

Mississippi Critterz  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
January 14, 2019

Meeting: Jackson Square Clubhouse  
119 Chestnut Street  
Oxford, MS 38655

Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm.

Members Present: Gail Brown – President, Natascha Scott – Treasurer, Aynslee Smith – Secretary, Jordan Carter, and Caitlin Covington.

Members Absent: None.

Visitors: Janice Antonow – Oxford City Liaison  
Zack Hetrick – Animal Control Officer

The meeting was opened with Gail Brown requesting to revise the agenda to make additions to add Debbie Myers as a guest speaker and to add the topic of contagious diseases to the agenda. Natascha made the motion to accept the additions to the agenda, with Caitlin seconding the motion. All were in favor of adopting the agenda as written with the revised additions.

Minutes were reviewed for the previous meeting, and Natascha made the motion to accept the minutes as written with Caitlin seconding the motion. All were in favor to accept the minutes as written.

New Business:

First on agenda, Zach Hetrick presented the Animal Control report as follows for the month of December:

City limit calls - 41  
County calls - 4  
Other county calls - 0  
Dogs picked up - 14  
Dogs returned to owner - 5  
City licenses sold – 0  
Verbal warnings - 0  
Written warnings - 0  
Cruelty case- 1 coordinated with OPD

First on the agenda, Janice addressed in instances of where domesticated cats are found by individuals within Oxford City Limits, it would be appropriate for the ACO to go to pick up the cats, if individuals were unable to bring them to the shelter. It was recommended that this would only be during workday hours, Monday through Friday between 8 am and 5 pm, and if calls were outside these hours, individuals would be asked if they could house the cat at their residence until the following morning.

Instances would be addressed on a case-by-case basis in regards to the situation. This will not include roaming or feral cats.

Gail announced Kayla Shaver resigned from the board, but she wants to continue to be involved when she can and also continue to do the Dungeons and Dragons Card fundraiser for MS Critterz each month.

Additionally, Gail stated we received 2 banks of puppy kennels that are now being used to house puppies and 5 outside puppy exercise pens that are studier and have more room for the puppies to play in the area. Also, 2 more banks of 30 inch size puppy kennels with 4 kennels per bank have been ordered.

Gail gave an update on the security cameras and 5 additional cameras will be installed within the week.

Next, Gail stated she spoke with Michelle Robinson about the recycling program, and MS Critterz will begin recycling boxes, plastics, cans, and paper. They will provide us bins to use for plastic and cans. Pick-up for recycled items will be on Thursdays.

Justin Shumate next presented the Director's report as follows:

New staff hires: KD Luttrell, Mary Ann Padget, Meredith Roberson, and Zach Beckum. Zach Beckum will be part-time kennel attendant/part-time ACO.

Animal Report:

Animal Intake: Oxford City Limits – 23 cats  
Lafayette County – 25 cats  
Oxford City Limits – 47 dogs  
Lafayette County – 66 dogs  
Adoptions – 42  
Transferred – 37  
Returned to Owner – 15  
Trap/Neuter/Release - 2 for Oxford City Limits  
Trap/Neuter/Release – 1 for Lafayette County  
Euthanasia – 1 dog (vet recommendation)  
Passed Away – 3 dogs (1 unknown cause, 1 from injury, 1 nursing pup)  
4 cats (4 kittens – illness)  
Available for Adoption – 47  
On Hold – 29 (stray hold/hold for transport/unweaned litters)

Adoption Events: An adoption event was done at PetSmart on January 5<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 3 pm in which one dog went to a foster-to-adopt home.

Debbie Myers next presented information regarding a fundraiser she would like to do for MS Critterz and 2 other rescues in Oxford. She would like to do water paintings of animals to use on the calendar in which 30% of proceeds will go to MS Critterz.

Natascha next talked about reaching out to clinics about hosting a spay day, but as of this date has not been able to secure a clinic to host the event.

Potential upcoming fundraisers – Natascha presented the idea of having a yard sale; a location, items collected, and be potentially done during the sometime in the spring.

Aynslee also presented the idea of having an online auction. Items could be collected and posted online for individuals to bid.

Gail presented doing the Chicken Spay-ghetti/No Balls meal tentatively for National Spay Day on February 26<sup>th</sup>, where individuals could prepay to get a homemade Chicken Spaghetti dish that would only need to be heated to serve for dinner. This could be done as a dinner for 2 or dinner for 4.

Next, Natascha presented the Treasurer's Report and stated we are currently in good standing.

Natascha next talked about grant applications, and because we are a new group, she is potentially searching for grants when we would qualify to apply for during the year.

Natascha next presented about how invoices, and data should be entered accordingly for easier entry for the accountant.

Next, Natascha stated when putting information on social media to be sure to include the city, town, and location found with the phone number entered with the hyphens to make it easier for individuals to read the information. Also, when the animal is found/returned to owner should be posted on top of the post.

In the event people are wanting to surrender their animals because of the government shutdown, we could offer them free food to help keep their animals.

Gail next presented about contagious diseases regarding 2 litters of puppies that have parvo. All of the infected puppies are being treated, and 2 have passed, but several are already showing signs of improvement. The staff have been doing a wonderful job with handling and cleaning to prevent any further spread of the disease and continue to do a great job.

Follow-up Business:

Public Outreach – Instagram 1052 followers, insights 15,999  
Facebook 500 new likes in past 2 weeks

The meeting was opened for public discussion.

The meeting next went into executive session.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.