

Minutes of TLC Humane Society Meeting
January 17, 2019

Call to order: A general meeting of TLC Humane Society (aka Dahlonega Lumpkin County Humane Society) was held at the United Community Bank in Dahlonega, GA, on January 17, 2019, convening at 6 pm, Vice President Gayle Gannaway presiding and Secretary Esther Morgan-Ellis taking minutes.

Board Members in Attendance: Susan Russell, Gayle Gannaway, Esther Morgan-Ellis, Courtney Chandler

General Members in Attendance: Michelle MacKenzie, Sara Henley, Jessie Hartline, Roberta Manzella, Chuck Nickelson, Catherine Nickelson, Marti Carver, SusAn Beaulieu, MaryTess Syfan, Claire Livingston, Mary Monks, Russell Monks

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Gayle Gannaway to approve agenda as written, seconded by Esther Morgan-Ellis. Motion was carried.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the October meeting were distributed and read silently. Motion was made by Marti Carver to approve as written, seconded by Sara Henley. Motion was carried.

Officer Reports:

Executive Report (Gayle Gannaway)

- We have changed the meeting schedule to increase the frequency of general meetings. We will be meeting the third Thursday of every other month.
- There are lots of improvements being made at the shelter.
 - We have installed the new floor in the puppy palace and we have ordered a new door for the upper runs.
 - We plan to have a fundraiser on Facebook for which people can buy items off our wishlist and have them shipped to the shelter.
 - We're talking to a contributor about fencing for the property.
 - We're planning to get some gravel in where the mulch is currently.
 - Mike Russell has made progress on the drainage at the upper runs and the kennels have been trimmed.
 - We're talking about resurfacing the concrete in front of the puppy palace.
 - We acquired an awning to go over the door to the puppy palace.
 - We have gotten an estimate on gutters and windows and are waiting for estimates on drainage ditch construction and cleaning.
 - We've gotten all the junk out of the main building.
 - We are getting estimates for work on the ducts in the attic following damage caused last year.
 - We're also looking in to the possibility of a new puppy palace.
- The Executive Committee met to assign officer roles. Desirae Dubey is President, Gayle Gannaway is Vice President, Susan Russell is Treasurer, and Esther Morgan-Ellis is Secretary.

Animal Services Report (Michelle MacKenzie)

- Adoptions were slow for most of the year, but this was a national trend.
- In 2019 there were 237 intakes, 240 adoptions, 25 returns, 2 deaths due to illness, and 5 euthanasias due to illness.
- We are improving our isolation protocols and have had healthier kittens.
- We regularly transfer out animals, especially puppies and kittens. We do our research to be sure that the facilities are reputable.
- We have a new caregiver, Jessie Hartline.
- So far this year there have been 16 intakes and 14 adoptions. The shelter currently houses 19 adult dogs, 27 puppies, 6 adult cats, and 8 kittens.
- Last year we were able to take in and treat five heartworm positive animals.
- We had a hit and run case and a gunshot case, both doing well.
- The doggy day out program was inaugurated last year and is going well. We have seen less stress in the animals and more adoptions. The program also brings in volunteers.

Financial Report (Susan Russell)

- We had a profit last year of \$9,194.49, which is the most it has been in years.
- Red Barn refunded \$16,351.81 in services.
- Medical and adoption expenses came to \$62,226.83.
- We had the largest income ever from fundraisers, \$24,773.04, including our best Bark in the Park ever.
- This year we will aim to bring in \$24,000 in fundraisers.
- The mortgage came due in October and Gayle Gannaway took over the loan to avoid incurring expenses. She has lowered the interest rate to 3%.
- We were able to pay the caregivers a good Christmas bonus.
- We are no longer getting food donations from Wal-Mart, but PetSmart and community members have stepped in to fill the need and the loss has been less significant than expected. They still let us do our three supply drives a year.
- Motion was made by Sara Henley to approve the budget, seconded by Marti Carver. Motion was carried.

Fundraising (Susan Russell)

- We have scheduled Bark in the Park for October 5. We make most of our money with sponsorships, so we need people to help solicit those. We also need vendors. We are putting together raffle baskets and are interested in big-ticket items.
- We still have about 100 cookbooks left.
- We are the charity for Phi Mu at UNG. We're going to ask them to stand on the end of 400 and collect donations on our behalf during Gold Rush and Bear on the Square.
- We plan to send holiday fliers again. We send out more every year.
- We will once again do Howl O Ween, Jeeps in the Vines, and the Spirit Nights (although Zaxby's is no longer participating).
- We will do Strut Your Mutt to solicit donations from out-of-state family and friends.
- We're considering a new fundraiser at Cavender Creek to replace Woof and Wine.

- We are open to new ideas, but we want to start with what worked in the past.
- We're going to have a fundraising meeting in a few weeks on a Sunday afternoon.
- Michelle is working on an online events calendar.
- We need someone to take charge of contacting the Nugget and Chamber to let them know when our meetings and fundraising events are taking place.

New Business

- None

Old Business

- None

Announcements

- The next meeting will be on March 21 at 6 pm at United Community Bank.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 7 pm.

Approval

- *Not yet approved*