into the possibility of having local 4H and Girl Scout groups help with the selling.

Jen will meet next week with Lyndsey to start planning the Furry 5K for the spring of 2016.

Jen has applied to renew our raffle license which expires 10/31/15 and has renewed the Dog Facility Operator license.

Jen is working to get sponsors and raffle items for the November Dodger Bowl event. She is attempting to obtain 5 "big" items such as TV's, Snow blowers etc.

Jen continues to work on the Match Campaign for mid-October and is soliciting individuals and businesses to be "matchers".

Committee Reports

AWE Committee: John, Terri, Bonnie and Mary Colette met informally to discuss cat evaluations. They feel that cat temperament can be evaluated without using a formal process (like the one currently used for dogs) but rather by observation and handling by staff and experienced volunteers. They will be working on a new protocol that would "color code" the cats by personality type. Part of this process will be to have potential adopters fill out a form that will help match the adopter to the proper "color" cat. They will attempt to have this ready to implement in October and will report on their progress at the October board meeting.

Fundraising Committee: There will be a Fundraising Committee meeting this week. Jen will notify members as to time and place.

Building and Grounds Committee: The next meeting will be Oct. 7th. The power vents for the dryers have been installed and the roof vents will be completed.

There have been mold issues in the area where the dog treats are stored. Building and Grounds will be asked to look into possible ventilation problems that might be causing increased moisture in that area. In the meantime, moisture proof types of packaging will be investigated.

Personnel Committee: A preliminary Social Media Policy was presented at the last meeting. This document was then presented to the board and discussion followed. Mike Van Sicklen will look over the document and make changes/revisions and give his recommendations.

Other Items: The ICHS Volunteer Survey has had a very good response from former and current volunteers. Marla will send the survey results to the responders with a request for volunteers in certain areas, especially basic dog training and behavior assessments. A suggestion was made that there should be a volunteer coordinator appointed to better facilitate the volunteer program. After reviewing the survey results it is clear that good communication between staff and volunteers is an important issue. Marla will continue to look into this and will report back on the responses and recommended actions.

Municipality contracts were again discussed and suggestions made. Marcia will rework the contracts based on the discussion and suggestions and report back.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.