

**Minutes
Iowa County Humane Society
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, February 22, 2010**

Members Present: President: Mike Wagner, Secretary: Mary Whitmar, Treasurer Todd Novak, Rhonda Marten
Absent: Carrie Baumhover
Others Present: Outreach Director Cheri Phillmore
Shelter Director Teresa Duerst

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 January 25,2009 board meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by Todd to accept the minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Mary. Motion carried.

Outreach Director/Humane Officer Report

Report is as attached.

Fundraising Updates; Taco John's December promotion was very successful raising \$1300 for ICHS.

Entries for the Quadrapedal are at \$755 so far.

The first entries for the 5K Run started to come in today.

ERA Arthur Realty in Dodgeville has launched it's new Community First program. The program will donate a percentage of the commission on each home bought or sold to four local non-profits including ICHS. Go to the ERA Arthur Real Estate website for more information.

Several outreach activities are noted in Cheri's report. We now have a signed Memorandum of Understanding between Family Advocates Inc. and ICHS are moving into the final stages of fine tuning the Pets of Abuse Victims Sheltering Partnership. Both organizations are extremely excited about this project as it is on of few programs like it in Wisconsin. There are hopes that it may serve as a model for other areas.

Operations Report

Report is attached.

Shelter Population Cats – 62 Dogs – 34

Foster Care: Cats - 4, Dogs - 4

Totals: Cats – 66, Dogs – 38

Unfortunately the animal tracking software program PetWhere has been corrupted. Teresa is exploring PetPoint which is a free program however it would require us providing microchipping using their microchips and promoting their Pet Insurance program. Currently this appears to be the most viable option for the shelter and is currently used by other shelters with good success. Unfortunately this means a great deal of added manual paperwork until we can get the new software up and running and then additional man hours to enter the current data as well as any they are able to retrieve from the previous program before it is lost.

Good news ~ January was a good month for adoptions with new homes found for 33 cats and 11 dogs!!

Also Kayla, one of our hard to place cats who has been at the shelter for over two years went to her new home this week! We hope Kayla is very happy with her new family.

Another note of good news is that in March students from Globe University will be coming out to the ICHS to perform examinations, vaccinations, testing and nail clipping for the animals at no charge!

Teresa let us know that she has not heard anything more from Science Diet so presumably they have renewed our contract. She is still looking into other food options that may be more cost effective.

In the past Science Diet has not charged us for the food but only for the shipping and then we have received rebates in the past to reimburse us for those costs. They are no longer giving the rebates prompting Teresa to explore any other possible options.

Financial Report

Reports are attached.

Todd noted that the items listed under Unpaid Bills are not past due but bills that were due at the time of printing and have since been paid.

Currently we have \$33677.65 with approximately \$3500 still coming in contract money and another \$5000 hopefully coming from the county.

Motion was made by Mary to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion was seconded by Todd. Motion carried.

Our balance as of January 22nd was \$31, 515.39.

We are still in the final stages of settling the remaining IRS debt. Our attorney is are working to bring that situation to a conclusion as soon as is possible.

We have received our \$20,000 in contract money from the county for the Humane Officer position. They are holding back \$5000 which will hopefully be matched by the municipalities.

A motion was made by Mary to accept the financial report as presented. Motion was seconded by Carrie. Motion carried.

Fundraising

Cheri reports that the Fundraising committee met on February 10th. The 2010 Calendar shows fundraising events in March, April, May, June, August, September, October and November so far with four brand new events in the planning stages!

Dawn Judd, the committee chairperson for the Live Art Auction gave a brief update and stated that they are up to \$380 in sponsorships for the event. They will be including three schools this year for student art work, Spring Green, Highland and Iowa Grant school students will be participating. Also Ron Dentinger is no longer in the area and Marilyn Rolfsmeyer has agreed to be the M.C. for the event. Marilyn has helped us out with this event in the past and has helped to make it a great success so we are grateful for her participation and will be glad to have her back. Dawn also noted that she had been part of a meeting with officials regarding the route planning for the Quadrapedal and was quite impressed with their questions and eager involvement in the planning for making this a safe and hazard free event.

Building Sale

Mary read an email from Marsha Stanek with a possible suggestion for a means of purchasing the building that her husband had suggested. Called a Bargain Sale it used to be a way for a seller to give a non-profit purchaser a price break on the sale while claiming the difference in the fair market value as a donation to offset capitol gains tax. This was noted by the board and may be looked into.

Todd gave an update after speaking with Sharon McGann the current owner of the property today.

There are two parcels to be sold, the first is the parcel the building sits on consisting of three acres. She is asking \$275,000 for this parcel.

The second parcel also consists of three acres and is the land where the outdoor dog runs are currently: asking \$65000.

She is willing to sell us the building and lease us the land with the dog runs if it is easier to raise the lesser amount of money.

Todd explained that we are still waiting for a decision from the IRS. According to word from our lawyer last week we are to have a decision in 30 days. Once an agreement has been made we can move forward with fundraising.

In the mean time Todd has spoken with Farmers Savings Bank who is willing to work with us on the purchase but would require a down payment of 30%, roughly \$100,000.

We are also looking into grant opportunities with the help of some wonderful grant writers who have volunteered to help us out and Todd is looking into a Community Block Grant.

Several concerned citizens have spoken with Mary about the issue as well including Dewey Christoph of Box Office Video who stopped by prior to tonight's meeting to drop off a donation check from his popcorn donation promotion. This has proven to be a consistent source of fundraising income for us. We would like to thank Dewey for his concern and his efforts to promote and support the ICHS!

Comments from the Public

There was a question from the public about whether or not it would be more cost effective to purchase the land the dog runs are currently on and build a new facility on those grounds. Ideally a new facility would be a huge benefit but the cost to build new is extremely prohibitive at this time.

Other Business

There was no other business.

A motion was made by Mary to go into closed session. Motion was seconded by Todd, motion carried.

A motion was made by Mary to come out of closed session. Motion was seconded by Mike, motion carried.

Mary made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Todd, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

The next regular meeting of the board will be held on Monday, March 22nd at 6:30 pm at Stonefield apartment homes meeting room in Dodgeville. This will be the annual meeting of the Board of Directors. All paid members are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Whitmar
ICHS Board Secretary