



Independent Cat Society PO Box 735 Westville, IN 46391 (219) 785-4936
Board Meeting: April 4, 2016

A. Welcome and President's remarks

Call to order: 6:07 pm

Present: Joan Hildebrand, Natalie Cebulski, Kay Vasquez, Jocelyn Vereb,
Staci Trekles, Jason Petrovich
Volunteers: Carol Albrecht & Gail Freidan
Committee Chair: Carol Abshire

Absent: Jen Stall, Diana Foster

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of reports and minutes

***** Motion to accept March minutes as presented. Motion 2nd & passed.**

B. Review of month of email motions and acceptance

1 None

D. Approval of Committee Reports

- 1 Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee Report (Natalie Cebulski)
- 2 PR and Communications (?)
- 3 Fundraising (Lori Hlinsky)
- 4 Health and Wellness (Carol Abshire/Paulette Gonzalez)
- 5 Volunteers Judy Dean/Diana Foster)
- 6 Membership (Jocelyn Vereb)
- 7 Foster Care (Donna Daniel)
- 8 Adoptions Joan Hildebrand/Roberta Jocius)
- 9 Admission (Paulette Gonzalez)
10. TNR (Connie Szawara)
11. Human Resources (Stephanie Bradsky)
12. Technology (Staci Trekles)
13. Sponsor-A-Cat (Carol Abshire)
14. Grants (Roberta Jocius)

Reports not submitted at this time include: Human Resources, Fundraising, S-A-C and Health & Wellness & TNR

Discussion: **PR Committee:** Jocelyn Vereb was congratulated on the # of members who recently joined the PR Committee

Membership Committee: Jocelyn explained the animal alert wallet card suggested in the Committee Report. Further questions and discussion centered on potential membership/marketing items such as: Home animal alert window stickers; Miniature candy bar wrappers reflecting ICS; Small ICS labeled packets of candy used as handouts at events.

***** Motion to accept reports as submitted. Motion 2nd and passed.**

E. Announcements and items for information: None

III Action Agenda

A. Old Business

1. Building Committee update

- Joan Hildebrand reported the Committee is still discussing which part of the Building Plan can be implemented. She stated that the current Storage Shed has to be replaced as well as the need for maintaining the

parking lot. The question: "Can current Building Funds be used to purchase a New Shed as well as repair the parking Lot?"

- Judy Dean reported the Review of Board Minutes since 1977(when the Bldg fund was initiated with \$85.00) that donations specifically marked for the Bldg Fund are to be used only for a new Bldg. Also, any Rainbow Garden Brick money is specifically earmarked as Bldg. Fund Money. A new shed, which would be a component of a new bldg. project, could use a portion of the current Bldg Fund Money.
- President Trekles reminded the Committee to come back to the Board with a specific action plan for the Board to make informed decisions.
- Also discussed: Does ICS have enough Money to initiate a New Bldg project or should the Board look at investing a portion of the money?
- Edward Jones rep, Dave Pendergast, was suggested as a potential presenter to the Board to discuss various options to use to increase ICS Money. He worked with the La Porte Park & Rec Department to increase their finances. Stacy will contact Mr Pendergast. Gail Freidan asked if Megan Dean Richter, Executive Director Financial Planning of JP Morgan Chase, Chicago could also be contacted. Judy Dean responded that she would contact Mrs. Richter to determine if she works with non-profit organizations regarding Financial Planning.

2. Benefits of ICS membership:

Discussion by Jocelyn Vereb, Chairperson, continues to center around the various items of recognition which could be sent to those members in the various levels of Corporate membership. See previous discussion under Reports.

3. Updates:

TNR:

- Natalie Cebulski reviewed the concerns/questions she had distributed prior to the Board Mtg. TNT continues to not submit monthly reports. Ms Cebulski is still waiting on TNR receipts which have yet to be submitted.
- It was suggested that a meeting occur between Natalie Cebulski, Dr. Maureen Fehrs, Judy Dean and Connie Szawara occur in the near future at an off-site location to discuss the current and ongoing relationship of TNR with ICS.

Volunteer aprons:

- Orders for both the Khaki and Black apron have been submitted to each vendor. Aprons to be ready for pick up in two weeks. Original order form from MagicSports was given to Natalie for ICS records
- WEFM Michigan City Radio Community Showcase
Potential radio ad presented to the Board by Judy Dean, See attached. Ad will be sent to the Radio Station. If this campaign is successful, Mrs. Dean has many other Radio Ad options to choose from.
- **Volunteer Shifts & Surveys:**
It has been determined that the Tuesday late afternoon Open Shelter Hours are not as productive as suggested. Gail Friedan had suggested Friday evenings from 5:30 – 7:30 pm would be more appropriate. In surveying fellow Adoption Counselors, they too agreed. Gail and Judy Dean have procured Adoption Counselor coverage for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Friday of each month. The 1st Friday is the only coverage time left. Once this is established, the rotation of Counselors will be sent to Kathy

Nielsen for the monthly Status Sheets. Dorothy Ripperdan will work with the Room Parents to determine who will help those Friday hours.

2. New Business:

a. Appeal for Commercial Washer:

Roberta Jocius has written a grant to the Whirlpool-Maytag company looking for a donation of a commercial washer system.

b. Proposed Railroad line going through Westville.

For Information Only: The impact on ICS of a Proposed Rail Road System to & from La Porte County to Southern Wisconsin presented. Public hearings are being held for NW Indiana Counties being affected

C. Open Discussion

- Gail Freidan questioned why pictures of the kittens are not available for viewing on the WEBSITE. Joan Hildebrand responded that often kittens have to wait until a certain weight and age before they can be released and suggested that potential adopters wanting kittens be told to come to the Shelter to see which cats are available. There are 12 week old kittens in the Gift Shop ready for adoption. Gail stated she is answering calls wanting to see kitten pictures a people want to see before they adopt.

Adjournment: 8:25 pm

Next Meeting: Monday May 2, 2016
6 – 8 pm
PNC Rm LSF 170A (Cafeteria Meeting Room)
US 421, Westville, IN

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Dean, ICS Board Secretary

Proposed WEFM Radio Advertisement April, 2016

The Independent Cat Shelter of Westville Indiana is offering Great Bargains on Pre-Owned Cats

All colors makes and models are available

Models 5 years and older are \$50 dollars. a companion is an additional \$25.00

Newer models slightly higher.

Zero financing with no payments

Standard Features:

- 4 paw drive

- 100,000 Purr Warranty

- Made in Indiana

Multi point Certification:

- Vaccinated

- Spayed or Neutered

- Micro Chipped

- Free Vet Visit

- Initial Supply of Food

Showroom Hours: Friday 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Saturdays 10 am to 4pm

Sundays 1 pm to 4 pm

We are located on the Northeast corner of Route 6 and County Line Road in Westville, IN

Hurry in while supplies last.