



ACC Board Meeting
1/28/2022
Via WebEx

In attendance:

Patrick Nolan, Chair
Denise Incandela, Co-chair
Dr. Jay Kuhlman, Secretary
Neil Abramson
Yonaton Aronoff
Sarah Aucoin
Caren Fleit
Dr. Dennis Gross
Elaine Keane
Corinne Schiff

The meeting commenced at 9:37am.

Chair Patrick Nolan welcomed everyone to the meeting. He commended ACC leadership, staff and volunteers on behalf of the board for their steadfast commitment. He encouraged everyone to follow the guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid 19 and most of all to express kindness to each other.

He also explained the make-up of the board and noted that there are two vacancies. He noted that the newest board member Lt. Commander Adrian Ashby, NYPD Animal Cruelty Investigation Squad could not attend due to another commitment.

Approval of Minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded and the June 16, 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

Election of Officers

The board agreed to reappoint the following officers: Patrick Nolan, Chair; Denise Incandela, Vice Chair; Dr. Jay Kuhlman, Secretary; and Elaine Keane, Treasurer. A motion to approve the officers was made, seconded and approved.

Committees of the Board

Members are as follows:

Executive

Patrick Nolan, Chair; Denise Incandela; Yonaton Aronoff; Caren Fleit; Elaine Keane; Corrine Schiff

Nominating

Denise Incandela, Chair; Neil Abramson; Sarah Aucoin; Patrick Nolan; Caren Fleit; Corrine Schiff

Audit

Patrick Nolan; Yonaton Aronoff; Elaine Keane, Chair

Development

Dennis Gross, Chair; Patrick Nolan; Dr. Jay Kuhlman

Queens Capital (Reactivated)

Yonaton Aronoff, Chair; Patrick Nolan; Sarah Aucoin

Financial Update

Jeff Hauser of Kiwi Partners presented the Fiscal Year to Date Preliminary (Unaudited) Financial Report.

He noted the variance in net assets which was primarily due delay in receiving an amendment to the contract adding the \$3million One Time Enhancement, which was included in the FY22 budget. Overall the cash flow for the first six months was greater when compared to the previous year. Risa presented the Development revenue summary for FY22 v FY 21. The board will provide feedback on the format of the development report and ACC will recirculate a revised format for review.

ACC Operating Report

Risa thanked Patrick and the Board for recognizing the work and dedication of the staff at ACC. She reiterated Patrick's request for kindness and empathy for the essential workers at ACC and the breadth of work that they have been handling throughout the pandemic.

Animal Sheltering – Trends in Animal Welfare

ACC is on par with the national data and challenges of other animal welfare organizations. The most significant challenge is staffing. Dr. Robin Brennen reported on the shortage of veterinarians and other vet services professionals and cited the various reasons for this trend, including compassion fatigue and drastic competition from the private sector for veterinarians and other veterinary professionals.

Animal Intake

There was no significant change in strays or owner surrenders for 2021 in comparison to 2020. Some of the drivers for intake of dogs and cats include personal housing issues, medical and

behavioral issues, and personal issues like allergies. The data for the Intake of cats has remained consistent with previous years' bell curve peaking during early spring to fall/warmer months. There was a noticeable increase in guinea pig intake this year by nearly double from last year. It was also noted that as an open admissions shelter ACC takes in lots of other species which require the same complement of services as dogs and cats, and often even more medical care and attention than other more traditional intakes.

Placement

The placement rate for dogs and cats for 2021 exceeded 90%. ACC credits the hard work of its placement team and the collaborative engagement with our New Hope Partners for this success. In 2021, ACC added 33 New Hope partners to the existing list of over 300 partners. ACC's foster program is another critical piece of the strategy to find the best outcomes for the most animals. ACC is seeing a growing trend in the number of fostered animals that are adopted by their foster volunteer.

Community Engagement

Volunteer hours decreased early in the pandemic in 2020 because of safety concerns. In 2021 ACC worked on building the program back up, adding new volunteer roles that help with shelter operations. Orientations are conducted quarterly on line and turn out has been robust. Despite the restrictions caused by the pandemic, ACC remained committed to serving the community with its surrender prevention and intervention programs. Generous support from foundations and city council grants enabled ACC to provide resources to underserved communities including free spay/neuter surgery; vaccine and microchip clinics; wellness fares; and pet food distributions. ACC is monitoring the impact of the Tenant Eviction Program moratorium and anticipates an increase in owner surrender due now that the moratorium has been lifted. To understand the eviction process ACC is partnering with the Legal Aid Society so as to be better prepared to help potential clients in this predicament. ACC plans further community engagement by engaging with the new class of city council members and continuing to build on its existing relationships with council members.

Capital Projects

Queens -- construction continues on schedule, with some slight delays for supply chain issues. Temporary Certificate of Occupancy is still on target for late Fall 2022.

Mario Merlino, Assistant Commissioner, NYC DOHMH presented an overview of the capital projects in the other four boroughs.

Brooklyn – design is complete and construction is expected to begin in Fall 2022

Staten Island – phase 2 construction is ongoing and the exterior landscaping is expected to be completed by Spring 2022.

Bronx – design construction will begin in February 2022, construction is set to begin in Winter 2023 and completion by Spring 2025

Manhattan Pet Adoption Center - flooring is complete and move in is expected January 2023

Public Comments

Public comments were heard from 11:16 am to 11:40 pm.

There was a motion to adjourn to executive session.
The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.

.....
Secretary of the Board
Dr. Jay Kuhlman

Adopted by _____ vote
on _____