

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

**OCTOBER 12, 2015
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Attendees: D. Armstrong; J. Bloch; A. Gantert; R. Gardner; K. Marrotte; G. Rynning;
D. Saraceni; M. Scott; E. Simo

The meeting began at 7:40 pm.

Secretary's Meeting - Karen Marrotte

- The September 14, 2015 minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report - Michelle Scott

- We have changed the name of the Restricted Account, which was originally set up for the expansion/training center, to the Capital Improvement Fund.
- The budget is on schedule and where we predicted. We will not be taking any money from our account for October, November and December.

President's Report - Janet Bloch

- Thank you to Robin Carey and Karen Marrotte for chairing our Dog Days event on September 26. There were lots of vendors and activities, however, the attendance was lower than it has been in past years. All was in place with organization and publicity but there were many competing events in the community.
- We will be making changes to the outside of the building where the kennels are located. For the past two years, we have had terrible trouble with ice dams. By extending the roof an additional 12 feet and to the fence line, hopefully will solve the problem.
- We will be having the last Thrift Shop Sale on October 24, for this year. We are hoping to clear out what is in the white barn to make room for the additional items we will be receiving all winter. We will still have crates, carriers and shirts in the lobby for sale.
- Our Second Annual Breakfast will be held on October 23, at the Candlewood Valley Country Club from 7:30 am to 9:00 am.

- The 2016 calendars are available. Thanks to Janet Childs and Donna Cloutier for putting the calendars together. We had many new faces this year. The calendars are \$15.
- Our November meeting will be held at the New Milford Railroad Station at 7:30 pm. This will be our annual meeting where elections and voting on the budget are held. This year we will be voting for the positions of Vice President; Treasurer; Director, Public Relations and Marketing; and Director, Fundraising. Diane Saraceni, Michelle Scott and Amy Gantert will be on the ballot. The 2016 budget will be on the website for review before the meeting.

Vice President - Diane Saraceni

- The tile project will be available soon online. The tiles will be available in the lobby so donors can see the quality of the tile before ordering. Amy will make sure the link is on the website.

Shelter Manager - Renee Gardner

- We had no maintenance issues this month.
- We are full! All the kennels are full and we are getting kittens now. Usually the kittens come in the spring.
- According to the Department of Agriculture, there are lots of hoarding cases in our area. We will be receiving three Labs from one location. Animal Control stated that there are no records of any vaccinations. Also nine puppies will be coming to the shelter on October 13. Our medical expenses are high. We are hoping for TNR donations to help with the situation. An adult cat that came out of a situation a while ago, needs a cat scan. This procedure is approximately \$5,000. Joanne has this story posted on Facebook.
- Shelter Report as of September 30, 2015

	<u>Cats</u>	<u>Dogs</u>
In-House	71	22
Adopted	18	23
New	18	10
Foster Care	6 kittens	2
Died	Speedy	

Director, Public Relations and Marketing - Amy Gantert

- Amy has been working on both the breakfast and the tile project.
- On October 3-4, Petco had an adoption weekend. For every animal adopted that weekend, AWS would receive \$50 from Petco. Two volunteers at a time to man

the table worked out best. If anyone is interested in helping occasionally at an event at Petco, please contact John Paul at the shelter. It is lots of fun talking to all the pet owners and seeing all the friendly dogs coming through Petco. AWS also brings dogs down who are available for adoption.

- The President's letter is just about ready to be mailed. You should be receiving your copy by mid-November. The letter is be talking about a monthly giving program.
- Amy was contacted by Pat Steier at PS Gallery. This gallery has been in Litchfield for 30 years and holds fundraisers for nonprofits. She would like to hold a "raining cats and dogs" event from mid-November through the end of December. Several artists have already said they would donate 10% of their sales.

Education Coordinator - OPEN

- If anyone is interested in going to local schools and teaching about shelters and a spay and neuter program, please contact Renee at the shelter. Shelter animals are invited to these events.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted by,

Karen Marrotte