

WRAS&R meeting on January 15, 2025

Present: John Aegerter, Liz Mowrey, Gina Clark, Jim Felton, Louise Duffy, Skip Duffy, Shelli Holcomb, Jon Holcomb, Aleina Cudnofskey, Tammy Wyke,, Thea Bendix, Kelli Banks, Charlie Prentiss, Karen Skow, Deb and Denny from CASPR. Jane Bollman, Eleanore Huggins.

The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: As of December 31, 2024. Operating budget \$30,077.11. \$242,794.13 cash on hand. \$200,417.75 in the construction/building fund. \$417.73 interest \$2544.12 spay and neuter fund.. minutes/ minutes approved

Jim Felton noted that the Design Committee met at Ruszoni's and looked at rooms, layouts for shelter, (Gina passed out some drawings for the cat section, based on the shelter Simply Cats. We discussed the fact that animal shelters are not found anywhere in the city codes. A number of this group attended Monday night's city council meeting. The council voted unanimously to form a committee which will ask the Planning and Zoning group to designate the Union Pacific property (Industrial zoning) for an animal shelter.

After some discussion, Jim Felton said that he thinks we should send our offer to Union Pacific after he and John meet with a city council member tomorrow. He said it could take six months to get an answer; that in fact, on their website UP says if you are in a hurry to get answer on the property, lease. We can't do that since Farmer's Supply Co-operative is already leasing the property. Liz moves, Jim seconds that we make the offer tomorrow. Motion passes.

Martha at Dog & Cat Wellness is doing a spay and neuter clinic on next Tuesday the 21st. We have ten cats so far for this though she can do 14. Weiser Vet will have the first dog neuter for the Pet Friendly grant. A number of people have not responded. Ten have paid but Martha can do 14.

We asked for topics to put in this first quarter newsletter. Jim and Thea have given me an article about the Pet Friendly program and the grant we received. It was suggested writing about the Volunteers program at the Weiser City Pound. Kori Rex at the dog pound has spayed or neutered 85 cats in the TNR program. It was asked what happens to those cats and the answer is, they are returned to the neighborhood where they were picked up, where whoever was feeding them will continue to do so. We talked about putting sections in about followup to adoptions. John suggested that Charlie write up a paragraph about CASPR and send us some photos of dogs who are being fostered who are up for adoption.

We now have 11 board members which is the maximum. Up from our lowest number of five. John Aegerter, John Burke, Jim Felton, Thea Bendix, Liz Mowrey, Gina Clark, Louise Duffy, Aleina Cudnofskey, Tammy Wykes, Jon Holcomb and Kelli Banks.

I gave into to Mary Read from Moscow about design work we were looking for from the U of I Art & Architecture department. She knows someone to ask and will try to get us a contact. John had earlier talked to lady who worked with students who were going to design the interior but that was a year ago and now we are looking at the whole building.

John has four boxes of T-shirts in his house, he says about 200 shirts. He doesn't really have a good space to store them, and certainly no place to keep more. It was suggested that we dye some of the ones we have, and put info about the tshirts on facebook. It was also suggested that maybe Ridley's would put some of our shirts on a rack in the store, as they do for the Wolverines high school shirts. We are local, and nonprofit, so maybe.

We currently have 50 members who have paid and another 39 who have not renewed. John said he was going to send those lapsed members notices.

Charlie said she got her ass chewed by Kori Rex (as did we) for putting pictures of puppies on line. She said CASPR is inundated with puppies right now. She said they always respond to law enforcement on cases but are going to have to start charging cities for taking in animals.. In Oregon, animal abuse is a felony.

Eleanore Huggins asked if we were going to put a booth at Apple Blossom Festival in Payette. John said the last year we did that there were very few people who came to the table. Jim said we are trying to stick just to Washington County. Exposure would be worthwhile, Eleanore said. John said we probably had nine people that showed up.

It was brought up that on our facebook page people try to sell puppies. This is not allowed there but one man just said he had some and then in the comments said they were for sale. Jonny said that is a scam.

Gina asked about having a yard sale. After talking about where we could do it, John said we'd like to have the yard sale on the UP property, but of course that would only happen if we find out that we can buy it.

Meeting adjourned: Next meeting will be February 19, 2025 at the Bee Tree.