

Alliance for Animals and the Environment
September 2015 Board meeting minutes

Present were Gina, Bob, Sue, Megan, Judi, Jim, and Hannah, the ED. Sara was absent.

Sue approved and Bob seconded the minutes from August.

Hannah gave the Director's report. Hannah brought a summary of the D and O insurance she thinks we should go with, Affiliated. We have general liability insurance with Selective right now. We will switch to Affiliated Insurance for both coverages. Hannah has worked with Paul from Affiliated. We will pay \$450 for the D and O insurance.

Hannah gave an update on the Chili Cookoff: Liliana's, Green Owl, Ale Asylum, Vintage Brewing Company, Hop Cat, El Dorado Grill, Ladonia Cafe, Tex Tubbs, and Monty's Blue Plate are the restaurants participating. Hannah brought posters to the meeting and a list of the businesses where we can hang them. We have enough volunteers for the day of the cook off. We will have 7 judges at the chili cookoff. We will do another press release prior to the event. Bob asked about inviting the press to the event and thinks we should invite the press to the event. Volunteers will get in free this year but the volunteer shifts are longer.

Hannah discussed the possibility of the Alliance being involved with Talk of the Town. It's a TV show on CW. She was on this show 9/22/15. If we are to pay to be a priority guest on the show we can be more selective with slots. It's \$250 per month.

Hannah discussed an exotics bill. HSUS wants us to partner with them on this. Hannah can send the text of the bill and then the board can decide if we want to sign on to the bill.

Hannah will be going to 15 hours per week. She would like help with the board taking a larger role with the newsletter (coming up with a theme or content, etc.). Hannah would like to take more of a managerial role. She would like someone to volunteer to do blog posts, and FB posts, etc. We do have some people already as admins but maybe people could switch off days she suggests. Gina thinks we could scale down the newsletters in the meanwhile.

We did get \$595 from the last newsletter, which is around the cost that it is to print and mail. We discussed our different fundraising challenges.

We decided that Hannah will do the newsletter in October and the end of the year, but we will use a mailing house to organize the mailings. [The board later decided via email that we would skip the October newsletter and send an e-newsletter announcing the cook-off winners instead.] She will forgo doing e-alerts and blog posts. Megan, Sue, and Judi offered to write thank you notes for the donations that come in. Donation thank you's ideally would go out within 3 days.

The priorities for the month of October are the October newsletter, starting on the EOY newsletter, and the chili cook off and wrap-up.

Bob suggested that the board decide each week how Hannah will prioritize her 15 hours per week.

The board approved a project proposal for the Midwest Environmental Education Conference tabling fee.

The board then went into a closed session discussion.