

THS Board Meeting (#1)

Minutes

Tuesday, January 28th 2025, 6:00 pm
By Teleconference

Present: Julie Barac, David Bronskill, Damian Creber, Mark Dilworth, Liz Everett, Charissa Lai, Adrienne Macdonald, Alexandre Rochtchine, Josh Shanahan, Nabila Tisha, Alexandra Bratton, Roxanne Yanofsky

Staff: Phil Nichols, CEO; Abu Nana, Director of Finance, Lauralee Dorst – Note Taker

Regrets: Christina Di Rosa, Gary Milakovic, Marcie Somers,

Adrienne Macdonald called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

1. Regular Business

1.1 THAT the Agenda be approved.

MOVED: Liz Everette Seconded: Nabila Tisha ... **Carried.**

1.2 THAT the Minutes of the December moved to February

MOVED: Seconded:

1.3 THAT Board Members approve new members.

MOVED: Nabila Tisha Seconded: Alexandra Kelso**Carried**

Volunteers to call the new members this month - Alexandra Bratton will call the new members and welcome them

2. Finance Update

- **December Financial Statements:**

- Strong performance from major giving, resulting in a higher-than-projected figure.
- Net Position: Close to \$4 million (may vary by a couple of hundred thousand due to additional end-of-year funds).
- **Audit:**
 - Scheduled from March 24th to April 15th.
 - First draft to be presented at the April Board meeting.
- **Acknowledgment:**
 - Kudos to all the staff for a great year!

3. CEO Update

Year-End and 2024 Performance:

- Congratulations to the entire team for their continuous oversight and rightsizing of the organization.
- Significant year in bequests, indicating positive direction for the organization.

Staff Development:

- Successful Purpose and Learning Day.
- Nablia presented new staff benefits.

Industry Update:

- CBC and 5th Estate exposé on Veterinary Care and the corporatization of the vet industry, highlighting increasing costs.
- Potential impact expected in the coming months.

Q&A:

Phil answered board questions.

General Business

4. Insurance Approval

Review Process:

- The insurance plan has been under review for over 8 months.
- Current provider has become nonresponsive.
- Conducted an RFP process and researched new companies.
- Legal review of the top two companies completed.
- Phil and Abi provided a comparison of the two companies.

Endorsement:

- Motion to endorse the selected insurance company.
- Outcome: Approved by the whole board.

Acknowledgment:

- The Board thanked the Animal Welfare Committee for its excellent work on the Euthanasia policy.

5. Position Statement: DOLA**Presenter: Adrienne**

- Provided an overview of the DOLA.

Committee Update:**Presenter: Liz**

- Update from the committee formed to develop a position statement.
- Aim to align with peer organizations and have a statement on the website.
- AWC endorsed the position statement.
- Ongoing discussions about the language and advocacy aspects.

Board Discussion:

- Debated language around "all animals" vs. "domestic animals."
- Ensured the language reflects the organization's mission and vision.
- Engaged in a comprehensive conversation about the Position Statement.

5.1 Move to Approve the Anti-BSL Position Statement: DOLA

Moved: Liz Evertte

Seconded: Andrienne MacDonald

6. Imagine Canada Certification Progress – Process Presentation for Review

Certification Process:

- **Presenter: Phil Nichols**
- **Review and Next Steps:**
 - Discussed at the Governance Committee.
 - Brought to the board for review and consideration before the February Board meeting.
 - Emphasized the importance of pursuing the certification process.

Board Engagement:

- Board members asked questions and engaged in the conversation.
- A reminder will be sent to keep it top of mind for Board members.
- Feedback is recommended within 2 weeks to Phil to allow sufficient time for review and preparation.6.1

No motion required – place on agenda for February board meeting

Moved:

Seconded:

7. Committee Reports

Animal Welfare – Liz Evertt reported on the incoming committee reports, noting a positive shift in the numbers. The BSL Statement has been endorsed, and the next steps involve determining the subsequent position statement. Liz emphasized the importance of having factual statements on our website.

Facilities Committee- in camera

Audit & Finance – Damian Creber reported see above from Abu.

Development – Nabila Tisha reported an incredible end to the year. She highlighted the work that still needs to be done and the importance of maintaining sustainability for donations. Nabila also provided an update on our donor calls during the Canada Post strike and the efforts made to ensure continued support.

Human Resources – Julie Barac nothing new to report

Governance – **Adrienne MacDonald** Josh and Adrinne have further conversations around Governance.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 25th, 2025, 6:00 pm

10. In Camera

The Board moved in camera at 6:52 pm

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at

Adrienne Macdonald, Chair

Gary Milakovic, Secretary

Date

Date