



Protectors of Animals, Inc.

Board Meeting – December 18, 2012

Board Members present: Denise Harned, Stacey Doan, Jody Macrina, Ron Plante, Mark Pandolfo, Sara Taylor, JoAnn Azzara, Linda Williams, Debbie Nichols, Jordan Price, Greg Simpson

1. **President's Call to Order:** J. Macrina called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.
2. **Minutes of the November 20, 2012 Board of Directors meeting.**

S. Doan made a motion to accept the minutes as written; D. Harned seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

3. **President's Report:**

- a. **HOPE Update**

- J. Macrina discussed recent events that occurred at the HOPE Clinic that led her to recommend to the Board that POA should withdraw from the proposed merger with HOPE. She stated that POA will make arrangements with Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society in Springfield, Mass. for high volume spay/neuter needs on a go-forward basis.
- **J. Price proposed that the POA Board collectively resign as the Acting Board of H.O.P.E. Spay/Neuter Clinic, Inc. effective immediately and made a motion regarding the same; S. Taylor seconded. The motion unanimously passed.**
- **S. Doan made a motion to donate \$1,000 to Pro Bono Partnership in honor of John Aissis and Keri Meddaugh, the volunteer attorney and paralegal who had been providing legal assistance for the merger between POA and HOPE; G. Simpson seconded. The motion passed with 10 Board members voting "Yes" and one Board member voting "No."**
- There was also a discussion regarding collecting the \$16,000 in loans that POA extended to HOPE in late 2011 and early 2012. If the merger had occurred, the loans likely would have been forgiven. However, the general consensus was that, with no merger, the loans should be called.

- b. **Stock Donation**

- J. Macrina discussed a proposed \$1,000 stock donation from Ralph and Pauline Woods. POA would need to execute a brokerage account to accept the donation. M. Pandolfo obtained all of the necessary documentation from TD Ameritrade.
- **S. Taylor made a motion to open a brokerage account with TD Ameritrade and, once the account is open, to accept the stock donation**

4. Mark Pandolfo/Jordan Price

- M. Pandolfo and J. Price discussed recommendations of bookkeeping firms, which are being evaluated. The goal is to have a firm identified by March 2013. We need to decide how much we are willing to pay.

5. Stacey Doan

- There was a discussion regarding New England Veterinary Center on Kennedy Road in Windsor. As of the date of this meeting, there were 4 POA cats boarded at the Center. These cats will be brought to the cat shelter as soon as there is room. The Center is raising its rates. There was also a discussion and general agreement regarding advertising in local newspapers to recruit additional people who could foster cats, which could help to eliminate the need for us to use the Center as a boarding facility. The advertisements could direct responders to contact a new Gmail account to be set up. The poaplacement@gmail.com account gets very heavy traffic, so a new Gmail account specifically for fosters was suggested. J. Azzara will look into obtaining another Gmail account for the foster ad.

6. Greg Simpson

- G. Simpson updated the Board on volunteer recruitment efforts. The advertisements seeking volunteers are helping. L. Williams stated that she has gotten more Cat Team Clean & Feed volunteers, which was much needed because the Friday morning team needs additional volunteers.

7. Sara Taylor

- S. Taylor discussed the draft RFP (Request for Proposal) that was circulated prior to the meeting. Various revisions were suggested. It was also suggested that some of the veterinary clinics with which we have long-standing beneficial relationships be “exempt” from the RFP process, as we will continue to use the services of those clinics.
- S. Taylor stated that POA has been approved to participate in Leadership Greater Hartford’s Leaders on Board program on January 16, 2013.
- In order to avoid a possible conflict of interest, D. Harned excused herself from the Board meeting prior to the discussion of Shelter Manager applicants because she intends to apply for the position. Following D. Harned’s departure, S. Taylor gave a brief overview of the applicant pool and discussed tentative plans for reviewing applications and scheduling interviews.

8. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.
- The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled on January 15, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at 144 Main Street, Unit N, East Hartford, Connecticut.

Submitted by: Sara Taylor, Secretary