

**The Cat Welfare Association**  
**Minutes of the November 17, 2020; Virtual Board Meeting**

**In attendance:**

Board members: Heidi Garinger, Sue Godsey, Teresa Plummer, Karen Ramey, Katie Thomas

Others in attendance: RoseAnn Ballangee, Helen DeSantis, Gail Harbert, Peggy Kirk, Judy Vertikoff

Absent: Brenda Martin

**Meeting was called to order by Karen Ramey at 7 p.m.**

**Agenda Items / Points of Discussion**

- Consent Agenda
- Shelter Report
- Old and New Business

**Decisions and Reports**

1. Consent Agenda was approved.
2. Shelter Report
  - a. In October, 71 cats and kittens found their forever homes.
  - b. Year-to-date adoptions are 595 compared to 941 last year. In light of the pandemic, maintaining 63% of last year's adoption numbers is encouraging.
  - c. Although the number of cats admitted to the shelter this year (726) exceeds the number of adoptions (595) the shelter is not overcrowded, and cats remain healthy.
  - d. There are currently 272 cats in the shelter.
  - e. Low cost spay and neuter surgeries in 2020 exceeded last year at this time (2,310 compared to 1,985).
  - f. Chewy has a program now to support shelters. Cat Welfare's wish list will be on the Chewy website before the holiday *Feline Forum* is released.
  - g. Cat Caper is tentatively scheduled for October 9, 2021. Columbus Parks and Recreation has delayed accepting reservations until January 1 for the Grange Audubon Park.
  - h. A new gate was ordered for the front door; the current has been repaired a lot and is a safety hazard.
  - i. We are back to March and April volunteer numbers due to the increase of COVID cases.
  - j. Members and friends of Cat Welfare continue their generous support of the cats in our care.
3. The January membership meeting to vote on Bylaw changes has been postponed due to COVID cases increasing and unknown restrictions on gatherings. There will be an announcement in the December/January newsletter about the delay. This information will be cross promoted on social media and email.

4. The 2021 draft budget as approved by the Finance Committee was submitted for Board review. This conservative, continuation Budget is based on current expenses and trends. The Board is to give comments to Judy Vertikoff by December 1; Judy will respond to comments by December 8. Since the December Board meeting has been cancelled. Board members will vote on the draft Budget via e mail.
5. The Christmas bonus for the staff was approved.
6. Orientation booklet: Board members should receive in a few weeks.
7. Eligible votes by membership category: Based on an anomaly in the last election, our first mail in vote, two people sent votes via one lifetime membership. The second vote did not impact the results of the election. The Board decided to clarify language that each membership allows one vote.
8. Attendees were encouraged to go to The Catique Christmas Bazaar November 19-21. Peggy Kirk thanked volunteers for coming to the Catique to help with the Bazaar set up.

**Meeting was adjourned by Karen Ramey at 7:48 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted, Katie Thomas**