

THS Board Meeting (#7)

Minutes

Tuesday, March 26, 2024, 6:00 pm
By Teleconference

Present: Julie Barac, Malcolm Bernstein, David Bronskill, Krista Bulmer, Damian Creber, Jennifer Dernek, Mark Dilworth, Yussef Hafez, Adrienne Macdonald, Gary Milakovic, Peter Newell, Alexandre Rochtchine, Josh Shanahan, Nabila Tisha

Regrets: Charissa Lai

Staff: Phil Nichols, CEO; Abu Nana, Director of Finance; Carol Boulding, Director, People and Culture; Claudette Turner, Recording Secretary

Krista Bulmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 February 27, 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: Krista Bulmer Seconded: Gary Milakovic ... **Carried.**

Gary Milakovic kindly volunteered to call the new members.

2. Financial Reporting Discussion

Abu Nana reported that, overall, the Society is on target with its revenue and expenditure goals for the beginning of the year, with minor fluctuations in both categories. Although bequest income was below budget at the end of February, this has been more than compensated for in

March. Revenue from Public Veterinary Services was less than projected, but this was balanced by decreased expenses.

3. CEO Update

Phil Nichols advised that the annual audit would begin shortly.

He reported on the Ontario Government's announcement of the new Veterinary Professionals Act, 2024, under the Enhancing Professional Care for Animals Act. He confirmed that there was no issue with the Society operating a public veterinary clinic. Phil is working with the OSPCA and other stakeholders to improve accessible care in the sector and is trying to obtain a meeting with the Minister.

There has been much media attention about an incident involving a dog that seriously injured a child in a local park. The Society is working to raise awareness about dog safety. The Board congratulated Phil on his handling of the media surrounding this issue. David Bronskill offered his assistance in approaching Councillor Paula Fletcher regarding the dangerous dog by-law.

4. Approval of Policies

- 4.1 THAT the Animal Socialization, Enrichment and Behaviour Policy be approved.

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

- 4.2 THAT the Megan Whitney Memorial Bursary Policy be approved.

MOVED: Malcolm Bernstein Seconded: Julie Barac ...
Carried.

- 4.3 THAT the Purchasing & Approvals Policy be approved as amended, subject to any concerns expressed by the Board following distribution of the amended policy.

MOVED: Damian Creber Seconded: Gary Milakovic **... Carried.**

- 4.4 THAT the Over Budget Requisition Policy be approved as amended, subject to any concerns expressed by the Board following distribution of the amended policy.

MOVED: Krista Bulmer Seconded: Damian Creber **... Carried.**

5. Volunteer Survey Review

Carol Boulding reviewed the results of the volunteer survey that was undertaken last October, shortly after a period of organizational changes. One of the emergent themes was that

volunteers want to feel useful and needed. Volunteers would also appreciate enhanced interaction and communication with staff. The Board discussed ways that the volunteer experience could be more rewarding.

The Board thanked Carol for her detailed presentation.

6. Committee Reports

Audit & Finance – Damian Creber advised that Committee matters were discussed earlier in the meeting and that the Committee has a full calendar ahead.

Animal Welfare – Adrienne Macdonald reported that animal welfare policy changes were approved earlier in the meeting. The Committee is working on its terms of reference, language and tighter alignment with the Society's bylaw.

Development – Nabila Tisha reported that planned giving and corporate revenue streams are performing well. A golf tournament is set for September 17 in Markham. An appeal issued this week is receiving a good response from donors.

Governance – Krista Bulmer advised that, with respect to the Veterinarians Act, potential concerns have been allayed. Other Committee matters would be discussed in camera.

Human Resources – Yussef Hafez reported that the Committee had discussed succession planning. The Nominations Committee for the AGM consists of Nabila Tisha, Josh Shanahan and Yussef.

7. AGM Planning Process

The Board discussed AGM logistics. The meeting will be held virtually this year on September 10, 2024. The following motions were proposed:

- 7.1 THAT Weir Foulds be confirmed as legal counsel and depository for paper proxies.

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

- 7.2 THAT GetQuorum be confirmed as the scrutineer of electronic proxies and host of the virtual AGM on September 10, 2024.

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

The AGM Steering Committee will consist of Josh Shanahan, Krista Bulmer, David Bronskill and Gary Milakovic. No bylaw amendments will be proposed.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 6:00 pm

10. In Camera

The Board moved in camera at 7:50 pm and rose at 8:20 pm.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Mary Krista
Bulmer

Digitally signed by Mary
Krista Bulmer
Date: 2024.05.03 13:19:44
-04'00'

Krista Bulmer, Chair

Gary Milakovic

Digitally signed by Gary
Milakovic
Date: 2024.05.03 12:59:32
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Gary Milakovic, Secretary

May 3, 2024

Date

May 3, 2024

Date

