

THS Board Meeting (#3) Minutes

Tuesday, September 24, 2019, 6:30 pm
11 River Street, Toronto, Ontario

Present: Martin Buckle, Krista Bulmer, Kathy McDonald, Bronwen Morgan, Peter Newell, Emily Pang, Stephen Steele, Angela Young

By Teleconference: Elaine Wong

Regrets: Shelley Austin, David Bronskill, Mark Dilworth, Dominique Rousselle, Christopher Wood

Staff: Jacques Messier, CEO; Claudette Turner, Manager, Executive Department (Recording Secretary)

Special Guest: Barbara Cartwright, CEO, Humane Canada

Malcolm Bernstein called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. He welcomed the Board back from their summer hiatus. He welcomed Barbara Cartwright, CEO of Humane Canada, who would be giving a presentation on Humane Canada to the Board.

1. Regular Business

1.1 THAT the Agenda be approved.

Moved: Krista Bulmer

Seconded: Kathy McDonald

Carried.

1.2 THAT the Minutes of the June 25, 2019 meeting be approved.

Moved: Emily Pang

Seconded: Stephen Steele

Carried.

1.3 THAT the memberships from June 26, 2019 through September 24, 2019 and all timely renewal memberships be approved.

Moved: Peter Newell

Seconded: Kathy McDonald

Carried.

Bronwen Morgan kindly offered to call new Board members.

2. *Presentation by Barbara Cartwright, CEO, Humane Canada*

Barbara Cartwright reviewed the history of the humane movement in Canada. Humane Canada's current vision is "a humane Canada", and its mission is "to drive positive, progressive change to end animal cruelty, improve animal protection, and promote the humane treatment of animals."

To achieve a humane Canada, Humane Canada is working to build a strong, professional industry, encourage an active and engaged government, and committed public by framing the issues, advancing the cause through research, education and advocacy in order to "elevate animal welfare".

Barbara outlined Humane Canada's strategic goals which correlate with the facts that Canadians care deeply about their companion animals; that farm animals are treated humanely; that wildlife is worth protecting for future generations; that federal legislation will protect animals from cruelty, and provide a framework to ensure animals are treated humanely and with respect.

Barbara referenced the significant legislative achievements of the past year. She also noted key Humane Canada initiatives going forward such as a new National Centre for Research into Animal Cruelty; expanding the Violence Link Coalition; strengthening the professionalization of the sector through a new Standards and Accreditation program, which THS has been instrumental in developing; and pursuing collaborations to build institutional capacity for animal welfare in other countries.

Barbara thanked Jacques, the Board and the Toronto Humane Society for their support for Humane Canada's initiatives on behalf of the animals.

Malcolm expressed the Board's appreciation to Barbara for her fine presentation.

3. *CEO Report*

Jacques Messier reviewed the financial statements as of August 31, 2019. Bequest income will significantly improve by the end of September.

He reported that the Society has received a large number of animal transfers in recent weeks.

Jacques provided an update on shelter renovations, including the installation of a new turtle habitat.

He noted that, with a view to the federal election, the Society will be putting animal welfare issues on our social media sites.

Jacques outlined other strategic initiatives and advised that we had offered assistance to shelters in the Bahamas affected by Hurricane Dorian.

4. *Committee Reports*

Animal Welfare Committee – Bronwen Morgan thanked Emily Pang for developing the work plan to review relevant animal welfare policies. The next policies under review will be Capacity for Care and Owner-requested Euthanasia. With respect to the Intake policy, more input will be required.

Bronwen reviewed certain specific animal situations over which the Committee exercised its oversight recently and was pleased to report that all were handled in compliance with the relevant policies. Education seminars are being made available to staff. Malcolm expressed the Board’s appreciation to Bronwen for her excellent work on these issues. Bronwen noted that Phil Nichols’ assistance was invaluable.

Audit and Finance Committee - The Board reviewed the terms of reference for the Audit and Finance Committee. The Governance Committee will discuss qualifications for representation on committees.

4.1 THAT the Terms of Reference for the Audit and Finance Committee be approved as amended.

Moved: Stephen Steele

Seconded: Peter Newell

Carried.

5. *Next Meetings*

Saturday, October 26, 2019 – 9:30 am – 3:00 pm - Board Retreat

Tuesday, October 29, 2019, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 6:30 pm (board/sr. staff dinner)

Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 31, 2020, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 6:30 pm

Tuesday, May 26, 2020, 6:30 pm

6. Adjournment

6.1 THAT the meeting be adjourned (8:30 pm).

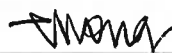
Moved: Krista Bulmer

Seconded: Kathy McDonald

Carried.



Malcolm Bernstein, Chair



Elaine Wong, Secretary

1/27/20

Date

JAN 13 2020

Date