

E.C.A.S.- Minutes from Oct. 12, 2206 meeting at Independent Bank, Hillman, MI, held in basement of building.

The following people were present:

Jim Buckingham
Tom Young
Linda Ploe
Carol Young
Sharon Rickard
Maggie Tatum
Dave Hancock
Steve Schlecht

Pauline Hancock
Pat Crawford
Joan LaPorte
Diane English
Trish Kniffen
Mary Hubbard
Chuck Ruhl

*Called to order at 7:00 P.M.

*Minutes not read from last meeting (Previously posted and approved on our Website.)

*Treasurers Report for September- Total checking/savings - \$139,152.94. Total assets \$144,296.16. Medical fund balance \$1257.00- to be used for emergencies for dogs at the Sheriff department or other similar situations. Motion to use this fund only for this purpose was approved. We will continue to use the cartridge return money for the medical fund. Mary prepared a list of fund raising event details for the past 4 years on all our major functions. This includes our garage sale, holiday mailing, Lewiston dinner, Hillman dinner/auction, and ATV raffle.

*Maggie Tatum- Cat clinic report- Lewiston altered 28 cats, and administered 9 shot packages. For Hillman it looks to be about the same amount of cats, or even more for Saturday's clinic. Maggie also talked about the subject of adopted stray cats whose owners couldn't afford regular vet prices that were coming to these clinics. Quite a few people called their vets to ask about these clinics and found out their vets weren't involved, which didn't make the vets very happy. Maggie was sending a letter to these vets explaining that we weren't alienating them in any way, but trying to reach the people that couldn't afford regular vet prices to alter their animals. We also need to speak to all the vets in the area to see if we can get some better prices from them. Especially if we lose our grant money in the future. Maggie would like to set up some sort of schedule for payment from the general public in the future. Also could we get the portable clinic back here next spring for both Lewiston and Hillman? Maggie will work on a spay/neuter grant over the winter. She is also going to see a county commissioner, as a citizen of this county, about the possibility of the county sponsoring a "shot clinic" for dogs in conjunction with selling dog licenses. This would be in Atlanta, Lewiston, Hillman. Can dog license costs be raised, especially for non-altered animals? Since there are so many unlicensed dogs in the county, the need is there for an animal control officer. Maggie stated that for her to apply for grants towards building a shelter, we need to have actual building plans in hand. We should try a 3 year type of plan: (1) Hire architect for building plans. (2) Run a 1 year capital fund raising campaign. (3) 1 year to build shelter. There

are a lot of other different types of grants available once we start building the shelter that could help us on smaller projects around the shelter and area.

*Building Committee Report- Dave Hancock- We sent a rough proposal to Kenyon Brothers construction, who are working with an architect out of Rose City. Some committee members met with Sue Edwards, an architect with R.S. Scott in Alpena. She looked over what we had so far and thought the price from Morton Buildings, Kalkaska, wasn't bad. She's checking with her coworkers about soil boring in our area. She cautioned us about using donated labor. Hiring an architectural firm would require approximately 6% to 10% of total building costs. They would provide all drawings, bid documents, etc. Some members met with Timm's Construction, Alpena, to discuss Geo Thermal heating. Cost is approximately 25% higher than a conventional system, with about a 5 year payback on this system. We'll be following up on our proposal to Morton Buildings. Dave spoke to a representative from Shelter Planners of America. The rep asked a lot of questions about us and found out we'd actually made a lot of progress in the short time we've been together. They don't need to come here to do an assessment, as they normally would, we've already basically done that. That assessment could have cost about \$5000.00. Shelter Planners can provide consulting on building the kennel portion of shelter, since the builders probably wouldn't know about that. That cost would be about 1% of building cost. They have a \$4500.00 minimum. Dave is sending the rep a packet of what we've got so far, and the rep will be talking to Dave. Dave also spoke about the need for a Capital Fund Raising Campaign, but we'd have to hire an expert in that area when we're ready, because none of us really know how to do it. We need to recruit more members.

*Capital Campaign- Tom Young spoke with a woman who does these campaigns and she'd be willing to have a 1 day workshop to show us how to get going. We'll need a committee to do this.

*Christmas Mailing- the card has a spot where you can mark it to become a member. Lots of people donate, but don't want to join. We also send out renewal forms to members, but quite a few don't renew. Carol Young suggested sending members a bill in January to see how that works. Everyone agreed on that, and Tom will design one to be looked at next meeting.

*Discussed the necessity of hiring an architect. What local builders, if any, could we use? Should we use Morton Buildings, they have their own architect? We'd need a General Contractor to oversee the whole operation, none of us have the time or knowledge to do this.

*Up coming events- Hillman craft show, Hillman Community Center, Sat., Nov. 11, '06. Robin Smiley and Linda Ploe will work this event. Dave will bring the trailer with all the stuff to the event for them. Whatever we need for next day's auction/dinner will already be on site. Hours for this are 10:00 – 3:00. Be there at 9:00 for set-up. Fall dinner/auction-Hillman Community Center, Sun., Nov. 12, '06. Hours from 4:00 – 7:00, with auction at 5:30. Tom has started a list of auction items. Kailani and Heather are

getting items from Hillman/Alpena area. Other members to take Lewiston, Atlanta. Give Tom the names of items for auction in order to make a list. Carol Young will chair this event, and wants a list of people available to work this event. She'll talk to Kevin Carrigon about auctioneering this event. Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$7.00 each. Tom will re-do flyers to be distributed around area.

*Adoption Report- Pauline Hancock- 15 dogs came in. 10 returned to owners, 4 adopted, 1 dog left in kennel. That is pretty awesome numbers.

*Spay/Neuter Report- Linda Buckingham- We had 9 appointments in September, bill was \$727.80. This leaves our grant balance at \$1098.00. We have 13 appointments on the books: 6 in Oct. 6 in Nov. 1 in Dec. No more appointments being scheduled at this time until more funding is received.

*Anyone that signs up on-line for "iGive" and does any kind of shopping on-line through our web-site, a portion of the discount will come back to us.

*Kailani and Heather from Hillman raised \$100.00 for the shelter by selling candles. They wanted to donate this money to Switzer's Vet Clinic to help in the expenses of a dog that was supposedly beaten and lost an eye. Although this was a terrible incident, questions arose as to what really happened with the dog, and the shelter meeting members decided not to spend the \$100.00 in this manner.

*Next meeting- November 9, 2006, at 7:00 PM, at Northwoods Coffee shop, Atlanta.

*Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.