

E.C.A.S.- Minutes from meeting held at Hillman library on 01/11/07.

The following people were present:

Mary Hubbard
Pauline Hancock
Robin Smiley
Chuck Ruhl
Carol Young
Pat Crawford

David Hancock
Maggie Tatum
Jim Buckingham
Sharon Rickard
Tom Young

*Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

*Minutes from January meeting posted on our web site and approved. Copies from Jan. meeting handed out to those who didn't view them on web site.

*Treasurer Report- Mary Hubbard- Income for December '06 was \$9427.30. After expenses it was \$7106.77. Holiday mailing thru Dec. 31, '06 was \$6874.00. Our total assets at this time are \$162,785.20.

*Membership Report- Pat Crawford- Total active members at this time are 144 up to date. We have 115 inactive members. We're in the process of sending out a form to these people stating they have until March 31, '07, to renew. We have 97 donors on our list. We'll send them all a newsletter to see if any will become members. If not, we'll still keep them on our donor list, since they donate each year. We have 10 family memberships at present. We are also in the process of sending out a new type of membership form this year in order to try and get people to renew as well as recruit new members. It would be nice if people brought a friend with them to our monthly meetings. Pat is sending a newsletter to those people who made a sizeable donation to our X-mas mailing in the hope they'll become members.

*Kennel Report- Pauline Hancock- December '06 took in 14 dogs. There were 8 adoptions, 7 returned to owner, 1 transferred to another shelter. There are currently 8 dogs in kennel. Year end report:

Dogs in- 2006- 150	2005- 158
Ret'd to ownr- 2006- 78	2005- 77
Dogs Adopted- 2006- 63	2005- 58
Transferred to other shelters, rescue groups, etc.- 2006- 20	2005- 28
Euthanized- 2006- 3	2005- 2

*Spay/Neuter Report-Linda Buckingham- There were 4 dogs altered in Dec. '06, and the bill was \$239.00. Remaining grant balance is \$203.00. There are 3 appointments scheduled in Jan. '07 to date. Linda is leaving the spay/neuter position after many years. A "Certificate of Appreciation" was given to Jim Buckingham to present to Linda thanking her for her dedication and service to the animals and the shelter. We've received our new grant funding in the amount of \$15,000.00 which can be used for small dogs as

well as the larger dogs over 45 lbs. Our total grant monies received to date is \$40,000.00. Sally Brand, a former member of Lewiston's "Best Friends" has expressed an interest in taking over the spay/neuter coordinator position. A motion to accept Sally as the new spay/neuter coordinator was made, seconded, approved.

*Humane Education- Sharon Rickard- Sharon has been talking to Jr. High students in our county's school system about the importance of animal spay/neuter. She's currently trying to schedule an appointment with Atlanta schools.

Maggie spoke about trying to start a Jr. membership, including doing a page on our web site for children.

*Building Committee- Dave Hancock- The committee met last week to discuss the floor plan sent to us by Shelter Planners. The group is discussing bldg. sq. footage with the addition of a "clinic" type room. Dave told the group about what rooms are in this shelter plan. This bldg. plan is a sq. footage of 2950. We're trying to stay under 3000 sq. ft. The committee is reviewing types of flooring, carpet styles, ceiling styles. The size of the clinic room is still under discussion, since we don't want a room built that would end up being too small.

Dave and Pauline, along with Chuck Ruhl, went to a meeting at Huron Humane Society in Alpena to tell them what steps we've taken towards the building of our own shelter in Montmorency county. Their building committee consists of 12 members. Their group of people were very appreciative in the fact that Dave and Pauline took the time to go over and talk to them. We'd like to have a "good neighbor" policy with any shelter whether it's near or distant from us. You can never tell when you may be able to help each other.

*Grant Writing- Maggie Tatum- Maggie sent off for two grants. One to DTE for \$8000.00, one to Presque Isle for \$10,000.00. We hope to get at least half of requested grant. DTE monies to be used for volunteer handbooks, newsletter for 1 year, separate mailing of the newsletter to go to all box holders in the county. Presque Isle grant was for cat spay/neuter clinics to be held this year. We could alter up to 300 cats. Maggie is checking on other grants for software and computers.

*Mary Hubbard- She's checking with various banks on where to put shelter money. Most banks insure customers for up to \$100,000.00 only. Since we have more than that in our account, we have to do something. Mary recommends we move \$75,000.00 out to another bank. She also stated Community Financial will insure members for up to \$350,000.00. She's checking on that also.

Mary talked with 2 CPA's in Hillman who are interested in giving us a hand on our bookwork. Their rates are \$95/hr., and they would give us the first hour free. They also do audits, which we'll need in the future for grant writing, etc.

Maggie suggested we have a yearly budget. We can take the last 2 years of fundraising events, and get an idea for this year's goal. Mary will work on this also.

*Committee Structure- goals of committees and what we expect. Nobody really worked on this, so we'll hold off discussion until next meeting.

*By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation- We have to take these and review them, update them. We could be set up as a directorship corporation or a membership corporation. A directorship corp.- members have no vote. A membership corp.- members can vote. At this time our by-laws say members can vote, our art. of incorp. say members can't vote. We have to work to make both of these instruments match.

*Contact List- Carol Young is working on a list. Pat Crawford will also supply some names. This will be a list of volunteers willing to work at our functions. If anybody talks with someone who's willing to help out, call Carol and give her the name, telephone number of potential volunteer.

*Calendar of Events- This is our yearly event planner. It has the date and times of our fundraisers. This is incomplete at the moment, but will appear in its completed form on next month's web site.

*Next Meeting- Thursday, February 8, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., at the fairgrounds in Atlanta, MI.

*Motion to adjourn- seconded-approved at 9:15 p.m.