

Iowa County Humane Society  
Board Meeting  
July 13, 2015

Board members present: Marcia Thompson, Lisa Cvengros, Pam Richardson, Mike Van Sicklen, Rene Christesen and John Mutschler  
Staff present: Bonnie Zimmerman, Jen Siegel  
Absent: Binga Manwiller  
Public present: Terri Davis

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

The June minutes were submitted and approved.

**Treasurers report** was submitted and approved and will be available on the website.

Mike raised the issue of ICHS expenses and how they compare with other shelters of similar size. Lisa stated that she did not have that information but would attempt to find those comparisons and report on her findings.

Currently ICHS has \$43,907 in the bank with \$22,330 in restricted funds. This leaves a balance of \$21,577 for general expenses. This does not include the income from the Summer mailing which has raised approximately \$16,000 so far.

ICHS has still not received any monies for the Humane Officer role but the Municipality Contract income is up \$7,855. This increase is largely due to the City of Dodgeville contract and the change to monthly billing.

Memorial giving has been strong and is up \$11,060. Fundraising has been down because we have had fewer events. Adoption fees are up \$2,600 but surrender fees and redemption fees are down.

Cat expense is down in part due to Angel's Wish taking in a number of our cats and lower food costs since the switch to Mounds cat food. However we are seeing an earlier "kitten season" this year which will have an impact.

Dog expense is down \$2,340 due to lower medical expenses, lower Mod Squad expenses and a savings in dog food due to the switch to Mounds dog food.

Payroll expenses are down because we were without an Outreach Director for 2 months. However, we are seeing an increase in staff hours due to the early kitten season and we have also given raises to staff which will offset some of that savings.

**The Kennel Managers** report was submitted and approved. ICHS currently has 71 cats in the shelter and 7 cats in foster care. There are 7 dogs in the shelter and 2 dogs in foster care.

Bonnie stated that DVS has a very strict policy of not spaying or neutering any kitten that weighs less than 2 pounds. DVS complained that one of the kittens ICHS had sent for surgery was slightly under that weight. They have requested that we more closely monitor kitten weights before sending them for surgery. Bonnie will make sure that no kittens weighing less than 2 pounds are sent for surgery.

**The Office Coordinator's** report was sent via email, accepted and approved.

Binga noted that the office staff has been quite busy with "thank you" notes to donors as a result of our last mailing and the steady intake of kittens.

June has been a good month for adoptions with several animals adopted despite some ongoing health problems.

**Outreach/Fundraising Manager's report:** Jen reported that she still needs volunteers to staff the ICHS lunch table serving the MDA Motorcycle ride through Spring Green on Saturday July 18th. Volunteers would be needed from 11AM through 2PM. She stated that a grill will be needed along with some other supplies and she will continue to coordinate last minute details for this event.

"Paint Night" is scheduled for Sept 24th and Dodger Bowl has volunteered to host the event. Tickets will be sold and ICHS will keep a portion of the money raised.

Information on the Spay/neuter program will be up on the website this week and ads have already appeared in the local newspapers.

Dodgeville Days in August still needs a band and the search for a suitable band is ongoing.

Rene reported that the Engelhart August 29th ride will pass through Dodgeville and stop at ICHS for a tour.

Jen has continued to research available grants. She notes that most of the grants are applied for on a yearly basis. She is working to compile a master copy for grant applications in order to streamline the process.

Thank You cards have been ordered. Binga and Jen will work on the verbiage and once that is done a copy will be sent to Marcia for final approval.

Jen and Marcia met with the owner of the Dairyland Dare to explore the possibility of ICHS hosting the Quadrupedal event again. They will continue to explore options and report on the progress.

Mike suggested that designating specific goals for fundraising--such as "Dog Food for a Year"--might be more appealing to the public and generate increased funds. Discussion followed. One issue might be that the funds raised would have to be restricted to the particular goal and this would limit our spending flexibility.

Terri suggested targeting the mortgage, noting that every \$20,000 raised and applied to the mortgage lowers the payments. These ideas will continue to be explored.

Committee Reports:

**Spay/Neuter program**--see report under Outreach/Fundraising

**AWE**--no report

**Fundraising**--upcoming events MDA motorcycle ride lunch table, Paint Night, Dodgeville Days, Engelhart tour--Details under Outreach/Fundraising. The next Fundraising meeting will be Thursday 7/23 at 6:15 PM.

**Building and Grounds**--The chiller outdoor kennels have been completed and Scott Lind has scheduled a workday on July 18th. Scott will coordinate.

Other issues:

Marcia noted that Terri did a wonderful job on the July newsletter and we are all very grateful for all of her hard work on behalf of ICBS.

Mike and Marcia met with Steve Michek about the Humane Officer situation. An MOU has been sent to Corporate Council and we may be able to get some of the 2015 budgeted funds to help with Humane Officer Training this fall. There continues to be no explanation offered for withholding funds.

The next Justice Meeting will be held August 4th at 6PM at the Courthouse. As many board members as can attend are encouraged to do so. The July meeting had been cancelled.

There continues to be an issue of members of the public walking into the ICBS building to play with the cats and kittens. They are not checking in with the front desk and most have not been trained or approved as volunteers. In another instance, a person showed up and began walking dogs. No one seemed to know who he was but he was familiar with the building and the procedure for walking the dogs. He may have been a volunteer in the past.

Discussion followed and it was felt that members of the public should have to check in with the office staff and volunteers should wear their ID so they can be easily identified. Terri suggested that one volunteer be trained to supervise. Their role would include signing people in and identifying volunteers. Marcia and Terri will work on a job description for "Volunteer Supervisor".

Other suggestions included scheduling specific times for "drop in" visitors--limited to certain hours and/or equipping the door leading from the reception area with an entry code or an alarm. This discussion will be ongoing.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM and went into closed session.