

HUMANE SOCIETY OF HURON VALLEY
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting – Open Meeting
December 17, 2007

Present: Lucia Brewer, Nancy Culotta, Peter Fink, Diana Kern, Robert Tetens, Mike Walsh, Teresa Welsh, Dennis Wojcik

Absent: Jared Collins, Del Dunbar, Anne Ferris, Diane Heidt, Mark Heusel, Jane Lumm

Others Present: Tanya Hilgendorf, Carolyn Raschke, Amy Milligan, Deb Kern, Emily Breuker

Public Attendees: Chris Ossenmacher, Kathy Spain, Shari Wilcox

Bob Tetens called the board meeting to order at 6:05 pm. The agenda was altered to move the Director's Report, Ad Hoc Clinic Committee Report and Capital Campaign Report to the beginning of the meeting.

Director's Report – reported by Tanya Hilgendorf

Shelter Activities

- We are still struggling with Bordetella in the cats.
- Promoting Home for the Holidays—trying to get all homeless animals a home. Also promoting gift certificates to avoid surprise (unwanted) giving of pets.
- We are working with southern rescue groups to bring healthy puppies to put up for adoption. The reasoning behind this is that except for Pit Bulls, the dog population is not longer a problem in our area. This means that we rarely get puppies. There is a concern in the animal welfare world that the lack of puppies in shelters will drive up the demand for puppy mill puppies, as families wanting puppies will go to pet stores.
- We continue to review, update and develop our Standard Operating Procedures.
- Our Meet Your Match Program has begun to try to better match dogs with adopters and reduce our return to shelter rate. Meet Your Match Program slated for January 1, 2008.
- We are continuing our research on expanded hours and will work a plan into the 2008 budget.

Cruelty Investigations

- Ricky Lee Lynch has refused to plea and his case will be going to jury trial in March.
- Janet Logan has also refused to plea and her case will be going to jury trial.
- Two other cruelty cases have been submitted to the prosecutor's office for prosecution.

Clinic

- Still searching for a 3rd veterinarian to fill vacant position.
- Clinic Ad Hoc Committee met to discuss focus of HSHV Clinic in the new shelter.

Marketing/Outreach

- Holiday cards almost sold out.
- Ann Arbor News ran a front page story on Iggy, the Chihuahua.
- HSHV just received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.

Comments: Tanya added we received a donated van for our TNR program from Washtenaw County. Peter Fink asked about publicizing our rationale for the transferred puppies. Tanya responded there isn't a reason to publicize. We transfer animals in from other shelters on a routine basis. The decision to do so is never at a detriment to animals from our own community. Shari Wilcox commented the transferred puppies did not cause HSHV additional expense (for transportation or anything else). HSHV expenses only begin when the puppies are received at HSHV as any other animal. The 10% decrease in animal intakes from the shelter statistics was questioned. Tanya responded that we could make many guesses as to why, but cannot definitively explain.

Ad Hoc Clinic Committee Report – Peter Fink chair

- The committee report was reviewed and discussed, specifically the target population and differential pricing vs. subsidized pricing. It was determined the difference is in the implementation and it would be left to the operating staff to determine the details and execute. Diana Kern stated she was impressed with the work of the committee and happy with the outcome. The committee work is the framework for the Clinic to function and implement as the new Clinic Manager comes onboard.

Capital Campaign Update

- Deb Kern updated that we will not receive the Kresge grant. They are shifting their priority to low income people in under-served areas. We did receive a \$150,000 grant from The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and this could be made a challenge grant. We also received \$250,000 from the Mark Antonio Fund. We still have \$110,000 in verbal pledges outstanding to finalize. There will be more public fundraising efforts in early 2008.
- Carolyn Raschke added the financial reports are actual signed pledges and monies received (do not contain verbal pledges) and are reconciled to the Campaign records monthly.
- Tanya Hilgendorf updated there has been no word from the University on the land. Fred Matthaai is working on our behalf. The land is important for many timeline items which are dependent on the signed purchase agreement. The

Superior Township preliminary site approval meeting is this Wednesday. We expect approval.

Minutes Approved

- Diana Kern motioned to approve the November 26th board meeting minutes. Lucia Brewer supported. Peter Fink asked that we get the specific contact name from Del Dunbar for the University of Michigan student education/outreach efforts. All approved.

Treasurer's Report – reported by Mike Walsh

- In response to last month's question about our operating trust account diversification, it was reviewed and concluded that we stay put. We have less than half in stocks. All of the Capital Campaign trust account is in cash only.
- The November 2007 Financials were reviewed and discussed. We are 7% below budget in revenue, but flat compared to 2006. We have about \$400,000 in revenue budgeted for December.
- Carolyn Raschke did some analysis on lost revenue due to the loss of the third veterinarian in July. From January, 2007 through July, 2007, we had about \$50,000 a month in revenue. Since July, we average about \$17,000 less per month. The last vet recruitment took nine months. We have been looking now for over six months. It was concluded we need to do whatever it takes to fill the position. Chris Ossenmacher mentioned a job-sharing possibility.
- Diana Kern motioned to have the Executive Committee meet with Tanya to intensify the vet recruitment and report back to the Board at the January meeting. Teresa Welsh supported. All approved.
- Mike Walsh continued with the financials review. Expenses are at budget. We have a bottom line profit instead of the budgeted loss at this time, due to bequests.
- Amy Milligan suggested we talk about changing the fiscal year due to year-end rush of donations. Nancy Culotta mentioned we were on a June to July fiscal year, believed to be about three years ago, but switched due to audit cost savings. Mike Walsh mentioned that we may be limited to how often we switch. Teresa Welsh mentioned there would also be financial implications depreciation and others to switching. Carolyn Raschke will ask Plante Moran.
- Nancy Culotta motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report. Diana Kern supported. All approved.

Development Committee Report – reported by Amy Milligan

- The Development Committee report was distributed and reviewed.
- Planned giving annuity materials are coming from Comerica. This is a donor selected option. It is not HSHV money. Amy stated that Del Dunbar recommends this fund. We will also be promoting bequests.

- Our corporate sponsorship search continues. Board members should get contact names to Amy for possible lead sponsor. We hope to use the lead sponsor to get matching sponsorship from other companies.

Executive Committee Report

- Bob Tetens suggested the Executive Committee perform a brief evaluation of the Executive Director via email, since a recent in-depth evaluation was recently completed. After receiving and reviewing the email evaluations, the Executive Committee will meet with the Executive Director. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be January 16th.

Public Comment

- Chris Ossenmacher commented she is glad to see the consideration of extended summer hours.
- Shari Wilcox solicited any other questions the Board may have on the transfer puppies. Bob Tetens asked if this would be done more often. Shari responded this is done as space is available. There is a protocol in place for vaccine and other requirements before transfer. The goal is a win-win situation with financial gain for HSHV. Shari works with mostly rescue groups that she has personal contact with and a high level of trust. The Board thanked Shari for her work.

Dennis Wojcik motioned to adjourn the meeting. Diana Kern supported. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm. The next scheduled meeting of the Board is January 28th, 2008 at 6:00 pm.