

THS Board Meeting (#8) Minutes

Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 2024, 6:00 pm
By Teleconference

Present: Julie Barac, Malcolm Bernstein, David Bronskill, Krista Bulmer, Damian Creber, Yussef Hafez, Charissa Lai, Adrienne Macdonald, Gary Milakovic, Peter Newell, Josh Shanahan, Nabila Tisha

Regrets: Jennifer Dernek, Mark Dilworth, Alexandre Rochtchine

Staff: Phil Nichols, CEO; Abu Nana, Director of Finance; Claudette Turner, Recording Secretary

Krista Bulmer called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

1. Regular Business

1.1 THAT the Agenda be approved.

MOVED: Krista Bulmer Seconded: Peter Newell ... **Carried.**

1.2 THAT the Minutes of the March 26, 2024 Board meeting be approved.

MOVED: Krista Bulmer Seconded: Peter Newell ... **Carried.**

1.3 THAT the new memberships and all timely renewals be approved.

MOVED: Gary Milakovic Seconded: Julie Barac ... **Carried.**

Julie Barac kindly volunteered to call the new members.

2. Financial Reporting Discussion

Abu Nana reported that the Society's financial performance is in line with the budget. Income from operations is below expectations, but reduced expenses are helping to mitigate the impact. The Society received significant contributions from legacies and bequests, leading to higher cash reserves and overall revenue.

The annual audit is almost complete, and a draft of the financial statements will be presented to the Audit & Finance Committee at their next meeting. The final will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

3. CEO Update

Phil Nichols reviewed the Mission Score Card Report and Analysis for the first quarter of 2024, which provides a substantive overview of the Society's performance against the set objectives in the current operating environment.

Phil advised that several journal articles have been published in the first quarter focused on the barriers to access to care, and solutions to combat these barriers. Two of the reports focus on access to care for companion animals. This work was timely given a new bill brought forward to restructure the provision of veterinary care in Ontario via the establishment of a new college of allied veterinary medical professionals.

Phil noted that demand for local service support continues and illustrates the growing challenges experienced by animal guardians across the city. The Society has also been able to continue shelter support, transporting a group of cats from Northern Ontario in late March.

Bill 171, "An Act to enact the Veterinarian Professionals Act, 2024, and amend or repeal various acts", passed second reading in the Ontario Legislature on March 21, 2024. The Society made well-received comments to the Standing Committee of the Interior. The Board commended the staff on the excellent presentation to the Standing Committee.

The Board congratulated Phil on his comprehensive first quarter presentation.

4. Committee Reports

Audit & Finance – Damian Creber advised that most Committee matters were discussed earlier in the meeting. He noted that the Committee is looking at best options for cash investments. They will be reviewing banking and insurance relationships.

Development – Nabila Tisha advised that Fundraising revenues are currently at 113% of budget, excluding planned giving. Some internal policies will be reviewed. Registration for the golf tournament is doing well. A discussion took place about Paws in the Park and other community events.

Governance – Krista Bulmer suggested that the Board consider what strategic advocacy objectives a potential Advocacy Committee can move forward.

Animal Welfare – Adrienne Macdonald advised that, in addition to changes to the Veterinarians Act, the Committee has been discussing breed-specific legislation. Substantial information has been gathered. The Committee has updated their Terms of Reference and the following motion was proposed:

- 4.1 THAT the updated Animal Welfare Committee Terms of Reference as recommended by the Animal Welfare Committee be approved.

MOVED: Adrienne Macdonald Seconded: Krista Bulmer ... **Carried.**

Human Resources – Yussef Hafez reported that the Committee had received 17 Board nominations for the seven available seats on the Board of Directors. Yussef advised that he will not be able to continue to sit on the Board after the AGM. On behalf of the Board, Krista thanked Yussef for his outstanding contribution to the Board.

5. AGM Planning Process

The Board discussed AGM logistics. The Board discussed the date of record for the AGM and the cut-off date for new members. The following motions were proposed:

- 5.1 THAT the date of record for the AGM be June 30, 2024.

MOVED: Krista Bulmer; Seconded: David Bronskill ... **Carried.**

- 5.2 THAT the cut-off date for new members be June 14, 2024.

MOVED: Krista Bulmer; Seconded: Josh Shanahan ... **Carried.**

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 28, 2024, 6:00 pm

8. In Camera

The Board moved in camera at 7:25 pm and rose at 7:45 pm.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Krista Bulmer, Chair

Gary Milakovic, Secretary

Date

Date