



**Pre-Meeting Sales Tonight: Mardi Gras 4 Paws Tickets • SOLD OUT!
Mardi Gras T's • \$20 / Meeting Special: \$15 TONIGHT
Mardi Gras Raffle Tickets • 3/\$10: Need NOT be present to win!**

Meeting Agenda • Tuesday, February 26, 2019

- I. Welcome All. We had 52 people attending. 11 new members who had never attended a meeting!
- II. Financial Report We have \$39,000 in the bank. \$29,000 is earmarked for Stella's Touch with \$10,000 disposable funds Karen Arnold
- III. Mardi Gras 4 Paws was posted today as another sold out event. "Fat Tuesday," March 5th at Jinks Creek Restaurant, OIB, 6-9 PM. \$35 pp. Cajun food, hand passed appetizers and cash bar
Sea & Sand Band will provide music once again. To date, this band has helped nonprofits in your community raise nearly \$115,000. Funds that make BC a better place to live. This is the 8th annual Mardi Gras. The 3rd one at Jink's Creek Waterfront Grill, Ocean Isle Beach. Proceeds will be dedicated to spay and neuter to reduce the number of unwanted animals in Brunswick County.
The night begins with a royal parade of past kings & queens. Costumes, though not required make the event fun and we have great prizes for the best costumes for ladies, gentlemen or couples. Our king cake will have "critters" hidden in special pieces. If you get a piece of cake with a "critter", you get prizes. Raffle tickets will be drawn at 8 with prizes that include: \$200 VISA card, Margaritaville bicycle, and a \$50.00 gift certificate to Jink's Creek. Geri Esposito, Chair

Upcoming Events & volunteer opportunities:

- A. "Paint Your Pet" Party, with Katherine Rausch, March 30 & 31
Surf Unlimited Mercantile, OIB • Limited to 10 people per night • \$65/pp
You provide a photo of your pet. The canvas is prepared for you to paint. Lots of help will be available to give you a great finished product you will be proud of.
 - B. Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. "Pancake Breakfast: All U Can Eat!" - Saturday, April 13 from 7 to 10 a.m. at Hwy 55, Shallotte. Photos With our own Easter Bunny! \$10
Tickets will be available at next month's meeting. \$7pp. Volunteer opportunities were announced and quickly filled for as greeters, serve drinks, bus tables and keep the "bunny" happy!
 - C. BandFest Sunset Beach June 2. All day festival with live music, food trucks, beer garden, vendors, prizes and fun for all. Bring your chair and enjoy the day.
- IV. Surprise Announcement: A Paws-Ability Bequest from Margaret Taylor, affectionately known as the "Crazy Cat Lady" of Ocean Isle Beach. We were asked by Margaret for only 2 things: take care of her cats and help Cat Tails when needed. A check was presented to Cat Tails for boarding and care for Margaret's cats. Her cats are available for adoption at Cat Tails now. **Adoption of one or more of Margaret's cats will include total vet care for life.** If you have thought you might like a cat or 2, this is your chance with NO COST to you. You'll just love them! Some pictures were available to view.

It could take 6mos to a year to finalize the estate. There is a lot involved. In mean time, it is business as usual for PA. We still need you to volunteer, to attend events, to support PA. The gift from Margaret means PA will become a sustainable nonprofit that can now move toward being an acceptable nonprofit for endowments. We will continue the battle to improve animal welfare but we get more tools to do it. We will have more information available to release to you as we move ahead with the bank, the attorney and with the management of the estate that has been entrusted to us. Remember, it was entrusted to Paws-Ability and YOU ARE Paws-Ability.

- V. 2019 Kitten Season is here. TNR is active. If you are interested in helping in any way, contact Jim Bumgarten. See bottom of agenda for email address for Jim. You could help by paying for a spay or a neuter for a cat. A fact taught as part of our Pet Education class: Two unaltered cats will produce 2,000 kittens in 7 years. You can also help with the actual trapping or even the transportation to Fix a Friend. Maybe you offer to transport cats when trapped or return them when surgery complete. Maybe you offer to house a cat overnight in your garage following surgery. This gives it a better chance to get over the surgery and have fewer problems post-surgery. The sad statistics are that of every 5,000 cats taken in at BCAPS, Over 2,000 of them will be euthanized. The numbers are slowly improving, but it will take years to accomplish.
- VI. Pet Education Program (PEP)
- a. Graduation Celebration • Friday, March 1st, 1:15 PM at Supply Elementary School. Paws-Ability members are welcome to attend the celebration ceremony.
 - b. Jesse Mae's Spring PEP will start Thursday, March 14 Derrilyn Harbeston
 1. Need volunteers as teachers and as helpers in the classroom each week.
 2. Every Thursday, for 6 weeks. Volunteers select a single week to help. If we want to change tomorrow for animals, we must begin with our children. We must educate them about responsibility, respect and compassion for animals. If this is important to you, please consider helping with one of the classes at Jesse Mae beginning March 14. See contact information at the bottom of your agenda to Contact Derrilyn or Ann.
- VII. Update: Stella's Touch- 7 cases have been completed so far, thus allowing animals to remain with their owner. Without Stella's Touch, nearly all of these pets would be lost or owners forced to surrender them to overcrowded shelters. Help us help pet owners keep their pet when they experience an unexpected emergency in the lives of the pet or the owner. We have helped elderly pet owners, veterans and families with financial aid that has made such a difference. The pets thank us, the pet owners thank us and the veterinarian hospitals thank us for helping to make a difference.
- VIII. Speaker: Kim Smith, Doggie Stylz, Inc. In Ace Hardware, Calabash. Paws-Ability member emailed me yesterday that he is about to enter his 2nd round of training with Kim and highly recommended her
- IX. Sponsorships
- a. Sponsorships are available for BandFest on Sunset Beach on June 2, BandFest on Ocean Isle Beach on Oct 13 and OktoberFest on Oct 26. If you know someone

who would like to sponsor any of these events, send a message to info@paws-ability.org and we will contact them to discuss the details.

XII. Reminders

- b. Newsletter stories and photos are always welcomed. Copies of our latest newsletter are available tonight - Distribute throughout community
- c. We need laptops: Donate used laptops to Paws-Ability to be used for our rescue groups.
- d. Memorial Gifts: Donations in memory of or in honor of a pet or a person. A great gift for that "hard to buy for" friend.
- e. Matching Funds & Donations for volunteer hours are available from many companies. If you retired, check out what might be available thru your employer.
- f. Remember Paws-Ability When You're Shopping Online!
 - 1. IGIVE.com; Amazon Smile; Network for Good; Walmart etc
 - 2. *Mason Dixon*: LOCAL, a PA business member! Clothing and gift store in Shallotte offering 5% of your purchase to nonprofit of your choice.
- g. Papa John's Pizza - use code "Paws30" when ordering online for 30% discount with 20% donated to Paws-Ability.

XIII. Paws-Ability Members Opening New Businesses in our Community

- a. Dog Daze Pet Supplies opening March 30 - Melissa Miller & family, Dog Daze Mobile Grooming (Georgetown Rd & Highway 904 Shopping Center)
- b. Delilah's Brew & Chew opening March 8 - Lisa Rutherford (formerly Hatteras Embroidery Company, north of CVS on Beach Drive). Pet friendly coffee shop and art hub.
- c. Sweet Cakes Bakery. NOW OPEN:, Beverly & Bill Boynton & daughter Erika Boynton, 910.393.7700, 7026 Beach Drive SW, OIB, across from brick Baptist Church - donating our King Cake for Mardi Gras!

XIV. 2019 Events: Mark your calendars . . . **SAVE THE DATES**

- a. Mardi Gras • "Fat Tuesday" March 5 Jinks Creek Restaurant, OIB
- b. "Pancake Breakfast: All U Can Eat!" \$7. Photos with the Easter Bunny - Saturday, April 13 at Hwy 55, Shallotte from 7am-10am.
- c. Spring Market - Sunset Beach Waterfront Park - Thurs April 25
- d. Memorial Day Market - Sunset Beach Waterfront Park - Monday, May 27

Summer Markets. Every Thursday in Sunset Beach Waterfront Park - May 2 - Oct 10.

Every Tuesday on OIB, June 4-Aug 27, next to Town Hall, June 4 - August 27

- e. BandFest SB - Sunset Beach Waterfront Park - Sunday, June 2
- f. Holden Beach Run - September 14, 4-7 PM - see Mercy
- g. Labor Day Market - OIB, Monday, September 2
- h. Sunset @ Sunset - Sunset Beach, Saturday, October 5
- i. BandFest OIB - Sunday October 13
- j. OysterFest - October 19th & 20th • OIB

- k. Oktoberfest - Saturday, October 26th • Calabash
- l. Photos with Santa, Saturday, December 7 • SB Park *AND*
- m. Photos with Santa, Saturday, December 14 • OIB
- n. Shallotte Holiday Market - Mulberry Park, November 16
- o. Winterfest - Southport Franklin Square Park, Saturday, December 14

XV. NEXT MONTH'S MEETING: Last Tuesday of the month: March 26, 6:30 PM,
OIB

XVI. Questions / Concerns / Suggestions / Ideas

XVII. Get involved! Contact information below:

Event	Chairperson	E-Mail
Newsletter	Ellen Lehrer	newsletter@paws-ability.org
Hope Harbor	Debbie Eckert	debeckert@gmail.com
Stella's Touch	Janie Withers	janiewithers@paws-ability.org
Event Volunteering	Anita August	a2sunsetbeach@gmail.com
Pet Education Program	Anne Overcash	aovercash@pecs.com
	Derrilyn Harbeston	dms hus@gmail.com
Feral cats & TNR	Jim Baumgarten	bummer3341@yahoo.com
	Karen Arnold	arnoldkj6997@gmail.com
Fostering for RACE	Cheri McLain	cbm51@atmc.net
Fostering for AAA	Jill Jones	jjones2@atmc.net

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