

Oregon Coast Humane Society
Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2023
Conference Room, TR Hunter Real Estate

Present: Mary Henry, President; Shauna Robbers, Vice President, Secretary; Board Members Lisa Mullins, Jill Simpson, Maire Testa, Heidi White; Elizabeth Thompson, Executive Director. Treasurer Cynthia Beck was excused.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by President Mary Henry at 10:10 a.m.

Check-in/Opening Thoughts/Kudos:

President Mary Henry welcomed Maire Testa back to the OCHS Board.

Approval of Agenda:

Agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of regular meeting and Executive Session were sent out prior to this meeting. Motion to approve the minutes of both meeting and Executive Session was made, seconded, and passed, Mary Henry and Maire Testa abstaining.

Finance Committee Report:

Treasurer Cynthia Beck emailed the financial package prior to the meeting for the board to review. In her absence, Mary Henry reported that we are ahead on Shelter Revenue and thanked the shelter staff for that. Also, running ahead on Thrift Store; nothing concerning. Kudos to Estate Sales for coming within \$100 of projection and to Sandy Davidson and Elizabeth Thompson for our exemption from property taxes. No questions were brought up on Budget to Actuals.

Mary mentioned that Cynthia especially wanted to call out the Christmas Store, how good it looked and congratulate the people who put it together.

Executive Director's Report (copied, entered, and added to):

YEAR TO DATE ADOPTIONS: 610!

YTD Animals seen in clinics: 528! Lost animals returned to owners: 115!

ANIMAL UPDATES: As of today, we have 90 animals in our care.

OCTOBER INTAKE: 92 clinic animals (microchip/vaccine clinics), 14 owner surrenders, 6 returned adoptions (4 cats, 2 dogs), 25 strays, 2 transfers in (one Cali dog, one Coos County dog).

OUTCOME: 43 adoptions, 92 clinic-out (microchip/vaccine clinics), 6 return to owners, 20 transfers out (cats to new rescue partner in Bend).

EVENTS AND COMMUNITY UPDATES:

*Donations from the Jack Sparrow appeal letter are almost to \$10k! 79 donors contributed \$9,755 so far!

*We've deposited a check from Bottle Drop for \$4,750. The extra 20% match starts in a few weeks and we're looking forward to depositing even more cans and bottles then.

- *Dr. Jaime Thurk came from Eastern Oregon and was PAWSOME! On the second day she was here, they performed 26 spay/neuter surgeries! She also took 20 kittens back with her to Bend to her rescue partner, allowing us to help the next group of kittens needing to come to OCHS. Jenny discussed with Dr. Jaime bringing a few other vets with her for a Snippity Do Dah event in the winter. Stay tuned!
 - *Dr. Schaad is here this week for a spay/neuter clinic (November 8-10), and Dr. Katrina Hall-Essoe will be here on Saturday, November 11th for another Microchip/Vaccine clinic. So far this year we're brought in \$12,777.50 during vaccine clinics, all while helping keep the community pets in Florence healthy!
 - *Vet visited from Virginia last week who has an interest in moving to the Oregon coast. We're hoping to recruit her for at least some relief work if and when she's settled.
 - *Donation jars have raised \$8,545.06 this year!
 - *First visit to Shorewood for residents' pets' nail trims was a big success. Jenny and Nicci felt like there was a lot of value in spending time trimming nails, answering questions about animal health, and what happens to animals who outlive their people.
 - *Disaster Preparedness Expo Nov. 4 at FEC was great according to Valerie. She ran out of A Plan for My Pets brochures and had Joe at Shipping Solutions bring her more! We've also had people signing up for the microchip clinic because of that. Thanks to Carolyn and Jill for assisting at the event!
 - *FUUF's Celebration of the Animals was incredible! Mary and Elizabeth and David attended. So many OCHS volunteers and supporters are in their congregation. It was joyful to see Deborah Larson's service and see so many OCHS animals that she's photographed included.
 - *Mary and ET will attend The Association for Animal Welfare Advancement's Annual Conference November 15-17 in Portland. We'll attend workshops and seminars on everything from fundraising to shelter health for our animals. We'll also look at modular office units and visit with some of our donors during the trip.
 - *The Christmas Store opened on November 1st. Within the first five days the store has raised \$6,132! Thanks to Coos Bay tv station KCBY for including us in their coverage.
 - *OCHS is decorating their tree for the Festival of Trees! It is going to be adorable. One donor covered the sponsorship fee and another volunteer purchased supplies to make ornaments.
 - *Ad is in CROW's Holly Jolly Follies magazine. Two sponsors donated enough for a full-page ad!
 - *OCHS has just received a Harley Davidson motorcycle and a 2021 travel trailer as donations from two different (and generous) families!
 - *Pictures with Santa Paws are scheduled:
 - Saturday, November 18th at Mini Pet Mart
 - Saturday, December 2nd at Florence Shipping Solutions
 - Wednesday, December 13th at Mini Pet Mart
 Pics will be from 10am until 2pm each day. Press release and flyers will go out this week.
 - *Our Best Friends representative (Yael) will visit on Friday. She's recently moved to Eugene! We're looking forward to strengthening our relationships with other shelters to help more animals.
- Elizabeth shared the story of how we are building relationships with other communities. She told of a man who came in from Deadwood with female 2 cats needed to be spayed but he, being disabled and unemployed, he couldn't pay. We told him we had grant money to cover so we spayed the cats. Learning that he had 3 more cats at home, he was told to bring them in, and they would be taken care of. We spayed 3 females and neutered 2 males. The man actually paid for the 3 spays. Then a woman called from Deadwood calling saying she had a cat in a trap needing spay and he was told to bring the cat in. Thanks to these caring individuals, we

are now able to build a partnership with Deadwood, a community even more rural than we are and a typical “dumping ground” for these animals. Moral of the story, “We serve animals that don’t know their ZIP Code.” Mary Henry added that she is looking forward to going to the national conference in Portland next week with Elizabeth. They’ll see if there are other small shelters that are in coalition or would like to be; hear about best practice; go to vendor booths and other activities. They will tour Southwest Washington, a smaller shelter similar to OCHS.

Planning and Culture of Learning

Strategic Planning Committee: Lisa Mullins

Lisa emailed a copy of the Strategic Planning Committee’s charter to the board prior to the meeting. The only correction is that both the board president and executive director are both Ex Officio members. A motion to approve the charter with the correction was made, seconded, and unanimously carried.

Lisa reported that the committee has been working very hard on a process to decide what the most important things needing to be done, both short- and long-term. Hopefully the list will be completed by the January retreat.

Board Retreat

Mary asked for input on what we would like to get out of next year’s retreat. The consensus was that we won’t have a facilitator. We need to look at planning the future of the organization, board development, a brief history of OCHS and other topics to be determined. Location to be decided with TR Hunter, Fire Station, River House to be considered. Mary will send out a Doodle poll to determine when it will be most convenient for everyone.

Confirm Committee Meeting Schedule

Strategic Planning – third Tuesday at 1:30

Animal Welfare – second Tuesday at 2:30

Finance and Community Outreach open for discussion. Hopefully Finance on the fourth Tuesday and Community Outreach on the first.

New Committee

There was a discussion about dividing the Community Outreach Committee into two separate committees. The current Community Outreach Committee would be sponsorships, gala, fundraising, etc. The other committee, to be known as Public Information, would concentrate on the written word -website, newsletters, social media. A motion to form a new Public Information Committee of the board was made, seconded, and unanimously carried.

Shauna Robbers had to leave the meeting early and left Mary Henry her proxy for the remainder of the meeting.

Newsletter

There was a discussion of the newsletter that Mary and Maire have been working on. If possible, it will go out December 1, a week after the appeal letter. It will be printed on matte with color photos.

Animal Welfare

Jill reported that they are working on a Volunteer Mentor program. Need to work on eliminating confusion in the dog walker program and make it easier and more enjoyable.

Jill Simpson left the meeting for an appointment, giving her proxy to the board.

Community Outreach Committee

Heidi explained that she has been overwhelmed and is excited that Joe Zarate may co-chair and the committee will take shape. Elizabeth mentioned that staff member Valerie Swensrud is available to assist as this is her expertise and passion. There was a brief discussion of a theme for the Gala and tentative date of sometime in September. The booth at the Disaster Preparedness Show at the FEC was very successful. Because of the display for the microchip clinic, people called the next day to schedule appointments. There were lots of handouts, etc.

The Board moved to Executive Session at 11:20.

Executive Session ended at 11: 38.

It should be noted that during the Executive Session a motion to approve the candidacy of Joe Zarate as interim board member was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Next meeting set for second Thursday at 10 a.m. at TR Hunter.

Meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maire Testa for
Shauna Robbers, Acting Board Secretary