

**Friends of the Georgetown Animal Shelter
Board Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2021**

Diane Murray, FOGAS president, called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. All in attendance except for Susan Jelmini-Haynes. A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report:

Mary Treuter made a motion to approve November's minutes as presented. Sharon Buford seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report:

JoAnna Green presented November's financial records. The ending balance in our checking account was \$3,811.63. Our savings account holds \$90,042.11 and our Facebook account holds \$25.00. Our Vanguard account went down \$200.00. We had more expenses than usual this month. We spent \$16,674.03 (see financial records for specifics).

The Christmas Stroll was successful. We raised \$2182.99 through t-shirt sales, donations, membership dues, and Naomi's grab bags.

Looking at past years' records JoAnna determined we need to raise \$20-30,000 to cover expenses. This year we raised more than we spent. This is a big accomplishment as things are still greatly affected by Covid.

Nigel Wingate motioned to approve the financial records as presented. Sharon Buford seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

New Members:

Two individuals were presented as potential new board members.

Elizabeth Hinds nominated Debbie Brand. Debbie has owned several small businesses and is an animal advocate. Sharon seconded the motion and the nomination was approved by the board.

Diane Murray nominated Mika Miller. Mika is a dog walker and trainer at the shelter. JoAnna Green seconded the nomination and it was approved by the board.

Shelter Update:

April Haughey reports that the shelter took in 62 dogs and 45 cats this month. 27 of each were adopted out. 25 animals were returned to their owners. The shelter's live return rate was 92.6%. Space is still an issue as the shelter is over max capacity.

2021 Year in Review:

Membership:

Sharon Buford reported that FOGAS initiated memberships in Feb. 2020. We started 2021 with 23 active members. As of Dec. 6, 2021 we have added 18 new members for a total of 41 members. 7 memberships expired leaving 34 active members. These 41 memberships generated \$5,730 for FOGAS.

In 2022 we need to continue to identify ways of increasing memberships, plan a membership/volunteer get together, begin using member volunteers, and reach out to expired members.

Website:

Sharon Buford reported that FOGAS began revamping the website in 2019. This new version was launched in 2020 right as Covid hit. In January 2021 Road Warrior Creative was hired to provide website and newsletter training. This training was very helpful.

In 2022 the website needs updated photos of the shelter, people, and events. In the future a blog could be added, but it would need to be used regularly so it doesn't become outdated.

Newsletter:

Nigel reported that the newsletter has been published 4 times this year. It has been challenging to get content so Nigel requests the board submit ideas and pictures.

Successes in 2021:

Fundraisers were held
Quality newsletter published regularly
Amplify Austin participant
Website updated regularly

Challenges in 2021:

Using the long range plan appropriately to plan ahead for events.
Finding more opportunities to grow our membership
Social media
Attendance/participation at events

New Avenues to Explore in 2022:

Apply for grants
Grow our presence on social media
Seek out more events we can be a part of

Mary Treuter motioned we adjourn. JoAnna seconded the motion and it was approved by the board. Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Hinds, secretary