

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

**NOVEMBER 9, 2015
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
NEW MILFORD RAILROAD STATION**

Attendees: D. Armstrong; J. Basto; J. Bloch; M. Bloch; P. Booska; A. Gantert; R. Gardner; K. Marrotte; D. Moore; T. Mulvihill; C. Newby; G. Ryring; D. Saraceni; M. Scott; E. Simo; P. Southworth

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm.

Secretary's Report - Karen Marrotte

- The minutes from our October 12, 2015 meeting were accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report - Michelle Scott

- We are ahead of where we thought we would be for this time of year. Our Income is at 103% while our expenses are at 94%. We believe we are in good shape to make our budget for 2015.
- We had mentioned at a previous meeting that we would not be taking from our Investment fund for the months of October, November and December. However, it looks like we might have to take some money depending on how the funds come in from the President's letter.
- The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

President's Report - Janet Bloch

- The construction of the overhangs for the outside kennels is in full swing and should be completed soon. The weather has been cooperating and was a very big concern.
- Our Pet Thrift Shop had a successful year. We will continue to sell gently used crates and carriers in the Lobby. We recently received five new crates in one day!
- The Second Annual Breakfast was a huge success. Special thanks goes to Art Cummings; Tom Mulvihill; Pam Southworth; Cynthia Newby and Amy Gantert for the months of hard work to make this what it is. Congratulations to all!
- The 2016 calendars are here. They are \$15 and can be purchased by coming to the shelter or online at our website.

- Both Janet and Renee were interviewed by Unlocking Litchfield. This is a website featuring local events and businesses.
- The Education Coordinator position is open if anyone is interested in going to local schools and presenting a program about shelters, pet care, etc.
- There will be no AWS December meeting so that everyone can spend more time doing all the things that keeps us busy this time of year. Happy holidays to everyone.

Vice President's Report - Diane Saraceni

- Just to follow up on the tile project. Diane and Amy Gantert will have the link put up on the website.
- We still have one outstanding grant that we have not heard from. Most of the grants do not reply and we cannot contact them to see what the status is. Tom Mulvihill and Diane have been trying to identify a grant writer that can take us to a higher level.

Director, Public Relations and Marketing

- The President's Letter is at the mailers and should be going out this week. You should be seeing it in your mailbox shortly. There were 9,100 names on the list, which consisted of our Membership and names from the dog license list from each town. After reviewing the list and taking out the duplicates, we still had approximately 8,500 names.
- As Diane mentioned, the tile project will be on the website this week.
- We have created the AWS' Caring Circle which is for our monthly gift program and will be used for medical issues.
- Future Programs
 - J. MacLaughlin, a woman's clothing store in Washington Depot, will have a wine and cheese evening. The portion of the proceeds will come to AWS.
 - There will be an art show in Litchfield at the PS Gallery on the Green. The show is named "It's Raining Cats and Dogs" and will run from the end of November through December 31. A portion of the sales will come to AWS. Some of the artists will donate their entire sale to AWS.
 - On Thanksgiving weekend, there will be a local artisans show at the New Milford Railroad Station. AWS will be the beneficiary of that show.

Shelter Manager - Renee Gardner

- Maintenance
 - There was a small electrical issue in the past month. Work completed.

- The construction of the overhang is coming along.
- A panel of glass in Cat Room #1 has cracked and has been replaced.
- The Animal Report as of October 31, 2015

	<u>Cats</u>	<u>Dogs</u>
In-House	63	22+9 puppies
New	20	12
Adopted	23	17
Foster Care	0	3
Returned to Owner	1	

- One of our longest volunteers, John Paul Koellner, has stepped up for the Volunteer Coordinator position. He did a very good job at the latest Petco event. Our adoptions have increased since we have partnered with Petco. We have received a check in the amount of \$450. from Petco's round-up policy.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

- A vote was held with the following results:
 - Diane Saraceni, Vice President
 - Michelle Scott, Treasurer
 - Amy Gantert, Director, Public Relations and Marketing
 - 2016 Budget - passed

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Karen Marrotte