Chippewa County Humane Association Board of Director’s Meeting

April 13, 2020

The Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and held virtually due to the Co-vid 19 outbreak and the stay at home order by Governor Evers. In attendance were board members: Deb Newman, Pam Gibbs, Lori Mueller, Paula Young, Nick Goeman, Deanna Raeke, Crystal Kademan, Cheryl Halida, Shelter Manager Jess Crosby and ChristineMyers. No one was absent.

**Members of the Public:** Mark & Joe for the septic.

**Secretary’s Report:** A motion was made to approve the secretary’s report by Lori Mueller and seconded by Paula Young. All consented. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer’s Report:** The current balance of checking is $105,906.00, the Money Market is $162,843.00 and savings is $8,856.00. The Dennis Wager estate ended up being $47,000 and we had to cash out the money market account. A motion was made to approve the treasurer’s report by Crystal Kademan and seconded by Cheryl Halida. All consented. Report approved.

**Shelter Report:** The census for the month of March: there were 11 surrenders (2 dogs and 9 cats), and 8 strays (3 dogs and 5 cats). We took in 0 dogs from Texas. There were 0 kittens and 0 puppies born at the shelter. There were 0 dogs and 1 cats euthanized for significant health concerns at the shelter. There were 0 dogs or 0 cats euthanized due to space. There were 0 kittens that passed away in foster care due to health issues. There were 8 dog adoptions, 21 cat adoptions, and 2 rabbit adoptions. There was 0 dog transferred to Eau Claire Humane Association. There were 7 cats transferred to SCRAM Rescue. There were 3 dog owner claims and 0 cat owner claims. There were 4 cats at Petsmart, 1 dog at Bob’s house for dogs, 4 dogs in foster care, and 18 cats/kittens in foster care. The total census at the end of the month was: 12 dogs, 48 cats, and 0 rabbits at the shelter.

There was 1 alteration at Chippewa Vet Clinic and 10 cat neuters, 2 alterations at Northside Pet Hospital, 1 alteration at Kindness Animal Hospital, 0 alterations at Lake Wissota Animal Hospital, and 1 alteration at Riverview Vet all free of charge.

-Shelter updates: We are hanging in there!!! COVID19

-Working on the mouse epidemic in the big garage. We had to dispose of 3 truckloads of mouse ridden bedding. We wore masks and gloves due to the excessive amount of mouse urine and droppings we were shoveling out. The mice have eaten away the majority of the bottom of garage walls. The ferals are doing their job as we only ran into a couple live mice.

-The staff have been good about rotating days off to cut back on payroll budget during this pandemic.

-We had a few groups stop at the shelter to donate items: Everyone is spring cleaning we are getting restocked on sheets, blankets and towels.

-The stats on Facebook this month: Post Reach: 50.6k people, Post Engagements: 16.7k people, New Page Likes: 126

**Standing Committees Updates:**

1. **Newsletter**: We could also do a news-letter during this time which would be a good thing and wouldn’t cost us extra money. It was decided to do the newsletter and not the post card. Jess said that Starla is willing to help out with the newsletter if anyone wants the help.
2. **Purr and Paw**: A letter has not been sent out to the sponsors with the new date. The event was post-poned due to the Co-vid 19 pandemic and we will look for dates in October/November to possibly hold the event. A guess is that no large gatherings will be able to be held until there is a vaccine in place. A letter will go out to the sponsors to ask if they want their money back or hold it. If we can don’t hold the event by November we might want to think about not having it this year.
3. **Co-Vid 19 Stimulus package** – Nick will look into this further and see what we need to do in order to get some of the money. It is structured as a loan and can request to have it forgiven and turned into a grant. If use the money for payroll, can we take money out of the payroll and put into another area. Nick doesn’t think that there is a specific use for this loan of what to be done with it.

**New Business:**

1. **Joint Ventures with ECC & CC Non-Profits:** They have asked us to suspend any mailing we would have normally done. So we will not send out a donation request at this time. WE do need to do min. of 2 max of 5 emails and sending a letter to people who don’t have any an email address. If we do a mailing we should look into stuffing it ourselves, to save money, we might want to look into doing a post card (nothing fancy) Postage for post cards is $.35 a piece, it would be about 600 cards. We need to do a weekly Facebook post,each group will need to go onto WEAU to help promote and it is suggested that each board member make a donation during this 60 day event. The event runs April 1 – May 31, 2020. We could also do a news-letter during this time which would be a good thing and wouldn’t cost us extra money. It was decided to do the newsletter and not the post card.

**B. 40th Anniversary for the Shelter:** As Deb was filling out the paperwork for the joint venture she found that we will be celebrating our 40th Anniversary in 2021. Just want thoughts today – this would be a good promotion for the shelter. This would be a good time to do a dinner/party to celebrate this mile stone.

**Old Business:**

**A. Drain Field:** Mark & Joe – Originally gave an estimate of $20,000. Since then they have started to work on the design process and what going to be involved. There are a lot of items that were donated for the project as well as the cost of each item. Since they have started on the design the price is coming together better and the new price is $30,000. They would like to have a confirmation that CHA still wants to go forward with the project. The original bid was based on the old water usage. Now that we have a water meter installed it is showing we are using way more than the original amount of water we quotes (300 gallons a day). This system is being designed to last many, many, many years and we won’t have to think about this for a very, very long time. It should last, depending on how we take care of it, if we take care of the system it should last 20 – 30 years. This system will have about 8 filters and we will have much cleaner water…..our old system was an in-ground system, based on the soil test Joe did – we should NOT have that type of system. WE are too large to have a 3 bedroom size system. What is the upkeep of the new system so we can budget for this – basically we will have a maintenance system twice a year the cost will be about $1,000 a year. Staff should be able to clean the filters and Mark is willing to come out to the Shelter to show the staff on how to clean them – That is pretty much what we will have for cost wise and the system will need to be pumped every 3 years, this is a county requirement. Pumps might burn out, so that would need to be replaced if it happens. The panels that are being used we won’t need the water meter any longer because the panels will be able to measure how much water we will be using. This system is like the Cadillac of septic systems and we are able to install this kind of system is because of the donations we have received. The $30,000 is above and beyond the $40,000 in donations we have received, this includes the electrical work that they will be doing in side. The electrical person is willing to donate some of his time to us as well. New regulations were put into place by Wisconsin – the vendors that have donated prior, some have backed out due to pandemic and they are worried about their costs, so we can not take a lot of time to make a decision on this. A motion was made to approve the new amount of $30,000 by Lori Mueller and seconded by Cheryl Halida. All consented. The new amount of $30,000 was approved.

**B. Dryers:** They have been ordered and if there is any delay it is due to the pandemic. It is in the works.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Lori Mueller and Cheryl Halida seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

The next board meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. virtually due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the stay safe at home order.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Myers, Secretary.