

Approved Minutes of the 2020 ICHS Annual Meeting

posted March 24, 2020

The **2020 Iowa County Humane Society (ICHS) Annual Meeting** of its members has been canceled due to the concern of COVID-19. Instead we are providing the information to our members in writing and accessible via our website. If you are a member and would like this information mailed to you, please call the office at (608)935-1381 or email at office@ichs.net.

An ICHS Member is defined as any eligible individual in good standing with the Society that has donated any dollar amount of \$25 or more and agree to abide by the bylaws and practices of the Society. Donations made within the 12 months prior to the annual meeting grant active membership and voting rights. Voting members shall be 18 years of age.

Agenda:

- Please read and approve the 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes, [click here to read them](#).
- President's Year in Review: **This year in review is all about gratitude.**

First comes to mind the dog Bobby Sue. Bobby Sue is a dog that was at the shelter far too long, She was heading in the direction of being a dog beyond help. It took serious cooperation at the shelter and some wonderful people giving her a home to bring her back to herself. A group called Life Plus One made a video of Bobbi Sue called "A Hope For Bobbi Sue". I watch it now to witness all the people who came together to change a forgotten dog's life.

In September we had a management transition. With respect for privacy considerations I'm not going to say too much about that, Except that it was hard. It was hard on the people who left and hard on the people who remained. Through this whole period I have experienced many moments of gratitude.

I was grateful to the previous management staff for leaving a well organized, clean facility with healthy animals. I thank Samantha Atkins Who went where angels fear to tread and assumed the role of interim director. I was grateful for and continue to be thankful to the Members and Donors who continue their support. Without this generosity the doors would have closed. This is our main source of funding for the homeless animals we serve in Iowa County. Because these amazing people are sharing their resources, we will be able to put a much needed new roof on the shelter this spring. The admiration I have for the volunteers who stepped in to maintain business as usual, who put in long hours so the shelter could run properly. Those who cared for the animals, those who made sure the grounds were maintained and the woman who made sure IT issues were resolved as well as data bases maintained. These people stepped in wherever they could help. I am grateful for the the kennel attendants and bookkeeping who continued to do their duties as well as whatever else needed to be done. I believe their hardest job may have been showing us newbies how to be useful. I am grateful Molly Melssen excepted the position of kennel supervisor. We are fortunate to have her. I thank the businesses, professionals, and individuals who have supported us this year with fundraisers and services. I hope everyone will support these people however you can in the next couple of months. Finally I have sincere gratitude to my fellow board members for the "above and beyond" donated this year. Thank you.

This next year is having a challenging beginning. It looks like we will have time to reaffirm our goals and set new ones. When we reopen the doors we will continue to shorten our "length of stay" statistic. With the help of supporters we'd like to see a low cost spay/neuter day reinstated. It will be exciting to reinvigorate the volunteer program and revamp the website. To help accomplish these goals and steer the ship we've hired Jocelyn Van Ruyvan as executive director. As soon as is permitted we will host a celebratory open house and everyone can meet the whole staff. See you then. Cyd Bickford Board Chair

- Treasurer's Report:
 - Year-end [profit and lost, click here](#), [Feb 2020 profit and lost, click here](#).
 - Year-end [balance sheet, click here](#), [Feb 2020 balance sheet, click here](#).
- Kennel Manager report on Animal Statistics: [Click here for year-end numbers](#) and the end of [Feb 2020 numbers](#). Today (3/24) 43 Cats (15 in foster and 28 at the shelter) and 4 dogs all with a foster.
- ICHS Committees:
 - Animal Welfare & Enrichment, [click here for more](#).
 - Buildings & Grounds:
 - DNR Case File 125022370 – Completed and Closed. Field works samples, reports and lab analysis per DNR guidelines.
 - Electrical - Hoffman Electric hired to complete inside egress lighting, add motion sensor on/off entry lighting, install breaker blanks in breaker box and label breakers within breaker box.

- Roof - New roof will be completed in Spring 2020. Midwest Roofing & Construction, LLC will install Flute Filler System over Metal R Panel.
 - Dog Grooming Suite and Transfer Doors for Dog Kennels In process or will be completed Spring 2020 by Sharon Shea.
 - Fundraising:
 - Joen's fundraising: Roof mailing appeal in spring, summer golf outing, billboard ad
 - September onward: October visit from GB Packers Foundation Trustee resulting in \$3K grant, Kitten Yoga, Hi Point Steakhouse Pub Night, Bob's Bitchen BBQ Pub Night, Midway Bar & Grill Pub Night and a percentage of their pizza \$ for month of December, Holiday Mailer, February/Early Spring Mailer (We did get a match donor to increase her donation for roof/match fund to \$10K from \$5K)
 - Sharon organized: Spring and Fall Garage Sales and Spring and Holiday Bake Sales
 - Suspended due to COVID-19 situation: Spring Bake Sale, Spring Garage Sale, Easter Family event at the shelter and the Shelter Open House
 - Personnel: Joselyn Van Ruyvan new Executive Director and new Kennel Manager is Molly Melssen.
- Review and vote on the ballot below on the proposed bylaw changes (*amendments are italicized*):
 - **CURRENT: Article IV Members**
Section IV. Members: Any eligible individual shall become a member in good standing of the Society by donating any dollar amount of \$25 or more, and agreeing to abide by the bylaws and practices of the Society. Donations made within the 12 months prior to the annual meeting grant active membership and voting rights. Voting members shall be 18 years of age.
 - **PROPOSED: Article IV Members**
Section IV. Members: Any eligible individual shall become a member in good standing of the Society by donating any dollar amount of **\$30** or more, and agreeing to abide by the bylaws and practices of the Society. Donations made within the 12 months prior to the annual meeting grant active membership and voting rights. Voting members shall be 18 years of age.
 - (a) *No member shall be entitled to vote unless such member has been a member of the organization for at least 90 days in the 12 months preceding the vote.*
 - (b) *Membership levels*
 - i. *Individual membership – an individual membership is available to any person who is age 18 or above.*
 - ii. *Youth membership – a youth membership is available to any person who is younger than 18. Any youth member who turns 18 during the year of his or her membership shall be converted to an individual membership upon turning 18 years old. The youth member is not eligible to vote.*
 - iii. *Couple membership – for two persons who are both 18 years old or older and reside in the same household.*
 - iv. *Family membership – for all persons, regardless of age, living in the same household.*
 - v. *Corporate membership – for any business, corporation or non-person desiring to be a member.*
 - (c) *Membership Voting Restrictions.*
 - i. *No member shall be entitled to vote unless such member has been a member of the organization for at least 90 days in the 12 months preceding the vote.*
 - ii. *Number of Votes. The following membership types shall carry the following number of votes cast at each election held:*
 - *Individual Membership – 1 vote per election.*
 - *Youth Membership – the youth member is not eligible to vote.*
 - *Couple Membership – 2 votes per election, but 1 person may not cast both votes.*
 - *Family Membership - 2 votes per election, but 1 person may not cast both votes.*
 - *Corporate Membership – 1 vote per election.*
- Elect board members via ballot below. Nominated are:
 - Louanna Schulte for a 3 year term
 - Judy Lindholm for a 1 year term
- Determine the 2021 Nominating Committee - see question below.
- Comments from the Members - see question below. If there is not sufficient space for your comments below, feel free to email them to outreach@ichs.net

Please complete the form/ballot below to register your votes and comments with the ICHS Board of Directors. If you would rather fill this out on paper and mail it into the shelter, [please click here for a printed version on the ballot](#). **Responses will be taken until March 31, 2020.** As always the protection of our animals, employees, volunteers and the community are foremost in our minds. We appreciate your support as work through these changing times.

Annual Meeting Ballot Responses:

Question	Yes/For	No/Against
Do you approve the 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes?	17	0
Vote for Board Member Louanna Schulte to a 3-year term:	17	0
Vote for Board Member Judy Lindholm to a 1-year term:	16	1
Vote for Bylaw Changes:	15	2
Do you want to be part of the 2021 Board Members Nomination Committee?	1	15
Sharon Shea - Offered to be on Nomination Committee		

Comments:	From:
I potentially would be willing to volunteer but am quite busy and travel a lot.	Mary Kritz
Sounds like you had a hard year. I hope things are better in 2020 (after we get over the current virus) Stay well. Debbie	Debbie Woodbury
Thank you for all you do for the animals	Jennifer Day-Nelson
I'm a former member/volunteer of the Bay Area Humane Society in Green Bay. Your networking with other area shelters is very wise and will hopefully be productive. Best of luck to you!	John Jirak
It has been a challenging year. I am so grateful for all the volunteers, staff, board members and community support. This is a place that can pull at your heart strings but also fill your soul with gratitude.	Judy Lindholm
Thank you for all you do for unfortunate animals.	Sharon McCormick
Membership bylaw seems overly complex and potentially difficult to keep track of over time. Fine with raising the amount, but would have made the words in the bylaws less specific to provide flexibility to change these in the future without a formal bylaw change.	Lisa Cvengros