

MINUTES ACC Board Meeting Thursday, June 22, 2023 42-09 28th Street, LIC, NY

Attendees: Patrick Nolan, Chair

Dr. Jay Kuhlman, Secretary Elaine Keane, Treasurer

Neil Abramson Yonaton Aronoff Adrian Ashby Sarah Aucoin Christine Kim Jason Power Corinne Schiff

The meeting commenced at 9:38am. Chair, Patrick Nolan welcomed everyone to the meeting. He expressed appreciation on behalf of the Board to ACC staff and volunteers for their steadfastness during very challenging times.

Patrick then introduced the newest member of the Board, Christine Kim who spoke briefly about her background in animal welfare and commitment to ACC. Patrick announced that Board Member and Co-chair Denise Incandela resigned in May 2023. He expressed his thanks on behalf of the Board to Denise for her commitment over the years. Patrick noted the vacant position to be filled.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of January 25, 2023 were adopted previously by unanimous written consent.

Financials

Jeff Hauser of Kiwi Partners presented the year to date preliminary financial report covering 11 months ending May 2023. Total net assets increased by \$2.8m which includes an increase of \$1.6m of unrestricted net assets related to Shelter Operations. Total unrestricted revenue increased by 16% over budget and prior year. Shelter revenue, giving, and event revenue totaled \$3.68m compared to \$3.4m in the budget and \$3.1m prior year. ACC had \$10.8m of net assets as of May 2023, \$6.7m of which is related to shelter operations with \$1.6m temporarily restricted for use. ACC anticipates that all advances payable will be fully recouped by year-end. ACC continued to generate positive cash flow for the fiscal year.

Risa presented the year to date report on fundraising. She noted the significant increase in event income over the previous year as ACC returns to hosting Spring Fling and an annual Gala. Overall, development revenue is

higher than FY22. Risa commended the development department and the increased activity in seeking grant funding. The goal for FY24 is to raise \$3.6 million. Additionally, the Campaign for the Future seeks to raise \$5 million in 3 years and is based on the renovation and construction of new animal care centers in all five boroughs. To date nearly \$1 million has been raised and/or pledged to the campaign.

Other development efforts discussed include the launch of a planned giving campaign this summer; an emphasis on a dog license renewal process with an option to donate; and seeking DOH support to promote dog licensing in their public service ads.

Patrick advised that the Board will be meeting soon to review the 2024 budget and that at the date of the board meeting the city had not yet finalized the amount that ACC would receive. He appealed to the attendees to contact their council members to help garner support for ACC.

<u>City- Managed Capital Projects Update</u>

Alexandra Silver, Director of the Mayor's Office of Animal Welfare presented the update.

- Construction of the Manhattan Pet Adoption Center is expected to be substantially completed by September 2023. Opening to the public is expected Fall 2023. Installation of finishes, painting and low voltage systems are ongoing. Installation of animal housing is completed.
- There was a ground-breaking ceremony for the Bronx site on May 18, 2023. Substantial construction completion is expected by the end of 2024 and opening to the public is expected in Spring of 2025.
- Construction of the Brooklyn Animal Care Center is expected to start Fall 2023 and substantial completion targeted for Summer of 2025 with move-in projected for late 2025.

Risa presented an update on the Queens Center. She noted that the project experienced several delays due to equipment backorders and worker shortages.

ACC Report

Dr. Brennen, Senior VP Animal Health and Welfare, presented the national trends in animal welfare with specific reference to national rising euthanasia rates because of overcrowding at shelters across the country. She noted how intakes are outpacing placement efforts based on data from the previous year. Dr. Brennen discussed the serious consequences of overcrowding in the shelters including the impact on the animals, the staff and volunteers.

Ellen Curtis, Sr. Vice President, Chief Programs Officer advised that intake of strays and owner surrenders has increased over the previous year. The main reasons for owner surrender are personal circumstances of the pet owner and animal behavior/health. The placement rate for dogs and cats was slightly less than the previous year. The addition of 18 New Hope partners is part of an ongoing effort to help rehome dogs with behavior challenges. The foster program added 712 new fosters to help alleviate shelter overpopulation. The public was encouraged to attend a cat or dog foster orientation that ACC has been holding regularly by zoom.

ACC continues to focus on grant resources on helping the community struggling to keep their pets by continuing its pet food pantries and providing free vaccine/microchip and wellness clinics throughout the city. ACC concluded the presentation by recognizing the contribution of its robust volunteer program noting that the volunteers donated over 13,000 hours of service as of May 2023.

Public comments were heard from 11:37am - 11:57am.

There was a motion to adjourn to executive session which was seconded and the public session of the board meeting concluded at 11:59am.

.