

**Dane County Humane Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
May 16, 2007**

**Call to order: 11:08 A.M.**

**Attendees: Bridget Bush, Pam Tauscher-Coshun, Polly Duchow, Cathy Holmes, Jan Viney, Ellen Markey, Ellyn Mohs.**

**Excused: Gary Godding, John Bloodgood.**

**Other attendees: Pam McCloud Smith**

*Bridget Bush moved to approve the April 2007 board meeting minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Gary Godding. No discussion. Motion carried.*

**Financial Update – Bridget Bush**

***Highlights***

- Memberships were up for last month
- Bark and Wine fundraiser was a success – increased monies raised from last year
- Donations separate from Bark and Wine are down but still up for the year.
- Solicited contributions up
- Mounds donation raised in February (People for Pets month) was received last month
- Legal fees continue to be up
- Investments are down due to line of credit payoff

**Executive Director Update – Pam McCloud Smith**

- A concerned citizen in the Town of Dunn notified DCHS & the Town of Dunn that Julie Dzikowich (Robert Lowrey's wife) has Pit Bulls again
- DCHS is still trying to get money due to us from the Dane County for the Lowrey Pit Bull case. We continue to monitor this and it could be a factor in next years contract agreement
- Pam proposed shelter summer hours and winter hours based on busy times/quiet times during the year.

**Legislative Update – Ellen Markey**

Ellen handed out a draft on the “Proposal to Amend the Wisconsin Statutes Governing the Disposition of Dogs and Other Animals That are Alleged To Have been Trained For or Used In An Organized Animal Fight”. This proposal needs a bill sponsor and lobbyist which costs approximately \$3200.00/month. The board discussed different ways we could raise money for this change in legislation process.

*Cathy Holmes proposed that DCHS allocate \$10,000.00 to start this legislative change process. It was seconded by Jan Viney.*

*Bridget Bush offered a friendly amendment agreeing to accept the motion but increasing the amount to \$20,000.00. Motion amendment was seconded by Ellen Markey. Discussion proceeded with the request that Pam McCloud Smith bring in staff members to assist legislative committee members to make this happen by June 1, 2007. Motion carried.*

**Other Items:**

Annual membership meeting is June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.

The board reviewed the “Vision of the Board of Directors” and made appropriate changes with the legislative initiatives added.

Bridget Bush suggested adding a new category to the Board’s “Skill Matrix” called “Previous DCHS Shelter Experience”. Everyone agreed that was a great addition.

The Board reviewed the DCHS Position Statement on Puppy Mills and amended it to read the following:

**Position Statement – Puppy Mills and Mass Breeding of  
Companion Animals**

**The Dane County Humane Society condemns the existence of “puppy mills” because of the potential for animal suffering and negative impact on the quality of life in the communities we serve.**

**Animals bred and born in puppy mills:**

- **Contribute to the problem of pet overpopulation in many communities**
- **Are prone to health and behavior problems, indiscriminate breeding and no regard to proper genetics**
- **Often are exposed to extreme weather conditions, lack of adequate veterinary care and unclean housing**
- **Can suffer from a lack of human contact, often resulting in improper socialization.**
- **Consume the limited resources of local animal shelters**

*Jan Viney moved to accept this amended position statement from the February 2006 version. Motion seconded by Ellen Markey. No discussion. Motion carried.*

Preliminary discussion started regarding a potential name change of the shelter. Polly Duchow offered to begin doing research on this possibility.

Meeting adjourned: 1:02 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Ellyn Mohs  
DCHS Board Secretary