PET OVERPOPULATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 19, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

7: 00- 8: 30 pm

ZOOM MEETING

Call to Order: Roll Call -

Present: Holly, Jeff, Gary, Debbie, Tiffanie, Evie, Robbie

Introductions: Everyone says hello

Welcome: Jeff Dorson, Chair

Old Business:

Minutes from February 2021 meeting

Approved

Accepted as is Holly seconded

Accepted

Other

Governor's Council and commission

IV. Review of first draft of Bylaws, including description of positions for Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary - Evie Burguieres

Evie and Debbie will get bylaws together before next meeting

Length of office

Terms of office

V. Financial Report

VI. New Business:

 Doing well about $43,000 to work with we like $5 in reserves so we have a lot to give out.

13 applications good turn out! We usually get 7-10

Jeff did a lot to get the word out

2 groups asked for extensions we have to vote before we move forward

Asking council to consider Big Sky Ranch Catnip Foundation to have their application considered even though they were late due to the storm

Gary seconded the motion to extend

Will we allow their application to be considered?

No objections

Yes, it will be considered.

T&N group

Seconded by Evie

Do we want to accept and read their application tonight?

No objections

Yes, it will be considered.

13 total applications to consider.

Going through the applications.

Usually, we consider the applications and distribute $2-$4K so that each group gets something manageable

Magnolia Spay and Neuter -

Discussion on whether or not

Magnolia - Yes

Le Paw - Yes

Dancing Cat Farm - doing what they can in a local area west Monroe Yes

Port City Cat Rescue - Yes

1. Magnolia Spay/Neuter - run ny vet, central LA only low-cost spay-neuter clinic, provide services no matter what the costs are and income levels are Yes

2. LaPaw Animal Rescue - Yes

3. Dancing Cat Farm - Yes

4. Port City Cat Rescue (and by email) - Yes was a 501c3 and has operating Yes

5. Avoyelles Animal Welfare Society (AAWS) - Jeff knows them, they are a hardworking team, they really need help there. Yes

Online:

6. Walking in the Sun Rescue - Yes - new group, took a lot of time on their application

7. Kat Vet (veterinary clinic, Ponchatoula) - Seen them offer to take in animals, good people, really good vet, does a lot in the community - Yes

8. Wild Cat (problems with submitting online) - high volume in tough area, jeff thinks very highly of them, they are great, work round the clock, they go by a different name, Spay Nation. Gary hasn’t heard anything bad. All volunteer. Yes.

9. Washington Parish Animal Shelter - Robbie is recusing herself because she inspects that facility. Robbie recused. Background from jeff it took 25 years to build a shelter in that parish, they are inundated with animals every day, nice community support, they are constantly on social media. Did well on the application, took it very seriously. Yes.

10. Pitbull Lives Matter -Lafourche or terrebonne parish. Nonprofit that feeds and shelters fur babies of Louisiana. Do they have a 501c3? Do they have a spay-neuter program? Operating budget of $7000, one staff member, we could put it off and could we request extra documentation and get approval.

We could set aside $1000, provided they can find the documents.

- This is a Yes, if they can complete documents to prove 501c3 docs.

EPAR grant app #13

$20 spay neuter for those that qualify, the annual budget is $20k all volunteer. They do good work and they help the small local shelters.

Yes

Leaves the 2 that had requested an extension

10. Big Sky Ranch/Catnip Foundation - they do a lot for the community and do a lot of donations for smaller rescues. Yes.

T&N Initiative Livingston - brand new overwhelmed in a difficult area of the state, they need help. No one else is helping them - Yes.

Discussion: 12 yes, 1 yes with contingencies on providing documents.

How much to each

Magnolia Spay Neuter - she is a vet clinic so it may be difficult to determine, says she has 6 employees. We could do $3500 and see if we need to trim it away, or if that works. Motion to award $3500. Too much? Motion to approve $3000 to Magnolia, Debbie Seconded.

$3000 approved

LaPaw Animal Rescue - small, $50,000 or less. Hardworking, been around since 2003, 45 feral or homeless cat. Robbie motions to award $2500 to LaPaw, Evie Seconded, no opposed.

$2500 approved.

Dancing Cat Farm - wife and husband trip to Robinson's rescue, about 15 cats a month they have all the costs laid out, working with another vert clinic, Motion to approve

$1500, Jeff seconded, no one opposed.

$1500 approved.

Port City Cat Rescue - operating budget of $130,000, number of animals 150, between feb-aug over 70 feral cats. Requested $3000, Robbie motion for $3000. Seconded by Evie, not opposed.

$3000 approved.

Avoyelles Animal Welfare Society (AAWS) - $78,000 operating budget house and feed abandoned animals. That's the humane society that supports. They do a good job and they are overwhelmed. Evie motion $2500, Holly seconded, no opposed,

$2500 AAWS

Walking in the Sun Rescue - annual operating budget is $22,000 raised completely by volunteers. Motion $2000 by Evie, Robbie seconded, no opposed

Approved $2000 Walking in the Sun.

Kat Vet (veterinary clinic, Ponchatoula) operating budget $144,000, 2 employees. Offer $50 per cat, low-cost animal spay neuter. Low-cost spay neuter. She’s going to charge free feline spay neuter, half off rabbit and canine neuter. Robbie motions for $3000, Jeff seconded, no one opposed. Gives the community a boost.

Approved $3000

Wild Cat - Robbie motions to $3500. Seconded Jeff. Opposed none.

$3500 Approved to Wild Cat

Washington Parish Animal Shelter - annual operating budget $6000, they requested $3000, they have 3 part-time employees 501c3. Want to offer free spay-neuter projected 100 cats $36 per cat. Anything we can give them will be put to good use. Evie motions to approve $2500, Jeff seconded, anyone, opposed.

$2500 approved

Pitbull Lives Matter - Motion to approve $1000 based on 501c3 docs. Debbie will follow up with them to request docs within 1 week to approve the grant.

EPAR - they do a lot to help in a really tough area, they help all the small shelters in Evangeline and Jeff Davis. Debbie motions to give $2500 to EPAR. Evie Seconded, anyone opposed no.

Approved $2500

Big Sky Ranch/Catnip Foundation - Robbie motioned $3500, Jeff seconded. NO one opposed.

$3500 approved to Big Sky.

T&R Initiative Livingston - Jeff thinks they’ve done 100 ferals, $2000. Evie motion $2000, Holly seconded. No opposed.

Approved $2000

We have $5500, “extra” so we could give $420 more to each award.

Robbie makes a motion to approve $420 more to each award.

Jeff Seconded, anyone opposed. Nope.

Good!!!!!!! Everyone is getting more $$420 more. Nice way to end the year.

Everything is done, everyone is in there.

The largest distribution is $3920 to Big Sky and Wild Cat!

Date of Next Meeting: We usually meet in Feb. We could do that. We could do a survey monkey for February. How to reach Donna Bishop! The Speaker of the House is supposed to assign a senator so Jeff is going to go back to the Senate to ask to reassign because the person assigned isn’t interested. We will ask an alternate and we need to make a quorum, we have 3 permanent no-shows. Is it required per the statute to have representatives or voluntary or mandatory? They use the word Shall, then they need to assign someone and bring that up to Clay. Who does he need to go to for that. Robbie will ask the question tomorrow. Jeff and Robbie will get back to each other there.

Next meeting is Feb 2022. We will determine a date.

Any further discussion?

Robbie made a motion to Adjourn, Evie seconded. Adjured at 8:20 pm