

TOWN OF BRANFORD

DAN COSGROVE ANIMAL COMMISSION MINUTES

May 19, 2020

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Present: Commission members Marilyn Valette, Gretchen Dale, Eunice Lasala, Stephanie Malkin, Eric Maass, Laure VanWilgen, Melodie O'Connor

Guests: Laura Burban, Jennifer Aniskovich, Shirley McCarthy, Greg Ames

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM

Minutes of the last meeting: Gretchen Dale made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Melody O'Connor seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

SHELTER UPDATE: Laura Burban gave an update of what has been going on at the shelter during these last two months of COVID19. The shelter has been receiving many phone calls every day for people asking for help with medical, food, etc. and the staff has been very busy helping these callers. They have had quite a few abandon animals the last few weeks. The shelter currently has 14 Dogs, 6 adoptions, 30-40 cats and kittens and 8 bunnies. There are no volunteers coming into the shelter at this time. Full time staff are all working and some part time staff are working when needed. Amber, a full time staff member is on loan working at the Counselling Center.

SHELTER CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Jennifer Aniskovich gave an update of the capital campaign status. We continue to work successfully toward our capital campaign goal . The public phase of the campaign was set to start now, but has been delayed due to the Covid 19 which has delayed the BOF and RTM budget ratification. The public phase will begin in July and will run thru December. Jennifer and the CC committee are working on ways to developing a landing page to access our donors. It will include peer to peer, and other ways of fund raising since we

cannot have a Kick Off party in July. There was discussion about Woofstock and if it would be virtual this year and if so we need to build the Capital Campaign into that.

Jennifer discussed that John Dendas has underwritten a video about the shelter and gave everyone the link to it. It clearly tells all the challenging situations of the current shelter including the inability to social distance anywhere in the shelter.

Laura gave a review of the Grants for the Capital Campaign and the time restraints they each have.

Melodie O'Connor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephanie Malkin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Dale

Secretary

Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter Commission