

**ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY, INC.
8 DODD ROAD
NEW MILFORD, CT 06776**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2014**

Attendees: Sue Armstrong; Jacelyn Basto; Janet Bloch; Pam Booska; Renee Gardner; Tara Llewellyn; Kelsey Lord; Karen Marrotte; Michelle Scott; Ann Stauble
Guest: Pam Southworth, Board of Trustees

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm

Secretary's Report - Karen Marrotte

- A motion was passed to accept the minutes from the March 10 meeting.

Treasurer's Report - Michelle Scott

- Michelle presented the three financial reports. The Investment report shows the big picture which was slightly down from last month due to the market being down. Hopefully the stock market will be better next month.
- The Profit & Loss statement showed the first quarter of 2014. Our income was slightly less than we expected, however, our expenses were less than budgeted. A motion was passed to accept all three of the financial reports.

President's Report - Janet Bloch

- We will not be hosting Maddie's Fund this year.
- Instead we will concentrate on the CT Foundation - Give Local event on May 6-7. This is a 24 hour online donation event that is driven via social media. All monies collected will be enhanced by local and national funds. We will be hosting a Car Cruise with Paradise Cruisers. There will be free hot dogs and soda for the attendees. The shelter computers will be available to take credit card donations. Post cards have been sent to residents of Roxbury, Washington and Bridgewater (approximately 4,000 postcards). Roxbury Library will host a wine and cheese gathering on May 5 from 5:00 - 6:00 pm to promote the event. All donations must be made between noon on May 6 until noon on May 7. We are hoping for a large check from Give Local by the first week in June.
- We have two open positions on the Board. The first is the Director, Fundraising vacated by Tracy Brindle as she moved to PA to be closer to her family. The second is the Director, Public Relations and Marketing vacated by Jill Olejniczak as

she decided to return to school. We will be having a Special Meeting immediately following the Membership meeting to see if we have any nominees for either position. We discussed breaking up these positions into smaller pieces so people could focus on smaller events rather than the entire year. Hopefully members will volunteer to help with Dog Days or Give Local, etc.

- Janet and Tara Llewellyn attended a 3 day Northeast Conference in Stowe, VT. The seminars will be on their website. Approximately 250 people from the New England area attended the conference. We made a lot of contacts with other shelters, about our size, and with the same problems that we have, i.e., too many kittens.

Vice President's Report - Diane Saraceni

- No word from the Town on the road sign for the corner of Dodd and Danbury Roads.
- Melissa McDonald is a college student that has experience in grant writing. She would like to help us. Diane will be sending her a list of our wants and needs, i.e., maintenance. We will see if Melissa has any different leads for grants.
- The AWS cookbook will proceed after the Give Local event. There is no charge to submit a recipe. Restaurants will also be submitting recipes and taking ads to help pay for the printing costs.

Shelter Manager - Renee Gardner

- Maintenance
 - The grass on the front lawn is dying. We will have to get someone from a local garden supply company to come over and advise us on what to do.
- Shelter report as of March 31, 2014

	<u>Cats</u>	<u>Dogs</u>
In house	53	18
Adopted	17	9
Foster Care	4	3
Taken In	16	12

Director, Public Relations and Marketing

- Jill Olejniczak has resigned and will be returning to school.

Director, Fundraising - Vacant

Education Committee - Robin Carey

- Robin is out of town, travelling for work. She has nothing to report right now.

New Business

- 2015 Calendar
 - Janet Childs and Donna Coulter have offered to design the calendar again this year. A suggestion was made to include holidays on the calendars.
- Diane along with two of our Board of Trustee members have been discussing a breakfast with a silent auction as a fundraiser. We would like to sell tables for 10 people to local companies.
- A new video made for AWS named Tiger's Tale will be used for promotions. A dog named Tiger came to the shelter as a stray and has been placed as a therapy dog in Shady Knolls Health Center in Seymour. Tiger lives at the home and has his own room! This video was a gift from Chestnut Hill Enterprises, Inc. The filming and the script was done by Joe Avalar. We will use this video at the Give Local event.
- Brookfield radio station 105.5 will be sponsoring Pet of the Week featuring an animal from AWS. Renee, Kelsey and Tara will take turns bringing a dog or cat down to the radio station for an interview. The spot can be heard on Monday mornings and the featured pet will be on their website. So far we have had good luck in placing the featured pet. Thank you 105.5!

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Marrotte