

The Cat Welfare Association

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 7 p.m.

Maple Grove United Methodist Church

7 W. Henderson Road, Columbus, OH 43214

In attendance:

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

Board President Katie Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:03 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. 66 cats were adopted in September, 549 YTD
 - b. Looking at adding evening hours for potential adopters
 - c. 2022 external audit completed and no negative findings
 - d. Gail responded to survey from Best Friends and received \$1,000 grant
 - e. The 2023 Cat Caper had 397 participants, \$21,000 estimated net revenue
 - f. Next altering clinic is November 20
3. Old Business

- a. No topics

4. New Business

- a. Resolutions allowing Steve Hebenstreit authority to deal with estates of Barbara Nelson and Alice Kimble on behalf of CWA were approved
- b. Membership task force update and historical questions. Discussion led by Amanda:
 - 1. We recommend all members have same membership renewal date each year to save time and effort
 - i. Why are we an association and a member organization?
 - ii. If someone gives x amount of money, should they become a member automatically?
 - iii. What are member benefits?
 - a. Per Jay – members tapped for volunteer/committee opportunities
 - b. Per Sue – members believe in/care about mission
 - iv. Need to talk with Steve about history
 - 2. Need more information before making more recommendations
- c. Adoption ideas - Jay
 - 1. More evening hours to allow for more potential adopters to get into shelter
 - i. Press release to announce new hours

5. Committee updates

- a. Grants
 - 1. Helen – went thru 15 grant opportunities on list
 - i. 9 didn't seem suitable for CWA
 - ii. 3 to follow up on
 - a. Bernice Barbour Foundation – Hands on animal care
 - b. Elinor Patterson Baker Trust Fund – reached out for application pkg
 - c. Jason Debus Heigl Foundation – long process, Namaste Spay and Neuter Initiative offers reimbursement for spay/neuter clinics – we may be able to incorporate with NOMAD onsite clinics.
 - iii. 3 to keep an eye on
 - a. ASPCA
 - b. William and Charlotte Parks Foundation
 - c. Maddie's Fund
- b. Capital Campaign - Helen
 - 1. Matching donation opportunity announced at Cat Caper, email announcement made and featured in October/November newsletter
 - 2. \$10,300 raised in matching funds so far
 - 3. \$1.6 M to date
 - 4. Donation season coming up
 - i. Giving Tuesday -> tip: send email announcement on Sunday prior

Katie Thomas adjourned to Executive Session meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Lisa Strickland
Recording Secretary