

**The Dane County Humane Society
Board of Directors Meeting
April 18, 2007**

Board Attendees: Bridget Bush, Cathy Holmes, John Bloodgood, Ellyn Mohs, Gary Godding, Dr. Sara Orvick, Ellen Markey, Polly Duchow

Excused: Pam Tauscher-Coshun, Jan Viney

Other Attendees: Pam McCloud Smith

Call to Order: 11:10 A.M.

John Bloodgood moved to approve the March 2007 board meeting minutes, seconded by Gary Godding. No discussion. Motion carried.

Financial Update – Bridget Bush

Highlights

- Cruelty & neglect budget is way over.
- Unrealized gains are up.
- There was a large plowing bill in March from the late snowstorm.
- Legal fees are up.
- Corporate Sponsors \$ will be posted in April, not March so that amount is down.
- Overall March was a rough month financially.

Executive Director Update – Pam McCloud Smith

- The last of the Lowrey pitbulls is being evaluated by a sanctuary out east. We are hopeful she will live out the rest of her life at the sanctuary.
- DCHS is again having water issues on the property which seems to happen every spring. Various areas are underwater and Pam is once again working to resolve this issue with the city.
- A handout was given to the board on the “After Hours Emergency Calls”. The board states that we need clarification on animals they will and won’t pick up after hours. It is the board’s belief that the same level of coverage should be provided as it was when DCHS was handling the after hours calls.
- Pam reviewed the Sunday closure policy with the board. She stated it seems to be working being open “by appointment only” on Sundays. There were a few complaints in the first couple of weeks but those have now subsided. We will review again in June.
- Surrender fees change. Unscheduled fees are the same as previous but if it is a pre-scheduled surrender the fee is discounted. The board discussed having special exceptions for students.

Finance Committee Update – Cathy Holmes

No update until committee meets next week

Development Committee Update – Cathy Holmes (for Jan Viney)

Cathy reviewed the list of attendees for the “Mix & Mingle” event on April 26th and distributed to the board the materials that will be given to the guests.

Skill Assessments: The board went through where the members are in the skill sets and where we should look for recruitment of new members. There are 4 open positions and are hoping to get some interest to fill these spots.

New Business:

County release: Dane County wants a signature of release before they pay our outstanding bill with DCHS. Our attorney Joe Goode provided three options to respond to the “Release”.

1. Sign the release as written (determined not to do this, as the way it is written may in fact get them out of their monetary obligations).
2. Negotiate a better agreement.
3. Reject to release entirely and litigate against the County.

The board read and reviewed the options and decided to try and negotiate a better agreement.

New Membership Proposal: This includes but is not limited to the following:

- ✿ Eliminate the \$10,000.00 Lifetime level
- ✿ Add a \$70.00 level.
- ✿ Place more emphasis on enrolling new members through creating a sense of community and increased perceived value.
- ✿ Recruit business sponsors for special incentives to help defray the costs of things like tee shirts, window clings, pens etc. All of these things increase the shelters visibility in the community.

Cathy Holmes moved to approve the new membership levels of \$35.00, \$75.00, \$100.00, \$250.00, \$500.00 and \$1000.00. Motion seconded by John Bloodgood. No discussion, motion carried.

Well done Gayle Viney and Angela Rhodes for coming up with some new and creative ideas. Pam McCloud Smith hopes to start this moving next month.

Annual Membership Meeting: June 6, 2007. Doors open at 5:00 P.M., meeting starts at 6:00 P.M. All board members should be at DCHS by 5:30 P.M.

- We will review 2006 in its entirety.
- Elect board members for another term
- Bring forward Bylaw changes.

Strategic Plan: The board went through the plan again to make sure we agree on the direction the shelter is moving in accordance with the plan.

Meeting adjourned: 1:12 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted By,

M. Elyn Mohs

DCHS Board Secretary