

**Minutes
Iowa County Humane Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, October 26, 2009**

Members Present: President: Mike Wagner, Secretary: Mary Whitmar, Treasurer: Todd Novak
Rhonda Marten, Carrie Baumhover

Others Present: Shelter Director Teresa Duerst

Absent: Outreach Director Cheri Phillmore

Board meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

The board would like to recognize and thank the citizens who were present and participated in the board meeting this evening.

Minutes

Minutes of the August 24th board meeting were reviewed. Minutes were approved as written. There was no meeting in September due to lack of a quorum.

Outreach Director/Humane Officer Report

Report is as attached.

Cheri was not present. Fundraising portions of the report were discussed by Carrie.

A new fundraising event will take place in Platteville. The Taco Johns is having a Nachos Navidad promotion for November and December to benefit the ICHS. A portion of each Nachos Navidad sale goes to support our animals!

It was noted that Maurice's Rescues & Runways event raised \$371 for our shelter not to mention the awareness. They were most generous and welcoming and we thank them.

Also the Lands End Fall Farmers Market bake sale was again successful raising \$395.80 for the ICHS.

Patty Finley will again be taking Holiday Pet Photos at the Iowa County Humane Society this weekend Saturday 9 am to 11 am and Sunday 1 pm to 3 pm.

Operations Report

Cats – 130, Dogs – 43

There are several cats in foster care but many of them are kittens and will be returning to the shelter.

Currently there are 8 dogs in foster care.

There may be good news for two of our hard to place dogs: Lex and Zoe. Each has found unique foster homes and their foster parents are considering adopting them. They are being considered long term fosters at this point.

Adoptions have been down both at the shelter and at Pet Smart. Other shelters that have been at Pet Smart have also noted a decline in adoptions.

ICHS was notified by Science Diet that they are discontinuing their shipping rebate program. That will mean a loss of about \$1200 dollars a year.

We have been fortunate to have students from the Companion Animal Care and Management program at Platteville working with our animals as part of their program. The animals have benefited from the extra attention and socialization.

We are currently down to one Huber inmate working at the shelter. Things are going well and there have been no problems.

Financial Report

Reports are attached.

Todd reports that so far negotiations with the county are indicating a loss of \$5000 for the ICHS. The county is hoping that the municipalities will step up and make up the \$5000. If in fact this is what happens with the county the municipalities will have to either increase their contribution or we may be forced, due to our financial status to discontinue service to them. In that case they would have to provide their own holding facilities within the municipality.

Negotiations are proceeding with the IRS. The ICHS has made an offer in compromise of \$10,000 formally submitted with \$2000. Included in the offer were two payment options, a payment over time or payment in full. The ICHS is currently awaiting their response. The deposit check was cashed last week so hopefully we will hear something soon.

While we are not in the financial place we would ultimately like to be it was noted that in comparison to last year we are in a much better place. That said funds are low so we will be relying on the upcoming fundraisers to carry us until contract money comes in.

The Holiday card mailing we be going out in the next few weeks.

The subject of membership came up and Todd made a motion to send a letter out one month prior to the annual meeting regarding memberships for 2010 so that people could renew their membership before the annual meeting so that they would have voting rights.

The motion was seconded by Mary. Motion carried.

Fundraising

Things are in motion for the Silent Auction to be held on November 22nd at the Dodger Bowl in Dodgeville. New this year – online bidding is open now. See the website to check it out.

Also new this year there will be Pancake breakfast put on by Mindy Portzen and her realty group to benefit the ICHS. They will be putting this part of the event together and working it. We would like to thank them for their generous support.

Rhonda stated that she had been contacted by Keric Potterton to let us know that he has available store front that we may use while he is trying to rent the space. It is the former SGA Insurance space on Main Street. This is a prominent space downtown and would be of benefit for a number of possible options. Cheri will be notified of the opportunity as well and the fundraising committee will look at options. Potentially it could be display and advertising space for the Silent Auction in the short term and potentially for a Holiday promotion as well.

Comments from the Public

Vicki and Dave Terpstra owners of TERP, LLC Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy were in the audience and asked to address the board with some fundraising ideas they had. They offer an LED Light Bulb Charitable fundraising program. When they heard about the store front space they offered to handle all aspects of the fund raiser for us in exchange for letting them set up their promotional material. They brought some of the light bulbs to demonstrate the type of light they provide along with advantages over compact fluorescent bulbs.

In addition Dave would like to volunteer his time to provide maintenance on the HVAC system at ICHS and also provided several suggestions for inexpensive ways that the shelter might make improvements to the system and to the building to conserve energy costs.

The board was very appreciative of the generous offer of donated time and will take the information the Terpstra's provided under advisement. The board will discuss options and ideas once they have had a chance to thoroughly look at the systems in place at the shelter.

Terry Davis had contacted the board earlier about an idea for more regular newsletters about the ICHS, particularly fundraising events and the back stories and success stories that we hear too seldom. Terry was at the meeting this evening and addressed the board about this idea.

Everyone was in agreement that they like the idea very much. Terri is willing to take on writing the newsletters to come out every two months with the first issue hopefully being ready November 15th.

Mary agreed to contact Chuck to see if he would be willing to make a spot on the website for the newsletter. If so Terri will get it to Mary who will in turn get it to Chuck.
The board thanks Terri for her ongoing interest and support of ICHS.

Other Business

Mike was contacted by the person who very generously donated all of the snowplowing at the ICHS last year. Due to the declining economy he can not donate the service again this year. We need too have someone in place soon and would like to try to find someone who is able to donate the service if possible.

Dave Ladd is going to contact Woerple snowplowing and Todd will contact Slaney to see if they can get the service donated.

Motion was made by Mary to go into closed session, seconded by Carrie. Motion carried.

Motion to come out of closed session was made by Todd and seconded by Rhonda. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mary to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Rhonda. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Whitmar
ICHS Board Secretary