

E.C.A.S.- Minutes from meeting at Northwood's Coffee House, Atlanta, MI., on Nov. 9, 2006, at 7:00 P.M.

The following people were present:

Jim Buckingham  
Dave Hancock  
Mary Hubbard  
Steve Schlecht  
Pat Crawford  
Catherine Kirby  
Carol Young  
Maggie Tatum

Pauline Hancock  
Sharon Rickard  
Tom Young  
Robin Smiley  
Linda LaFleur  
Linda Ploe  
Chuck Ruhl

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

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

\*Treasurer report- Mary Hubbard- approximately \$2700.00 taken in. Most of that was from spay/neuter cat clinic. Our expenses were minimal. Paid Dr. Bullerdick \$1100.00, with a lot of that money from deposits for the cat clinic. Renewed \$6500.00 CD in October when it came due.

\*Upcoming Events- Hillman Craft Show- Nov. 11 at Hillman Community Center from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Robin Smiley and Linda Ploe will be the workers for this event. Dave and Jim will bring over trailer with shelter items to be set up at 8:00 a.m.

Hillman Fall Dinner/Auction- Nov. 12, also at Hillman Community Center from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., with auction to start at 5:30 p.m. Carol Young is the chairperson for this event and is passing around a worker sign-up sheet for volunteers. We have around 75 items for the auction with the possibility of more to be added. To keep track of the number of dinners served, we'll have little tickets at the door to be filled out with a name, then put into a bowl to be counted. We'll also draw tickets for door prizes from this bowl during the evening. We need deserts, so anybody that can make and bring something, please do. We will try to place some minimum bids on some auction items if possible.

\*Adoption Report- Pauline Hancock- There are 3 dogs in kennel at this time. Unable to complete a kennel report due to lack of info from Sheriff Dept. Pauline stated that one thing that would help her would be for us to enter into a Shelter Management Program. Some of these programs range in price from \$1000.00 up to \$9000.00. Pauline has been checking out a web based program called "Pet Point", which is free, but has some conditions. We have to use their microchips, which cost \$4.50 each and includes registration. This program will help in all areas needed for Pauline to do her reports in an efficient manner. To enter into this program we must purchase 24 of these microchips. There's also a 30 day insurance policy for animals adopted and chipped with this

program. Pet Point would reimburse owner for vet bills that might occur during this 30 day period, i.e. broken bones, parvo, etc. Motion was made to enter into this program, seconded, and approved.

Pauline and Linda Buckingham went to a MPAW (Michigan Partnership for Animal Welfare) conference in Traverse City, MI on October 26, 27. They found it to be very interesting and informative. They learned about a "Behavior Help Line" through the Michigan Humane Society where you call a number, leave a message, and they'll get back to you and help you with problems you're having with a dog or cat. We can use this help line on our web site and newsletters, or any brochures we make up.

This is National Animal Shelter Appreciation week and animal sheltering.org had an essay contest called "No Ordinary Day". The essay had to be 1000 words or less. Only 7 essays around the country were chosen, and Maggie Tatum's was one of them. It is on the web site and being viewed by the whole world, and quite possibly, other planets. Congratulations Maggie, that is totally awesome!

\*Spay/Neuter Program- Linda Buckingham- 5 dogs were altered in October. The bill was \$381.55. Grant balance is \$716.00. We have 7 appointments for November, and 1 for December. We're still waiting to hear on our renewal funding for the spay/neuter program.

Maggie Tatum- Hillman cat clinic- 14 female, 20 male animals altered. Maggie is thinking of making a "cat run" to Cheyboygan in the near future to have more animals altered.

\*Tom Young- said Linda Buckingham called him with an idea she heard about at the conference she and Pauline attended concerning fundraising. Could we have local restaurants run some type of a special, whereas, whatever the meal would be, 1 dollar would be donated back to the shelter for each meal served. This special could run on a certain day of the week. It sounds like a good idea, but we need to do more research on this. Linda also suggested sending newsletters to all our local attorneys around the area since they do all the wills, etc. for the public. This could help in our fundraising efforts, if someone wanted to leave something in their will or trust to the shelter, the attorney could suggest it.

\*Building Committee- Dave Hancock- We received a packet of materials from Shelter Planners of America. They can develop a CAD, floor plan, or color rendering of a 2500 sq. ft. building for \$4500.00. Since we're a non-profit organization, we can get a 40% discount, bringing the amount down to \$2700.00. Shelter Planners recommend we use these drawings, etc. for our Capital Campaign before we hire an architect. The board approved the \$2700.00 fee, Dave will send them a check. Shelter Planners will work with us in any capacity we want. They can be the architects and everything involved in the building of the shelter, or they can be consultants in whichever aspect we want. This would be for a different fee, of course.

\*December Elections- 2 positions are up this year. This would be for Jim Buckingham and Steve Schlecht. Also, Tom Young would like to give up his position as President to

be able to work full time on the Capital Campaign. He would have help from other sources on this massive task.

\*Pauline Hancock- submitted a "Tentative Committee Structure Proposal" to the group. This would consist of various committees that would better serve our purposes. Each committee would have a chairperson, with the possibility of a co-chair. These committees would then work among themselves during the month, or whenever, and the chairperson would report any progress at the next meeting. This should save time at the monthly meetings. Motion to adopt this proposal was made, seconded, approved.

The various committees and chairpersons will be: (Note: this is a tentative plan, could change)

- 1) Animal Welfare- Pauline Hancock
- 2) Building- Dave Hancock
- 3) Education- Sharon Rickard
- 4) Finance/Investment- Mary Hubbard
- 5) Fundraising- Mary Hubbard/Carol Young
- 6) Grant Writing- Maggie Tatum
- 7) Membership- Pat Crawford
- 8) Publication- Pauline Hancock
- 9) Spay/Neuter- Linda Buckingham/Maggie Tatum
- 10) Volunteer- Dave Hancock
- 11) Nomination- not known at this time

Note: An updated list will appear in next month's minutes with the various members incorporated into these committees.

\*Membership- Pat and Robin are making up a new type of annual renewal form to be mailed out in January, 2007. This should look more like a bill than a notice, and hopefully people will respond by renewing their membership. This form is to be given to Tom Young, who will in turn have it printed.

\*Christmas Mailing- No proof available at meeting, Tom will get something to members in the next few days to be approved. Once approved, it can be printed and sent out in early December.

\*Christmas Pics w/Santa- This will take place Sat., Dec. 9, at Lewiston Library, time unknown at present. Steve Schlecht was talked into playing the Santa Claus role, since he won't have to glue a beard on. These will be digital pics, with prints available at that time, for \$10.00 each.

\*December is newsletter time so get your information to Pat and Robin.

\*Next Meeting- Lewiston Library, Dec. 14, at 7:00 p.m. This is our annual meeting, with elections on the agenda.

\*Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

