



Alliance for Animals and the Environment

Board Meeting Minutes 2/25/15

Present at the meeting were Betsy Munro, Gina Stuessy, Sue Miller, Debbie Fields, and Judi Duncan. Executive Director Hannah West was present as well.

Megan was unable to attend the meeting and the minutes for the January meeting were unavailable. We will catch up in March. Jim Arts also did not attend and Betsy told the Board that Lucy had resigned.

The attending board members signed the Board Member Statement of Agreement and Hannah will deliver them to Megan for filing.

We discussed the January financial statement and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as they apply to a large tax payment that was made in January. There was a discussion of the DWS account and finding ways to use the funds for spaying and neutering and possibly increasing the fund in the future. Sue agreed to join the Finance Committee and will attend the meeting in March.

There was a discussion of the existing board composition and possible new board members. There are currently seven members and it was agreed that we would go no higher than eleven. Melissa Smith (Friends of the Wisconsin Wolf) and Bob Schwalb (Teach Humane and other animal advocacy activities) will be invited to the March board meeting. We are still looking for an attorney to join the board and Betsy, Leslie and Jim will reach out to attorneys they think might be interested.

A discussion of the director's report started with Hannah asking for input from the board regarding the case statement. The need for the case statement was discussed and Sue made a motion to table the case statement issue until April; Debbie seconded and all voted in favor.

Hannah is going to continue recruiting ambassadors from other areas in Wisconsin. Hannah would like board members to attend get-togethers with ambassadors and volunteers in Fox Valley and Wausau. She will reach out to ambassadors and come up with possible dates.

Hannah reported that the Madison Mallards reached out to see if the Alliance would be interested in fundraising through ticket sales to a Mallards game. After discussion, it was agreed that we would not be interested in this collaboration.

The ambassador application of Anna Peterson Sanders was reviewed and discussed and Debbie made a motion to approve her appointment; Gina seconded and all approved.

Committee Reports

Anti-Viv: Sue reported that Al Matano has postponed removing Resolution 275 from the executive committee because a visit to the primate center is scheduled in March.

Animals in Entertainment: Debbie reported that there were about 4,000 leaflets distributed at the Shriner's Circus in Madison February 14-16 and that six people attended the circus as



investigators. Photographs and videos were taken and a complaint was filed with the USDA regarding the exotic animals. There were some discrepancies noted in the numbers of animals performing with the circus compared to the numbers that were reported in the permit that was filed.

Farmed Animals: Gina reported that the restaurant outreach is going forward. Tabling at Milwaukee Woman Up! went well. There was some discussion about a billboard campaign during the Dairy Expo and how we could raise money for this. The Worldwide Vegan Bake sale is coming up in Late April that we want to support. Gina reported that there is an event featuring Gene Bauer and Richard Oppenlander in Racine in Fall 2015 that needs a sponsor and we have been asked if we are interested.

Companion Animals: Betsy reported that she spoke with a representative of Underdog Rescue this month.

Wildlife: Debbie reported that Friends of the Wisconsin Wolf (Melissa Smith) is sponsoring a presentation of Political Predator on February 26th at the Aldo Leopold Nature Center. She will be attending.

There was discussion regarding financial responsibilities specifically as they relate to the newsletters and fundraising letters. There was a delay in mailing the newsletter covering the Chili Cook-off and it was agreed that it would be sent as soon as possible and would be followed up with newsletters/fundraising letters in May, July, October and the End-of-Year letter. There was some discussion about making the newsletters committee-based. The meeting adjourned at 8:55.

Correction: Gina emailed me on February 27 and said the Farmed Animals event later this year in Racine is a screening of Cowspiracy, not an event with Gene Bauer and Richard Oppenlander.