

**Friends of the Georgetown Animal Shelter
Board Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2021**

Diane called the meeting to order at 6:05. Everyone was in attendance except Susan Jelmini-Haynes. A quorum was present.

Brandy Cichoci the new shelter vet joined us. She gave a brief presentation about her professional experience, her progress at the shelter, and how FOGAS' contributions have impacted the animal at the shelter.

Brandy attended Purdue University graduating in 2012. She completed rotating internships and further specialized by completing a residency in small animal surgery. She has been a clinical professor at Purdue and a surgeon at a private veterinary practice. Brandy moved to Texas after the practice was bought by a corporation.

Brandy and shelter staff currently complete 15-20 surgeries during a typical surgery day. They have recently worked to ensure that the shelter is more aligned to ASV standards thus resulting in a better standard of care. The animals now receive better pain control since multimodal analgesia plans have been implemented. The plans are both safer and more effective as smaller doses of individual drugs need to be administered. The animals at the shelter are now receiving veterinary care more regularly.

FOGAS funds have provided: exhaust fans in the cat area, a new autoclave, surgical packs for every animal that include masks, gowns, and gloves, a monitor that measures blood pressure, O2, and performs an ECG on anesthetized animals.

Secretary's Report:

JoAnna made a motion to approve October's minutes as presented. Mary seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report:

JoAnna presented October's financial records. The ending balance in our checking account was \$17,138.30. Our savings account holds \$90,042.11 and our Facebook account holds \$25. JoAnna transferred \$5,000 from our savings account into our checking account in anticipation of upcoming expenses (autoclave, exhaust fans, and Amplify Austin). Our \$15,000 contribution towards the vet salary was made.

The Pet Ponderosa memorial brick has been purchased.

We are currently in need of an additional co-signer due to Naomi's resignation. Joanna Green made a motion for Mary Treuter to be co-signer. Sharon seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Mary made a motion to approve October's financial records as presented. Nigel seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Shelter Update:

April reported that at the last Shelter Advisory Board meeting grants were discussed. April is asking that FOGAS consider being more proactive about obtaining grant money. The shelter and FOGAS will begin working together to seek opportunities and learn more about the grant writing process.

April presented a Memorandum of Understanding. The purpose of this document was discussed and she asks that board members read over it in preparation of further discussion next month.

Committees:

Newsletter:

Nigel reported that the next newsletter will feature an interview with Brandy, the shelter vet. Amplify Austin, Chulo, and the new exhaust fans will be mentioned as well.

Membership:

Sharon reported that we currently have 29 active members. We have had no new members since last month. The next membership drive opportunity occurs the first weekend of December at The Christmas Stroll. At this time the shelter has reserved a booth, but does not anticipate participating. They would be able to provide volunteers if needed. Sharon will look into ordering additional T-shirts to sell at this event.

New Business:

Last month much of our business was conducted through email. We were able to act quickly because board members were diligent about checking and responding. Diane asks that we continue this good practice.

Diane will be in charge of our FOGAS Facebook page. She has set a goal of posting at least once a week. It was suggested that she repost posts made by the shelter (Stray of the Day, Adoption stories) to increase our engagement.

According to our bylaws we should have between 9-11 board members. We currently have 9 so we are in need of 2 people. Please think about possible nominations. We are also in need of a VP as Naomi has stepped down. Our bylaws state that this position should be filled quickly.

We need to begin working on our Amplify Austin campaign.

Kendra Scott in the Domain contacted us about a possible fundraiser. They mentioned the format being either a pop up or a percentage of a day's sales.

Mulligans has also offered to host an event. The last event they hosted went well so Diane will be in contact with them.

Diane will work on the venue feedback Rentsch requested and will ensure it gets to Linda.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Hinds, Secretary