

The Cat Welfare Association
Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, July 18, 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, Gail Harbert

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

Agenda/Points of Discussion:

- Consent Agenda
- Shelter Report
- Old and News 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 June, 354 YTD
 - b. We're in the midst of kitten season - 14 in shelter 30 in foster care.
 - c. We have a new vet, All Critters in Grove City, to help with spaying/neutering.
 - d. Research at shelter – Gail
 1. Zoey, a researcher from Ohio State University studied the fecal matter in the shelter litter boxes to determine the presence of bacteria and parasites.
 2. Results from the study found no salmonella, campylobacter, or carbapenem resistant bacteria.

3. From the parasitology portion of the testing, one case of Giardia was found in a cat that was already being treated for this condition.
 4. Zoie commended the staff on the intake protocol as well as daily cleaning maintenance.
 - e. 2023 Cat Caper planning is in progress.
 1. 41 participants so far
 - f. Nomad clinic dates have been scheduled on July 26 and September 20
3. Old Business
 - a. No topics
4. New Business
 - a. How to engage younger members follow up from Amanda.
 1. Amanda talked with Jen, she feels we have plenty of younger volunteers and suggests the task force focus on re-imaging membership.
 2. Quick research on what is membership supposed to be -> found 15 elements, some include:
 - i. Purpose
 - ii. Dedicated program leaders
 - iii. Benefits
 - iv. Tiers
 - v. Robust mgmt. solutions
 - vi. Auto-renewal reminders
 - vii. Express gratitude to members
 - viii. Exit interviews with lapsed members
 3. It is time-consuming to manage CWA membership list
 - i. Consider one date for member renewal date to free up time for other activities.
 - b. In previous discussions of increasing membership, Katie shared structure for membership levels identified in the past
 1. How to encourage membership
 - i. Bumper stickers
 - ii. T-shirts
 - iii. Follow up with more ideas
 2. Address staff levels
5. Committee updates
 - a. Grants

1. Katie updated doc with a couple possible smaller dollar amounts, possible 'trial' submissions.
 2. Helen – will look closer at a few of the possibilities.
 - i. Banfield could be used to fund Good Sam fund (July)
 - ii. Doris Day – could be good for a Senior-to-Senior program ~~(we may already have an outline of email)~~
 - iii. Heigle Foundation – fits for mission to provide affordable/accessible spay neuter and save stray animals.
- b. Outreach
1. Too late for an Open House this year
 2. Facebook fundraisers have been successful
 3. We can think about Members Only events/programs ** look at what other orgs do when researching Member Benefits **
 - i. Jay – FIV, Feline Leukemia education
 - ii. Could we pay for speakers? Yes, education is part of our mission.
- c. Capital Campaign - Helen
1. Campaign is moving along.

Katie Thomas adjourned to Executive Session meeting at 7:30 p.m.