

The DCAAB met on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 6 pm, Duplin County Airport conference room. Meeting called to order at 5:55 pm.

Members Present: Cathi Hale, Margie Hunter, Bobbie Kennedy, Joe Newburn

Excused: Chris Jarman

Agenda was as follows:

- o Elections - tabled, no quorum
- o Member Assignment to Town/Municipalities - continued to February
- o "Paws for the Cause" Review

Cathi Hale announced that prior to reviewing the feedback that she submitted, and that Margie and Chris Jarman submitted, the Board needed to decide as soon as possible whether we would attempt to have a 2023 Paws for the Cause and our shelter grand opening celebration in the same year. As it currently stands, the two events would be only a month apart. It was discussed whether to move Paws for the Cause back to the Spring. All members present agreed that Paws for the Cause should be moved back to the Spring.

Action Item: Joe Newburn will contact the Events Center for possible dates and email the Board w/in 10 days of this meeting what the available dates are.

It was further discussed that if the full Board voted to move Paws for the Cause back to the Spring, a 2023 Spring Paws for the Cause would probably be too soon to undertake as we just completed the 2022 event.

It was then discussed that we would not have a 2023 Paws for the Cause event but have our shelter grand opening event also serve as a fundraiser. We discussed ways to make \$\$ during the grand opening event. The grand opening event would of course be free to the public, but we could have vendors there, selling different items or having information booths, such as dog trainers, groomers, dog sitters that are available in the Duplin County area, etc. We could have a steak dinner at 5, selling tickets to those folks that wanted to stay on and have a sit down dinner. The event would basically be an afternoon walk-through mingle event with the various vendors ( vendors do not have to be dog related) then have the sit down dinner for those that wanted to participate. We would have our information booths on our spay/neuter programs, book drive for Kayden's Corner, kennel sales, brick sales, etc. We could have bouncy houses, other games, possibly a demonstration of dog agility training.

Action Item: Joe will speak with our Architect and Builder to get a better idea of when the event should be scheduled. The shelter is on schedule to be completed September, October, 2023. He will email the Board w/in 10 days of this meeting date what the Architect advises. Joe will also check the Events Center calendar to make sure we do not have competing events on that weekend.

- o Providing animal control services to towns/municipalities

Cathi reviewed the meeting that she and Joe Newburn had with Major Tommy Tolley, Brunswick County Animal Services. He shared valuable information regarding how to work with the towns/municipalities to provide animal control services and how to charge. Next steps will be to attend town/municipalities board meetings to explain the process and the cost.

We will soon have a new member - Michelle Blandchard. Most of you met Michelle at the Paws for the Cause event. She handled the cake table. She is already working with the local Boys Scouts to build donation boxes to place in different businesses in the county and in the town halls for those folks that want to donate items to the shelter. These donation boxes will also have information shelves where we can place different information as to the DCAS programs and activities.

Members Not Present: please let me know your thoughts as soon as possible as to waiting until next year to schedule Paws for the Cause and your thoughts as to the format of our shelter grand opening celebration.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.