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Ravalli County Commissioners

RAVALLI COUNTY ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL BOARD
10/22/07

Present: Peg Platt, Sue Major, Linda Turner, Ethyl Keel, Brenda Fisher, Nathan Beckwith, Judy Vernier
Excused: Vicki Dawson, Barb Ormiston, Susan O'Brien
Visitors: Don Coon, Mark Heller

Meeting called to order, minutes from September meeting read and approved.
Treasurer's report: $12,120.81
Old Business:

1. Linda, Mac and Peg reported on their meeting with Marti Birkeneder on Oct. 2. To date, no grant letters of any sort have been sent out to prospective grantors. The Build A Bear letter was not sent when we were told it would, due to Marti reading the fine print stating that they do not do grants over $10,000.00. Our grant request was to be for $780,000.00. Disappointed with the lack of progress, a meeting with Commissioner Driscoll has been set for 10-23-07 to discuss the issues. We hope to get commissioner approval for our own board to send out letters of interest to prospective grantors. To this effect, Linda has revised the original letter of interest and Mac has revised the 5-year proposed budget, which dropped the total cost from $780,000.00 to $304,204.00. Due to not having a contract as of yet with BRHA in regard to housing animals, all mention of BRHA in particular was replaced with the word "kennels" and any mention of funds related to BRHA was also dropped. Mac also reported that she met with RC & D and showed them Marti's job description, they felt that the work involved with our grant did not warrant all that she had described. They also said that most of the administration work of a grant was done by them anyway, so another grant administrator was not going to be necessary. RC & D is very willing to work with us on grants. Motions were made and approved 1) to accept Mac's budget revision, and 2) to accept Linda's letter revision and present to Commissioner Driscoll.

2. Nathan brought up using the same letter as solicitation to corporations for funds. He proposed sending out 10 letters to major corporations and see if we could generate funding. Motion was made and approved for Nathan to go ahead and send out letters.

3. Nathan handed out the updated job descriptions. Mac to take the descriptions and put them in the County's preferred format. Motion was made to that effect and approved.

4. Mac reported that ACO housing issues have still not been resolved.

New Business:

1. Brenda offered to come up with new ideas for our letterhead, something more professional and attention grabbing.

2. Nominations and voting of officers will be done at next meeting.

3. Linda suggested that we consider a liaison with County Attorney to deal with animal cruelty and abuse issues that may come up in the future. She brought several articles correlating child/spousal abuse with animal abuse and how several other states are stepping up their efforts in convicting abusers.

Motion made to adjourn meeting and wholeheartedly approved and we all strolled into the cloudy night.
Next meeting will be 11-26-07.