

Humane Society of McDonough County
March 14, 2011
City Hall Community Room
Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Bonnie Skripps

Board Members present: Terri Hare, Dawn Gray, Kate Shattuck, Angie Ward, Kathy Chambers, Shelly Palmer, Bonnie Skripps

Members: Jamie Bainter, Ashlee Miller

Guests: Christine Barrows

•**Call to Order:** Terri called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

•**Roll Call and introduction of HSMC members and guests:** [Christina Barrows was introduced as a guest.

•**Minutes Approval:** Angie moved to approve the minutes of the February 14th meeting; Kathy seconded; The minutes were approved.

•**Board and Committee Reports:**

***President's Report - Terri**

1. ***St. George Episcopal Church request:*** No further action from the Board is necessary regarding the previous inquiry regarding the establishment of a Pet Food Pantry or Adopt a Family Pet program. All contributions collected will go to Loaves and Fishes. Some St. George families are willing to help out with pet food and litter ("adopt a family") to avoid a family having to give up a pet.
2. ***Angel Fund request:*** Animal Medical Center sent a letter to Terri regarding a cat with diabetes for which assistance was needed with the medical bill of \$794 (copy was enclosed.) Insulin costs will be approximately \$100 a month. This situation does not fit the criteria for Angel Fund since it isn't the result of an accident or emergency. Under the Angel Fund, four local veterinarian offices receive \$500 a year each. Before the Board established Angle Fund specifications the individual vets decided upon recipients of the Angel Fund dollars on a case-by-case basis. Allowing Animal Medical Center to decide in this case was discussed. Terri recommended that we table the discussion until we have more information and know how much they have used out of their annual allocation.
3. Terri relayed John's request that we change our bank to First Bankers Trust for easier deposit of checks by him. Waiting until we have used all our current checks from Mid America was suggested as was checking to see if interest earned would be compatible and if checks and deposits are free.
4. Terri shared that she had been asked whether HSMC was interested in participating in the "vendor alley" the upcoming horse clinic to be held May 14th at the 4H Center. For \$10 we would be included on the flyer and for \$5

we could have a booth. Proceeds will go to helping organizations such as the animal shelter and Loaves and Fishes.

***Treasurer's Report – John**

No report.

***Education Report - Bonnie**

1. HB1080: The House Bill amending the Animal Control Act to remove the ban on classifying vicious dogs based on breed was again discussed with its potential implications. Members shared information regarding the unlikelihood of it passing with breed specific language.
2. Bonnie reported on HB240/SB65 that would protect citizens working with feral cats from negligence charges.
3. Bonnie shared information on Pit Bull Positive a website for pit bull terrier advocates. The founder of the website is collecting short videos from pit-bull terrier people about themselves and their dogs (e-mail to danmeagher@pitbullpositive.org). The videos will be combined into a longer video for positive PR about pit owners and their dogs.

***Membership Report – Kate**

1. One Lifetime membership was listed and one Business Protector membership was renewed.
2. Additional renewals are coming in.

***Correspondence – Kate**

1. Three February Business memberships were mailed.
2. Spoon River College was sent a Certificate of Appreciation.
3. A Lifetime membership was sent (for a memorial donation in 2010).
4. Angel Fund letters were mailed to the four veterinary practices.
5. A memorial confirmation was mailed.
6. Seven Spaghetti Dinner donations (collected in the Donation Doghouse) confirmations were mailed.
7. Terri reported on additional Spaghetti Dinner follow-up correspondence: thank yous were sent to all the honorary waiters. We discussed putting a thank you in The Voice to Lisa at Magnolia's and for the support of the local businesses and the waiters. Kate indicated that all would be listed on the HSMC website. We also decided to send a Certificate of Appreciation to Lisa Ward.

***Phone Message Line Report – Dawn**

No report.

***Newsletter Report – Terri/Bonnie/Pat**

The next newsletter will go out in mid June

***Shelter and Shelter Project Report – Kathy**

1. Work will continue again in the spring.
2. Outside pen is the next priority.
3. Kathy plans to take the benefactor to the Shelter to view the progress.

***County Liaison Report – Kathy**

No report.

***Shelter Transport/Rescue Coordinator Report – Dawn**

1. Dawn had asked to access a Shelter key to facilitate early morning dog transport, but was told no.

***Community Spay/Neuter Coordinator Report - Angie**

No report.

•Events

***17th Annual Spay Day - February 22nd:** Terri, Dawn, and Angie met with Mayor Wisslead for Proclamation signing. Photo was in The Voice.

***Spaghetti Dinner – March 2nd:** The Second Annual Spaghetti Dinner was a great success. Meals were served to 208 individuals. A profit of close to \$3100 was realized. The potential need for a larger location was discussed, as were the logistics of selling tickets and planning for the number of attendees.

•Other Business

*** Adoption Options one-day seminar** sponsored by PetFinder and PETCO Foundation on April 15th in Freeport was presented as a professional development option.

***Exploration of a HSMC Shelter:** Dawn requested a discussion of the potential to raise funds for our own low kill or no-kill shelter. We are familiar with the Fulton County and Quincy shelter modes, but need to investigate others as well. Dawn will chair a committee to pursue the possibilities.

***501c(3) Status:** The original Articles of Incorporation were requested to be part of the application. They have been submitted. Following the submission of an affidavit the process should be complete.

•Next meeting: April 11, 2011

•Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.