

Humane Society of Southern New Mexico

Board of Directors Meeting November 16, 2008

President Mike Hainer called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. Board members present included Sue Patterson, Jean Gilbert, Wanda Muhlke, Diane Hammond, Frank and Vanessa Bryce. Marilyn Grayson was absent.

The agenda was approved. Minutes from the October 16, 2008, meeting were approved as presented.

Discussion was held regarding mileage reimbursement for Evelyn Hancock, who is our team captain for the PetSmart cat adoption program. Evelyn has requested that the amount be reduced to \$44.50 per month, which will match what she receives from the R.S.V.P. program. Motion was made, seconded and approved.

Sue Patterson presented the treasurer's report. The account balance is \$21,278.30. \$500 was received from The Whole Enchilada Festival. Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept the report as presented.

Off-site adoption events were discussed. It was decided that the December 20th PetSmart event will be made a "super" event, to include dogs, and that will be considered the event for December. They need to be held at a more public place than our office site to attract more attendees, and the events held in January through March need to be held indoors. Photos with Santa will be held at PetSmart on two weekends. Marcia Weist has and will set up the décor for the sessions. V. Bryce agreed to prepare a spreadsheet/calendar with all of our events and other like-organizations' events.

Billboards and other community advertising will be discussed at a later meeting.

Regarding the DACHS cemetery, authority was given to President Hainer to continue a dialogue with Dona Ana County Humane Society as to mutually beneficial actions without any commitments on behalf of our Board. Motion by F. Bryce; second Hammond. Motion carries 4 to 2.

The "Help Line" is on hold until a resource book is completed by Michel and turned over to HSSNM.

The budget was discussed. It was determined to devote a special meeting to this issue on January 13th at 6:30.

Regular Board meetings will continue to be held on the third Tuesday of each month.

A '**medical fund for animals**' category is currently in our budget. There are animals that HSSNM is responsible for, and there may be those animals that we agree to take

responsibility for; regardless, there will be a limit of \$150 in medical care *per animal*. If ASCMV shelter cats or other non-profit's cats require treatment, it shall be the responsibility of that entity to bear the cost, unless HSSNM determines to accept the animal for treatment. A "Milton" fund can be created, which is a one that is openly publicized and which is used solely for the urgent care and treatment of designated animals.

Evelyn Hancock will be invited to the next Board meeting. President Hainer will personally contact her. [Sue Patterson left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.]

Policy for spay/neuter funds was discussed. \$15 of each adoption fee goes to our spay/neuter fund, and \$5 to the medical fund; balance goes into the general fund for every HSSNM animal adopted. We discussed use of the MARC (County's) van to fund spay/neuter events in rural areas. It is our understanding that there is no fee to utilize the van, but we would be required to pay costs only. It was suggested that \$4,000 be utilized by March '09. It was concluded that we should wait to review SNAP memorandum of understanding with the County, and perhaps then enter into an agreement with the County, with El Paso veterinarian Dr. Medina and staff heading up the surgeries. Hainer and F. Bryce will contact local veterinarians to try and work out discounted pricing for surgeries.

The 'Home Again' microchip program was discussed. An HSSNM-sponsored event would raise \$5 for each individual who signs up for the program. A veterinarian's employee or shelter employee must conduct the program. We would also receive a \$200 microchip scanner (value of \$200). No date was chosen at this time.

A donation for trees to be planted in the Las Cruces dog park was made to the group. The Board determined to wait until more physical progress has been made on the park and we will consider the request at a later date.

Even through the Pet Expo (October) is officially cancelled for this year, Hainer would like to pursue gathering companion organizations to host an event.

Fundraising – Muhlke will create a holiday appeal letter, with Patterson assisting in the mailing effort. Letter to be mailed the first part of December. A project involving "Save My Pets" cling-on stickers was presented by Muhlke. The cost per 1,000 is approximately \$859. The stickers affix to a house window and designate that there are pets indoors in case of fire. These stickers could be used as membership benefits or sold at events for at least \$1 each. Muhlke offered to design and coordinate the project. Motion made and seconded to purchase 1,000 stickers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Wanda Muhlke, Secretary