

Niagara Frontier Veterinary Society

Board of Directors Meeting January 10, 2017

Present: Melissa Andritz, Helene Chevalier, Amy Leach, Patrick McCarthy, Allison O'Toole, Theresa Ryndak, Stephanie West, Nancy Fredrickson
Absent: Timm Otterson,

1. Meeting Notes

November meeting notes were approved.

2. President's Report

Amy welcomed the new board and is looking forward to working with everyone.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Current balance is the checking account is approximately \$50K. This is about \$2K more than last year at this time.
- A number of items were pre-paid at the end of the year to help decrease tax liability. This includes donation to PEF from rabies clinics, Alley Kats sponsorship, WNY Family Magazine ads for 2017 and SPCA Gala.
- As soon as the final 2016 bank statements are received, Patrick will begin working with our accountant on 2016 tax filings.

4. Committee Reports

Explorers – Timm

- Nancy reported that the first Explorers Post meeting was Wednesday night. Jim Brown and Jean Feldman spoke to the students, providing an introduction into the field of veterinary medicine. Both did a great job and gave the students a glimpse into veterinary careers, both large and small animal medicine. Approximately 30 students are involved this year.
- They have request funding to offset the cost of scrub tops. Expect that the cost will be between \$35-\$40 per top with embroidery that includes the student's name, the Explorer logo, and WNYVMA and NFVS names as well. Trying to keep the cost affordable for the students, so asking them to pay \$10 per top this year. Anticipate perhaps 20-25 orders this year and therefore are asking for between \$300-\$400 each from WNYVMA and NFVS. Motion was made and passed to approve this expenditure.

PEF – New chair needed

- Board met last night. Drs. Soltis (VEC), Funk and Horton (both from BlueCross) are interested in joining the board.
- End of year holiday solicitation resulted in about \$12K.
- Board is focusing on better internal communication, developing a 2017 budget and formalizing committees focused on Events/Volunteers, Marketing/Retail and

Budget/Finance.

Mini-Vet – Amy/Theresa

Still waiting for Medaille to forward final event financial recap. Once received board can determine amount to donate to Medaille scholarship.

SPCA – Helene

Soft opening of the new facility will probably the first week in March with formal opening in April. There will be a community room for use by organizations. The NFVS board would like a private tour prior to the opening if possible. It was suggested holding the February meeting there (which would need to be the third Tuesday in February as president Amy will be out of town the second Tuesday.) Amy and Helene to coordinate.

WNYVMA Relations – Stephanie West

New SPCA Executive Director Gary Willoughby met with group and talked about standards of care, sharing information and partnerships with veterinarians. Discussion also included a clinic the SPCA is considering; however since NY State requires that a veterinarian own any clinic plans are not yet finalized.

It is expected that the declaw issue will be brought before the legislature again this year.

Jean Feldman is the 2017 WNYVMA president.

Health Department – New chair needed

The first rabies clinic of the year will be on Wednesday, January 25 from 3-6 at the Northwest Community Center. Allison, Theresa and Mercedes Carota will staff.

Allison volunteered to chair this committee.

College Relations – New chair needed

Allison volunteered to chair this committee.

SMART – New chair needed

It was thought this this may be inactive. Nancy to check with former chair Stephanie Wolf.

Buffalo Academy Liaison - Patrick

Dr. Andrea Looney was the most recent speaker and was well received.

Roswell/Highpointe/Therapy Dogs – New chair needed

Nancy said that the holiday visit with children at Highpointe at Michigan went very well. There were more pets this year including a few guinea pigs and a ferret. Santa was a great hit. Time Warner covered the event but other activities in town (including firing of Bills coach) took priority. Animals only visited with children this year – hospital's decision. Nancy can put anyone interested in individual visits in contact with the pediatric unit manager.

Dog Parks – Timm

No report available

Awareness – Melissa

NFVS has prepaid for all 2017 advertising with WNY Family Magazine.

Theresa and Melissa offered to help Nancy in writing articles for both WNY Family and

Buffalo Healthy Living.

New Members – Amy

There are 23 new members since the new member luncheon last year. It was decided that the March board meeting will be the luncheon for them. Nancy has drafted an invitation letter that will be sent out. A letter also will be sent to their practice owners encouraging them to allow these employees to attend. Plans are to host this at Loughrans, but this may change if we have a lot of responses.

Online Discussions – Timm

No report, but very quiet.

Facebook Fan Page – Stephanie West

Stephanie continues to post relevant items, including AM Buffalo segments when available.

Old Business

- The NFVS is a sponsor at the January 28 SPCA Gala. We have a table for ten. Board members are encouraged to attend and should let Amy/Nancy know as soon as possible. It is black tie – cocktails 6-7:30 and dinner at 7:30 at Hotel Lafayette in downtown Buffalo. Valet parking is included. Nancy is working on creating an ad that will go in the program.
- The NFVS is sponsoring the Roller Derby AlleyKat team. There are four tickets available for the games on January 20 and February 24. Games are at Riverworks in downtown Buffalo. If you are interested let Nancy know asap.

New Business

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