

Oregon Coast Humane Society
Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2022
Vintage House

Present: Mary Henry, President; Judy Thibault, Vice President; Shauna Robbers, Secretary; Sandy Davidson, Board Member; Elizabeth Thompson, Executive Director. Jenny Rankin, Shelter Administrator joined later. Absent: Laurie Arms and Ken Huettl (both excused).

Mary called the meeting to order at 11:56 AM

Check-in/Opening Thoughts/Kudos:

The Board received the sad news of our Treasurer, Ken Huettl's passing and observed a moment of silence out of respect in his memory.

Laurie Arms, Board Member is taking a six-month leave of absence.

The Board discussed recruiting interim board members. Elizabeth and Mary will follow up after the meeting.

Approval of Agenda: Nothing to add.

Approval of Minutes: Sandy moved to approve the Minutes of August 31, 2022. Judy seconded. Motion unanimously approved. Sandy moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of August 31, 2022. Judy seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Finance – Treasurer's Report:

Elizabeth sent August 2022, Year-to-date, and Financial Position reports to the Board via email.

It was noted that the appeal entries aren't in the right location in Quick Books. Elizabeth will speak with bookkeeping.

Our 2021 taxes are filed. Mary has signed them. Mary spoke with Edward Jones and as of October 1, 2022, OCHS has an open IRA . Sandy pointed out that we need to have written information to hand out to employees. Mary will follow up.

The Budget Committee will establish two meetings. The first one with Sandy, Elizabeth, Mary, and Bob Mohler and the second meeting with Elizabeth, Sandy and Mary. Elizabeth will establish date and time for meetings. Sandy will organize the forms.

Executive Director's Report – Elizabeth Thompson emailed her report:

YEAR TO DATE ADOPTIONS: 379!

ANIMAL UPDATES: As of today we have 129 animals in our care.

SEPTEMBER INTAKE: 2 clinic dogs (one wellness check, one neuter), 15 owner surrenders (5 dogs, 10 cats/kittens), 9 returned adoptions (5 dogs, 4 cats), 20 strays, 13 transfer in (small young dogs from Tulare shelter in California)

OUTCOME: 63 adoptions (50 cats/kittens, 13 dogs), 1 died in care (ringworm kitten brought in at end of life), 14 return to owners, 2 euthanasias (sick kittens).

EVENTS AND COMMUNITY UPDATES:

- *Fall Appeal featuring Thumper has raised \$13,061 so far with more donations coming in regularly.
- *Ocean Dunes Women's Golf Tournament raised \$7343 for our animals and had a nice story in the paper about it! Two of the organizers are talking about planning more fundraisers for the animals.
- *Boys and Girls Club has requested information to start bringing teens to volunteer! Stay tuned.
- *ET presented holiday plans to Florence Area Community Coalition via zoom. Our plans include: Christmas store, Santa pics, Santa storytime (this will be in collaboration with Chamber), Popvich Comedy Theater Dec. 7, Community Pet Food Bank drive, Giving Trees for shelter pet gifts.
- *Local author/artist Joan Hibbs wrote a children's book in memory of her dog Sweetie. She's donated 20 books and a piece of her digital art to OCHS to sell in support of our shelter pets. She plans on donating more artwork to possibly sell at the Christmas store.
- *City Lights Cinema Cat Video Fest netted \$28.60 for our animals. A dog version is coming up and we hope to be able to publicize that more to raise more money.
- *Local family whose photographer/author sister passed away brought in a huge donation of her photography for us to sell. We plan to include it in a local art show in February that's being put together to support our animals. Details to follow as we learn more.
- *Siuslaw students who received grants to do job training with us to start in the next few weeks. One young man will be at the thrift store and one will be at the shelter with a job coach.
- *Siuslaw school librarian is again doing virtual field trips to the shelter to read to the animals. She's also collaborating with teachers throughout the schools to create art for the animals. ET has asked them to prepare ornaments for the Giving Trees this year.
- *Volunteers are working to add new bark to our walking trails. One has reached out to Laurel Bay to solicit a donation of bark. She is waiting on a reply.
- *Pet Grief Group continues to meet, and will transition to the shelter from the Vintage House after their October 12 meeting.
- *ET is now involved with Builders Club (middle school) and Key Club (high school), so we expect more youth volunteers through both schools!

TEAM TRAINING/UPDATES:

- *CVT/CET has been interviewed and is expected to be hired and start after Pam returns from her vacation. Her name is Courtney Alves and she worked with Dr. Schaad at the September vet clinic. She will work under his direction approximately 24 hours/week.
- *Valerie has been accepted for another Maddie's Fund internship – this time Humane Education! This is one ET completed earlier in the year and will allow us to build a more robust youth volunteer program.
- *Elizabeth is registered for a Fundraising Class through AAWA that we got for participating in the Maddie's Fund We Foster Challenge.

LANE COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES has requested a meeting to establish a contract with them to service the animals in our area. We will meet after Pam returns from vacation to begin preliminary discussions.

SHELTER STORY:

For many months, the OCHS has been working with a local Husky breeder who was gradually closing down his business. Two of the last dogs that OCHS received from this breeder were categorized as feral nine-month-old male puppies. The puppies had never been off the breeder's property nor had any work been done with them to socialize them. The puppies were frightened and laid flat on the ground shaking. They were filthy and matted.

It was thought that there was nothing that the OCHS Team would be able to do to turn these shut down puppies around so the Team started reaching out to behavioral rescues who could take the huskies and give them a chance at a new life. Unfortunately, all of the rescues had long waiting lists and couldn't take the puppies. Therefore, the OCHS team started slowly working with these two shut down dogs and over the last five months a miracle occurred – the puppies adapted to the professional care and love of the staff and volunteers. They are now happy to go on beach jaunts, ride in cars, work at 101 Storage, and just play.

Another happy ending just recently occurred – a family came in who had an old husky at home. After many introductions, both huskies are now fostered with that family and it looks like they may very well have found their forever home.

Comments for Elizabeth:

Mary suggested that we could enhance customer service by putting more information on our website in a timely manner about why we may or may not be able to do certain things in real time; i.e., we have an outbreak of kennel cough and until we get it under control our dogs cannot leave the shelter.

Shauna suggested that Elizabeth organize Stuff-the-Van dates with both Mini Pet Mart and Grocery Outlet. Shauna spoke with the owner of Grocery Outlet and he said this would be great.

Jenny Rankin's Report:

Jenny gave the board a hand-out regarding our SARAH Fund. This fund was established many years ago to help pay for emergency medical treatment for a dog named Sarah who had been tied to a truck and dragged behind it and left for dead. She was picked up and taken to a local clinic where she was treated and cared for. The community rallied to pay for her treatment and the SARAH Fund was born. SARAH is an acronym for the Special Account for the Rehabilitation of Animals that are Hurt.

OCHS has maintained this fund with the help of community donations to assist low-income families so they can provide emergency medical treatment for their companion animals. Our service area is primarily based in Florence and Mapleton. We require applicants to fill out a form before money or services are provided. Financial assistance is normally capped at \$100 and there is an approval process.

Jenny uses Quick Books to check on the SARAH Fund financials.

Mary commented that OCHS has several accounts set up with certain sums of money for specific services. The Board needs to have a better understanding of where the money is spent as we proceed with establishing the 2023 budget.

Fundraising and Marketing:

Estate Sales: Shauna reported that the team is currently working on a home packed with great items and is targeting the end of the month for the sale. Two other homes are under agreement, and she has an appointment with another home in Florentine Estates.

Christmas Store: Shauna reported that Sandy has been making calls to all volunteers. The plan is to start decorating the Vintage House on October 19 and open November 1. Shauna suggested purchasing more shelving units and is tasked with pricing them. She will report back to the board.

President's Club: Mary reports that we now have a few \$1000 annual members. The Board discussed how best to launch the membership campaign, get the news to the members and how the membership drive works.

Salesforce: Mary met with the Salesforce volunteers yesterday and stated that we will have financial data into Salesforce by October 19, 2022.

Director's Letter/Newsletter: This is being edited and membership policy will be put on website.

Programs:

Animal Welfare Committee: Judy said they are planning on meeting toward the end of October. Suggestions were made about recruiting other volunteers for this committee.

Jury Time Off: Sandy suggested we amend our employee handbook which says that currently according to the handbook, employees can be excused for up to 30 days for jury duty. After brief discussion Mary made a motion to amend the handbook as it applies to jury duty and change 30 days to 5 days. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Closing Thoughts:

On October 22, 2022, Mary and Elizabeth will be visiting Oregon Humane Society and touring their facilities.

Mary wants us to officially adopt a policy about not releasing donor information to anyone. She will work on the wording for such policy and send out to the Board.

Sandy suggested that she become interim treasurer until we can find a replacement. Mary made the motion for this to occur. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Next meeting November 9, 2022 at noon at Mary's home.

Meeting adjourned at 2:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Shauna Robbers, Board Secretary