

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

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MARCH 9, 2015**

Attendees: J. Bloch; R. Carey; A. Gantert; R. Gardner; K. Marrotte; D. Saraceni;
M. Scott; E. Simo; A. Tryon-Crozier

The meeting began at 7:35 pm.

Secretary's Report - Karen Marrotte

- The last Membership meeting that was held was on November 10, 2014 due to inclement weather. The meeting minutes from November was accepted.

Treasurer's Report - Michelle Scott

- Michelle presented the Board of Trustees copy of the financial reports. The Board of Trustees do not want to see all the categories and, therefore, the report is a slightly shorter version. Michelle apologized for not having the entire report. The reports were accepted as written.

President's Report - Janet Bloch

- We having been looking for another software program that is more user friendly to our needs. Mike Bloch spoke to Island Software and found out that there are modules that we are entitled to because we carry a service contract with them. It also entitles us to training sessions. Hands-on training is being scheduled for both the staff and the Board of Directors.
- Renee Gardner and Janet will be attending a three day conference in New Hampshire on April 11-13, with the New England Federation for Humane Societies. They attended this conference last year and it was very helpful to our shelter. They also made contacts with employees of other shelters the same size as ours.
- Our next meeting will need to move to April 20, due to the conference.

Vice President's Report - Diane Saraceni

- In December, we attended Holiday in the Depot which is held in the Washington Depot Town Hall. Diane felt that we should not attend this event again in 2015 as we did not get the response that we had in 2014.

- Diane has finalized a 50th Anniversary meeting planned for next month.
- We now have a revised Event Proposal form that will be used when scheduling any event. It states the Chair and Co-Chair names, time, place, how many volunteers, etc.

Director, Public Relations and Marketing - Amy Gantert

- Our Cat Open House placed eight cats into permanent homes. We offered a \$50 gift certificate to each adoptee. The bake sale was a success as usual. We made a profit of \$983.
- We are looking forward to Give Local again this year. The event will take place on May 5-6, 2015. A Team Meeting is planned for March 10.
- The Guidestar.org is a charity navigator. We have been upgraded to a silver rating and are hoping with a good turnout for Give Local we will be upgrade again to a gold rating.
- Cynthia Newby is working on obtaining lists of licensed dog owners in our towns. We will be able to solicit the families and tell them of upcoming AWS events.
- AWS is now part of the Petco Partnership. We will select dates and have a table in the store and talk about our adoptions/events.
- We will be holding the 2nd Annual AWS Breakfast at Candlewood Valley Country Club on October 23, 2015. Art Cumming and Tom Mulvihill are the Chair and Co-Chair.

Shelter Manager - Renee Gardner

- Maintenance
 - We need to change several light bulbs.
 - There has been so much ice in the outside kennels this winter that 20 out of 20 runs were not useable this winter.
- Shelter Report for the month of February, 2015.

	<u>Cats</u>	<u>Dogs</u>
In-House	43	12
Taken-In	15	12
Adopted	15	18
Foster		3

Education Coordinator - Robin Carey

- Barbara Levitt held a Red Rover presentation at the Washington Primary School to first and second graders. Barbara brought her personal dog for demonstration. Other presentations are scheduled for the spring.

- Robin spoke to an AARP group who would like to make donations to AWS for the animals.

New Business

- We have been advertising on our website and on facebook for the Volunteer Coordinator position for non-shelter volunteers. A non-shelter volunteer is someone that can help us with events and be a representative for the shelter at places such as Petco or Agway. Anyone interested should contact Renee Gardner. The responsibilities are: training of non-shelter volunteers, coordinating orientation programs, planning, maintaining the database and, the most important, recruiting volunteers. This person is also expected to attend our monthly meeting and report on the volunteer program.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Marrotte