
Meetings on the last Tuesday of the Month**Ocean Isle Beach Town Hall, 3 West Third Street, on the island; 6:30 PM**Janie Withers, President; Anita August, Director; Director; Mercy McCurdy, Director;
Mary Beth Mount, Director, Sue Lobocono, Director**Minutes of Meeting • Tuesday, Apr 24, 2018**

There were 27 members present

- I. Motion to approve minutes from March, 2018 meeting made by Linda Sing, 2nd by Dave Birkheimer.
- II. Financial Report: Funds on hand: \$32,000, much of which is earmarked for Pet Education Program, Hope Harbor, Stella's Touch, already budgeted assistance for rescue groups, the emergency fund to protect our rescue groups and budgeted insurance needs for Paws-Ability.
 - A. Pasta 4 Paws results: \$1,200.00, with all funds to go to the PEP program
A big thank you to Karen Arnold for all her hard work with reservations and check in and to Twin Lakes restaurant for their very generous gift of \$1,200 to Paws-Ability.
 - B. Grant received for PEP from BEMC for \$1,000 which will cover another school. This year's donation was double their donation from last year's offer.
- III. Raising Funds: It's what we're about! Why?
 - A. So we can help a dog named Chelsea. She spent over 7 years chained to a tree, with little shelter, food & water when the owners thought about it, no social interaction and fear of nearly everything. Going to animal control meant food & water but she needed a quiet place to heal and learn what it meant to be a pet and be part of a family. Everything changed for her when a foster stepped up to give her some time out of the shelter and into their home. Her story captured the heart of someone who had recently lost their pet and wanted to adopt her. Great references but problem was she was in Fla. We were offered the artwork from a Beacon political cartoon about the chaining issue and decide to put it on a t-shirt to surface up the most recent ordinance passed by Brunswick County Commissioners to ALLOW CHAINING OF DOGS IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY. We would use the funds raised from the t-shirt to get Chelsea home. If you did not get your t-shirt, it is your lucky night. \$10 each while they last. You can order additional shirts by sending us a message and we will mail to you. Chelsea not only got a new home but she got a new name as well. Her story will be featured on our Christmas cards this year. Life for Grace is only just beginning but there are so many dogs who spend a lifetime chained. We will continue to fight for change in the chaining ordinance for Brunswick County. You can help by contacting your county commioners.
 - B. Check was presented to Cat Tails to cover the expenses for Angel. She was pulled from animal control with broken leg which had to be amputated. Xrays showed the leg had multiple breaks, untreated and told a story of abuse and neglect. The vet opted to amputate the leg and Angel was healing well in Cat Tails. One day, a man entered Cat Tails, a man with an amputated leg! He immediately spotted Angel and it was a perfect match and she was adopted. Angel will also be featured on our Christmas card this year.
 - C. Check was presented AAA to help with the cost to treat 10 HW dogs they puoled from our local animal control.
 - D. Check was presented to RACE to help with the cost to treat 3 HW dogs they pulled from our local animal control.
- IV. UPDATES

- A. WoofStock in Southport was rescheduled due to weather. Celebrate DOGS with PA & Southport Evening Rotary club at WOOFSTOCK ON SATURDAY, MAY 12 IN SOUTHPORT. Life music with 60's and 70's music, arts & craft vendors, food trucks and fun. A 1 mile walk begins at 10 am. \$10 per person. Proceeds from Woofstock will help Paws-Ability move the ever-popular Pet Education Program to 2 new schools in Southport. Come out to celebrate a day of DOGS AND FUN!
- B. FFAR celebrates on May 19. Volunteers needed 10-2pm for PA tent 12-3 pm. Meet adoptable dogs and cats and learn about Furever Friends Animal Rescue of Leland.
- C. BandFest June 3. All day live music with Sea & Sand Band from 12-230pm and award winning country music artist Trey Calloway from 3-530pm. FREE event. \$5.00 donation at the gate will provide you with a raffle ticket for drawings all day. Great prizes all day. Sponsors and vendors needed. Sponsorship-\$200 includes logo on tshirt, 1 year business membership in PA, vendor space if they choose, coupon in goody bags that will be given to first 200 families entering BandFest event. Volunteers needed Sat set up stage, marking vendor spaces, Sun- 12-6 set up, work PA tent, tear down, entry gates, misc crew throughout the day 12-6. Vendor applications available for PA business members. Members are asked to help to collect gift cards or items from local businesses to be used for raffle prizes for the event. **Proceeds from BandFest will go to the growth of a new program, Stella's Touch.**

Stella's Touch is a new Paws-Ability program. To date, we have helped 30 families keep their pet where they belong, with the family! A "Go Fund Me" account has begun. To donate: gofundme/stellastouch.com. A SECRET DONOR HAS OFFERED TO MATCH ALL STELLA'S TOUCH DONATIONS AND THAT INCLUDES BANDFEST, UNTIL OCTOBER 1.

- D. Hope Harbor Domestic Violence Shelter program continues to help pets and their people. Recently, a victim sought protection from domestic violence in Brunswick County. She arrived at Hope Harbor with 2 children and 2 small dogs. Before the Paws-Ability kennel was built, she would have been asked to surrender her pets but no more! Her dogs have a boarding kennel attached to Hope Harbor and she and her children are safe. Her dogs were spayed and neutered and received necessary vaccinations so they are now all ready for a new life save from domestic violence.
- E. Recently, Brunswick County Commissioners voted to continue to allow chaining of dogs in BC as long as the chain has a swivel hook on the end. Leland Town Council has chosen to uphold the same outdated ordinance that more progressive counties in NC are moving away from. 7 NC counties have voted to ban all chaining of dogs. The decisions to ban chaining of dogs was supported by recent statements from AMA, (American Veterinarian Association). Recently released statements quote nothing good comes from chaining a dog for the animal or for the community. A chained dog becomes aggressive and a danger to the community. Dog bite cases have increased in the state and even more in Brunswick County. Chaining a dog is necessary if you are guarding your drugs or if you are training dogs to fight. It is perplexing to civilized communities why elected officials refuse to ban chaining of dogs. Perhaps the upcoming election will bring about changes in this issue as Randy Thompson and Marty Cooke, your county commissioners will seek reelection.
- F. REMINDERS
 - A. Papa John's promotion: PAWS30 CONTINUES. Save 30% with 20% to PA. ¼ pg flyers in rental packages for tourist season OIB, SSB, HB.
 - B. Online Donations (Network for Good, Amazon Smile, Walmart etc)

Before making any online purchase, go to IGIVE.COM and select PA as the charity of your choice. That's it! So easy to give at no cost to you.

- C. Memorial Gifts. Donations in memory of or in honor of a pet or a person
- D. Newsletter story ideas or articles needed. Let us know if you have an idea for a story.
- E. Speakers are needed to follow our monthly meetings. Speakers should address an issue of concern for pet owners. Please contact Janie with suggestion for speakers or suggestion for a subject matter to discuss.

VI. MARK YOUR CALENDARS. Volunteers will be needed at each event

- A.. WoofStock. Southport May 12. 10-3
- B. FFAR celebrates 12-3pm in Leland near Capeside Animal Hospital
- C. .BandFest. June 3: Sunset Beach Town (Waterfront) Park.
- D. Bicycle Poker Run. Oct 13.
- E . Oyster Fest on OIB. Oct 20 & 21
- F Octoberfest in Calabash. Oct 27
- G. December 1: Photo with Santa - Sunset Beach Town (Waterfront) Park

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT: Seaside Bakery & Wine Shop will close the end of Apr. and will reopen early May in a new location with a new vision as **SEASIDE WINE AND GOURMET**. Last wine tasting Thurs, Apr 26 at old location. This business has been very supportive of PAWS-ABILITY efforts for many years in events like MG and BPR. We are proud to support Carolyn's new business venture!

Petition circulating to allow Marilyn Priddy to be on the ballot to run against Marty Cooke. This does not mean you are required to vote for her, but it simply states that she has the right to be on the ballot. Marilyn Priddy will offer you the 1st actual choice for a Brunswick County Commissioner change in many years. Often, change is good

VII. Tonight's speaker cancelled.
Meeting adjourned at 7:3

You have chosen to be part of PA. Please consider getting involved. Write a article for our newsletter, attend an event, sell raffle or dinner tickets, have your photo made with the Santa or volunteer to help at an event. It is not hard to find a way to help in our efforts. Contacts below:

Event	Chairperson	E-Mail
BandFest	Janie Withers	janiewithers@paws-ability.org
Woof Stock	Mary Beth Mount	mbs6042@gmail.com
PA Newsletter	Ellen Lehrer	newsletter@paws-ability.org
Hope Harbor	Debbie Eckert	debeckert@gmail.com
Stella's Touch	Anne VonDerHeide	annevdh@atmc.net
Pet Education Program	Anne Overcash	aovercash@pecs.com
Cat House Project	Janie Withers	janiewithers@paws-ability.org
AFAR / Unchainbrunswick.com	Madge Mateo	afarnc@gmail.com
Obedience classes	Cynthia Kipp	Cynthia.kipp12@gmail.com
	BC Community College	910 755 7300
Fostering for RACE	Judi Haft	judi_haft@yahoo.com
Fostering for AAA	Jill Jones	910 620 3783

Future Paws-Ability meetings:

Tuesday, May 27, 6:30 PM @ OIB Town Hall

There are no monthly meetings in June or July. Meetings resume in August.

Visitors welcome.

Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.
Dr Martin Luther King