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Humane Society of McDonough County
April 11, 2011
Spoon River College
Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Bonnie Skripps

Board Members Present: Terri Hare, Dawn Gray, Kate Shattuck, Pat Crane, Shelly Palmer, John Armstrong, Karen McCann, Kathy Chambers, Bonnie Skripps

Guests: Collin VanBuren, Beth Sutton, Robyn Gillies and Ashley Holbrook (WIU Zoology Club)

•**Call to Order:** Terri called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

•**Roll Call and introduction of guests:** Board members introduced themselves to the Zoology Club members who were in attendance to present their proposal.

•**March Minutes:** Dawn moved to approve the minutes of the March 14th meeting. John seconded; the minutes were approved.

•**Board and Committee Reports**

***President's Report – Terri**

1. Zoology Club request: Club members presented a proposal to redo the Animal Shelter sign on 67 to make it more noticeable and to have an updated look. They shared two options from Quick Print for the proposed aluminum sign, which would include both the Zoology Club and the Quick Print logos. By including the Quick Print logo they would get a 50% discount on the sign. April 30th is the targeted date for the Club to replace the sign, for which they would take future responsibility to maintain. Terri thanked the members, indicating she would be in touch with them.
2. Angel Fund request: A bill (request) for \$421.58 was received in January from Animal Medical Center for services to a diabetic cat. HSMC has a limit of \$200 per case. Further discussion/decision was put on hold for further exploration of the details. It was noted that we also have a new request for \$150 from the Bushnell Clinic.
3. Banking Change request: As a follow-up to the discussion last month presented by Terri, John requested to switch the HSMC checking account to First Bankers Trust from Mid America for easier check deposit and access to records. Mid America offers checking account interest payment; First Bankers does not. However the .14% offered is offset by the charges paid last year of \$21.55 for checks and deposit slips. First Bankers Trust would waive fees for checks and deposit slips for us. The request was put on hold until the account is balanced.
4. By-laws Revision vote: A by-law revision and new amendment was submitted for the 501(c)(3) application. The IRS suggested that we add their wording as an amendment to the Articles. Pat made the motion, which was seconded by Kate to

put a in Article I, Section 1. All approved. Obtaining a safety deposit box for the Articles of Incorporation was discussed.

***Treasurer's Report – John**

The February, March, and Consolidated reports were presented. Bonnie made the motion to approve; Shelly seconded. Reports were approved.

***Membership Report – Kate**

March activity included Individual: 1 renewal and 1 new membership; Family: 2 renewals and 2 new; and Protector: 1 new membership.

***Shelter Project Report – Kathy**

Kathy met with the project benefactor at the Shelter to review renovations. She noted that the outdoors pen had been cleaned up and may not need the complete 'redo' that was previously thought. The benefactor would be supportive of using some of the remaining funds on the cat room. The Quincy Shelter's kitten room, using stainless steel cages, was discussed as well as their cat adoption room with 3-tiered kitty condos as optimal models. Quincy has a cat adoption rate of \$18.80 for neutered cats, which includes shots and microchips. The discussion focused on trying to determine how to best improve the Shelter cats' quality of life and the need to have a place for potential adopters to get acquainted with the cats. Kathy will check out whether it's possible to knock out a wall or to switch the garage area with the cat area in order to expand the square footage. This would not alleviate the ongoing problem with spread of disease.

***County Liaison Report – Kathy**

Kathy had no report from the March meeting, as she was unable to attend.

***No-kill Shelter Committee – Dawn**

Dawn reported that Gilian Stupples and Diane Ingledue have volunteered to work with her on the initiative. Gilian and Dawn met with the director of the Quincy Humane Society to seek input from their experiences in raising funds and building their shelter. The 10,000 square foot building was \$1 million, with the spay/neuter clinic adding \$50,000 in costs. The Quincy facility has nine full-time and nine part-time staff, supported by volunteers. No property tax is charged. They are open for adoptions seven days a week. Dawn shared the brochure they use for fund-raising with naming opportunities and memorials. Quincy generates approximately \$30,000 in grant dollars annually. Dawn will be meeting with the Fulton County Humane Society president next and will attend the Illinois Animal Welfare Federation conference in Champaign in June. She also reported that the Animal Protection League in Springfield will spay/neuter cats for \$25.

***Events – Shelly**

Shelly brought up ideas for our fund raising including an auction with dinner and donation boxes for the community. She noted the need for more volunteers and a data-base (which is in place). Meetings for volunteers and having volunteer committees for events were discussed with Shelly agreeing to convene.

•Other

501(c)(3) status: We have not yet received official approval, but verbal feedback is positive.

•Events

Mount Up for Hope, May 14th at the 4-H Center: An ad in the program is \$5.00 and a table space for the event is \$10.00.

•Other Business

Inclusion on the city map brochure. Dawn made a motion to purchase the space; Kathy seconded and all approved.

•Next Meeting: May 9, 2011

•Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:47.