The meeting commenced at 10:35 am. Chair Patrick Nolan welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced the newly appointed Board members, Dennis Gross, Neil Abramson, Denise Incandela and Sarah Aucoing who replaced Mike Dockett as the representative for NYC Parks Department. Each of the new members spoke briefly about their background and their commitment to ACC.

Patrick recognized ACC, NYCDOHMH, the ASPCA and other partners for their tremendous effort and significant contribution during the feline influenza outbreak in December.

Appointment of Officers

A motion was made to appoint officers for 2017 as follows: Patrick Nolan will continue to serve as Chair, Dr. Kuhlman will continue to serve as Secretary and Elaine Keane will continue to serve as Treasurer. The motion was approved. Patrick suggested appointing a Vice Chair in the future.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the previous meeting and they were approved.
Audit Review

Gina Manante of Rosenberg & Manante presented the annual financial audit report. There were no significant deficiencies to report. There was a motion to approve and the audit report was approved.

Executive Director’s Report

Risa Weinstock, President and CEO, thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their support especially during the recent feline influenza outbreak in December. Risa commended and introduced the ACC staff in attendance.

Risa updated the Board on the background and current status of the feline influenza outbreak. In December, one cat at ACC tested positive for influenza A (HN7N2). Further tests were conducted with help from the University of Wisconsin Shelter Medicine Program, and 45 cats were found to have the same virus. However, no virus was found in dogs or rabbits. The ASPCA and NYC DOHMH immediately arranged for a quarantine facility and over 450 cats were transferred from the Care Centers. During the quarantine, cat adoptions were suspended, a diversion plan was put in place for cat intakes, and the care centers, adoption vans and field fleet were sanitized. Cleaning and PPE protocols were reviewed with all staff.

Risa thanked ACC volunteers for their hours at the quarantine facility; New Hope Partners for their placement efforts; the Maddie’s Fund; ASPCA; NYCDOH; the University of Wisconsin and the community for their support. The Board applauded ACC and everyone who assisted in the situation.

Data for calendar year 2016 revealed a 3% decline in dog and cat intake and a slight increase in rabbit intake; placement of dogs and cat increased compared to 2015. Euthanasia is at its lowest ever (under 3,000) and ACC is committed to reducing this further.

During 2017, ACC will continue its strategy toward reducing intake, increasing placement and improving the health of the animals while at the care centers.

Revenue from development efforts increased over the previous calendar year. Fundraising events planned for calendar year 2017 include Pit Bowl 6 (Feb 28th); 10th Annual Spring Fling (April 27th); Pit Bowl 7 (September 12th); and the 5th Annual Gala (December 12th).

New Hope Task Force Committee Update

Caren Fleit presented a brief update of the New Hope Task Force committee. Over the past nine months the committee met several times to address adding New Hope Partners, reviewing the “At Risk” process, acceleration of approvals of New Hope applications and a task force code of conduct. Caren added that there was currently no back log in the New Hope application process.
Capital Improvements Projects Update

Mario Merlino, Assistant Commissioner of NYC DOHMH presented an update of plans for improvement and renovation to ACC facilities and building shelters in the Bronx and Queens. He noted all the key city agencies involved in the process and the timelines for each phase of work in all five boroughs.

Public Comments

Public comment was heard from 11:45am.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25pm.