

The Cat Welfare Association

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 7 p.m.

Maple Grove United Methodist Church
7 W. Henderson Road, Columbus, OH 43214

In attendance:

- Board members: Amanda Powell, Jay Mathew, Brenda Martin, Lisa Strickland, Katie Thomas, Sue Godsey
- Others in attendance: Helen DeSantis, Linda Schellkopf, Jennifer Howell

Board President Katie Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda/Points of Discussion:

- Consent Agenda
- Shelter Report
- Old and New Business

Decisions and Reports

1. The consent agenda was approved.
2. Executive Director Helen DeSantis provided the Shelter Report:
 - a. 54 cats were adopted in March, 300 YTD
 - b. Kitten season! 19 in shelter 39 in foster care.
 - c. Staff are collaborating with an established homeless camp in south Columbus to develop an altering plan that will help address cat overpopulation.
 - d. The front door has been replaced with an ADA-compliant door.
 - e. Starting 2022 audit – hoping to finish by end of August 2023
 - f. May 30-31, Girl Scouts-stopped by shelter for visit, donated handmade catnip toys.
 - g. June 14 - spay/neuter clinic at the shelter, next one scheduled for July 26

- h. Pride Parade – 9 volunteers signed up to represent CWA.
- i. Cat nip pillows are very popular – due to shortage of catnip, we're often sold out. Working on ways to expand the inventory.
- j. Hopefully, Cat Welfare's GoFundMe page will gain traction.

3. Old Business

- a. Discussed format of Board meeting minutes.
- b. Discussed feedback from members' meeting and the need to collect feedback more efficiently at the next one.

4. New Business

- a. Discussion of CWA priorities
 - i. How to recruit and engage volunteers 18-24 years of age and encourage them to stay on as members
 - 1. Possibly form sub-committee and have a younger person lead meeting.
 - a. Ideas - Cat café in new space, activities for kids
 - b. For discussion at the July Board meeting: Amanda will review survey results, touch base with Jenny, and make suggestions on ways to recruit individuals in the target age range.
 - 2. Ideas and strategies to increase diversity will be explored.

5. Committee update

- a. Grants
 - i. Several on the list, Helen will review to see if any seem viable.
 - ii. Helen noted we don't have a dedicated grant writer.
 - 1. Put a mention in the newsletter to find members/volunteers who could help write grants.
 - 2. Amanda and Katie can help edit grant opportunities.
- b. Outreach
 - i. Start planning for Open House, Barnes and Nobles gift wrapping.
 - ii. Other ideas: Kitten Shower (online), Valentine's Day bake sale, adoption event, Christmas event, Cat Art Show, Cat painting
- c. Capital Campaign – Helen
 - i. Wait until the end of June to give Q2 contribution numbers, but Capital Campaign is doing well.

Katie Thomas adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Strickland

Recording Secretary