

MINUTES  
ACC Board Meeting  
Wednesday, January 21, 2026  
Queens Animal Care Center  
1906 Flushing Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385

In Attendance:

Patrick Nolan, Chair  
Christine Kim  
Jason Power  
Dr. Jay Kuhlman  
Elaine Keane  
Corrine Schiff  
Neil Abramson  
Surey Miranda-Alarcón  
Sarah Aucoin

The meeting commenced at 9:33am.

Chair Patrick Nolan welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked ACC staff members, volunteers, and all supporters of ACC. He mentioned the two newly appointed members, Sgt. Timothy Cecchini and Roy Berggren who were not able to attend. Patrick advised that there are currently two vacancies and the board will be sending nominees to the new Mayor's office of appointments for review.

**Board Business**

Approval of Minutes:

There was a motion to approve the minutes from the July 1, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

Election of Officers -- The board agreed to reappoint the following officers:

Patrick Nolan, Chair; Christine Kim, Vice Chair; Dr. Jay Kuhlman, Secretary; and Jason Power, Treasurer. A motion to approve the officers was made, seconded and approved.

Board Committees - the following members affirmed their committee assignments:

Executive

Patrick Nolan-Chair; Christine Kim; Elaine Keane; Corrine Schiff; Neil Abramson; Dr. Jay Kuhlman

Finance

Jason Power-Chair; Elaine Keane; Patrick Nolan

Nominating

Surey Miranda-Alarcón-Chair; Patrick Nolan; Neil Abramson; Sarah Aucoin; Corrine Schiff;  
Christine Kim

Development

Chair-Open; Patrick Nolan; Dr. Jay Kuhlman; Jason Power

Community Outreach:

Christine Kim- Co-Chair; Surey Miranda-Alarcón- Co-Chair; Patrick Nolan; Sarah Aucoin;  
Elaine Keane

### **Finance - FY26 Year to Date Report**

Jeff Hauser from KIWI Partners presented the Financial Report. ACC's net assets increased by \$3.8m YTD compared to YTD budget of \$0 mostly as a result of the mortgage liability continuing to be paid down with funding from DOH. Shelter revenue, giving, and event revenue totaled \$2.37m YTD Dec 2025 compared to \$2.76m in the budget and \$2.64m in the prior year. The ASPCA has committed to a \$1.8M annual grant and ACC is expected to receive the formal agreement and funds likely in the second half of FY25. Revenue reflected is through December and does not include all pledges received FYTD including \$325,000 from the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta.

As of 1/15/26, November DOH invoices are pending approval and December invoices are in the process of being submitted and approved by DOH.

ACC has \$28.9m of net assets as of Dec 2025 of which \$12.4m relate to the shelter operations with \$2.6m temporarily restricted for use after Dec 2025. Cash on hand for ACC is \$20.4m although net assets with temporary restrictions is \$2.5m and advances outstanding are \$14.1m. ACC currently owns a portfolio of donated marketable securities that continues to collect securities donations and has appreciated in value over time. The total basis of donated securities is \$409k and the portfolio has appreciated by \$364k.

### **Capital Improvements:**

Alexandra Silver of the Mayor's office of Animal Welfare presented an update on the City-Managed Capital Projects. Construction on the Bronx Animal Care Center is 76% complete with building enclosure ongoing. Construction substantial completion is expected by Summer 2026, with an anticipated opening of Winter 2026. Construction of the Brooklyn Animal Care Center is 35% complete with ongoing wall installation, electrical, plumbing and HVAC work. Substantial construction completion is anticipated by Fall 2026 and move-in by Spring 2027.

### **ACC Operational Report:**

President and CEO Risa Weinstock began the report by highlighting intakes for the past 5 years.

Intakes- In the last 5 years, intakes were up 32%, with stray dog intakes being up 87%. In 2025 dog surrenders were up 13% and stray dog intakes were up 7%. Cat surrenders were up 8% and stray cat intakes were up 14%. In total, there were 15,976 intakes which was up from 14,467 in 2024. Risa also highlighted the intakes for 2025 by month, noting the highest intakes were in May, June, and October. The lowest months for intakes were January and December. It was also noted that data collected shows 1 in 3 dogs were surrendered due to housing insecurity issues. A majority of cats were surrendered due to the respective owner's personal health issues.

Placement- Jessica Vaccaro, Director of Placement, reported on the placement rate for dogs and cats, the foster program, and placement through the rescue community with our New Hope Partners. The Placement Rate for cats for 2025 is 91.3 percent, compared to 92.2% in 2024. The Placement Rate for dogs for 2025 is 88.3%, compared to 89% in 2024. It was noted that adoptions by the public is up compared to last year. The increase is due to a variety of changes including extending the adoption hours, having more adoption events with more animals there, and improving the matchmaking process. In 2025 43 New Hope Partners were added and a total of 7,271 animals were placed with New Hope Partners. In 2026 ACC will look to expand the program through an initiative with interested partners in the state of Maine.

The foster program also grew in 2025 with a 25.5% increase in the number of foster parents onboarded. Foster orientation/training was made more accessible this year. There was a 7.54% increase of animals in foster homes, as well as a 10.4% increase in animals that stayed in foster homes. Through a grant

funded partnership with Lyft ACC was able to accommodate transport of more foster animals than last year. This transport benefit removes many barriers for the foster parents, making it easier and more accessible for them to participate in the program. ACC launched The “Straycation” this year -- a short-term foster program. In addition to alleviating population challenges inside the shelter, this program resulted in 25% of participants converting to long-term placements. ACC also highlighted the work of our Foster Trainers who work directly with foster parents to support animals with elevated needs.

Community Resources- John Cicolella, Director of Community Resources presented on the work his team is doing to address the rising intake of animals at ACC through surrender prevention services and interventions to help keep families and pets together. In 2025 there were 12,126 surrender requests for 17,473 animals. ACC was able to help 3,898 pets from being surrendered, keeping nearly 1 in 3 families together. Direct intervention tools and grants that specifically fund medical support were used in 200 cases. Another 178 cases involved grant funding to address the needs of pet owners who sought to surrender due to housing issues, hospitalization, or a temporary inability to house their animal. ACC held 17 vaccine clinics, 42 spay/neuter events, and distributed 46,150 pounds of food to pet owners in need. Other programs designed to keeping pets in homes in the wider community include ACC’s partnership with NYC Health and Hospitals. With over 40 cases in 2025 this partnership helps patients in need of an extended hospitalization assistance with their pets as an alternative to surrender.

Queens Veterinary Center- Dr. Robin Brennen, Senior Vice President of Animal Health and Welfare, presented on the new Emma and Georgina Bloomberg Queens Veterinary Center. The center had a soft opening in October 2025, and the main objective is the reduction of the number of owner surrenders due to treatable, medical conditions, as well as reduce euthanasia in the community. The Veterinary Center is by referral only, from ACC’s surrender prevention team as well as local Veterinary Urgent Care facilities. Dr. Brennen introduced Dr. Michael Weltz, ACC’s Director of Community Medicine, who presented a report on some of the animals that he treated at the veterinary clinic. His report expressed the commitment and deep sense of responsibility the vet center has toward ACC’s mission.

Volunteers, Marketing & Comms- Katy Hansen, Director of Marketing and Communications, presented on ACC’s volunteer program. In 2025 there were 702 volunteers who worked a total of 40,062 hours. She also shared the multiple social media platforms of individual volunteers who promote ACC on their own social media. Katy also discussed the weekly coverage ACC gets on the weekend segments on NBC4 and NY1, as well as the multiple outlets including print, radio and online. She celebrated that ACC has over 500,000 followers on social media channels including Instagram, Facebook and TikTok. She concluded her presentation and the board meeting with ACC’s year-end video that was shared on social media and in ACC’s end of year outreach.

#### Public Comments

Public Comments were heard from 11:03am to 11:35am.

There was a motion to move into executive session. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:35am.