**Hood Co Animal Lovers Organization**

General Meeting Minutes

Baymont Inn and Suites

October 17, 2011 – 6:00 p.m.

**Call meeting to order**

Kelly McNab called the meeting to order and asked the officers present to introduce themselves.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Linda Oeller was not present to provide the Treasurer’s Report, but Pam Wurtz noted she had recently made a donations deposit of $88 to our bank account.

**Update on 10/14 Animal Control Adoption Day**

Charles Monroe was not present, but it was reported that 16 pets had been placed in homes during the recent AC adoption day. The placement rate of cats has improved significantly due to the work done by Debbie Musil in socializing and promoting AC’s feline residents. Kudos to Debbie!

**Update on current HALO fosters**

There are currently three dogs in foster: Justice, Ruby and Bambi. Kelly will be visiting AC on Tuesday and Thursday of this week to evaluate available dogs for entry into HALO’s placement program.

Judy Hull said she returned a cocker spaniel she had fostered over the weekend to AC on Monday morning. This is a dog that was found wandering in the HEB parking lot and brought to the AC Adoption Day. Judy believes there are 2 parties interested in adopting this dog from AC once the three-day hold expires; however, if the dog is not taken from AC by a suitable adopter, he is a candidate for the HALO placement program.

Hugo Gomez mentioned a border collie mix taken to AC last week as an owner surrender. Kelly will evaluate this dog as a possible pull, and Pam will notify a friend who is looking for a border collie mix.

**Update on successful adoptions**

Since the last meeting, Bluebell, Moose, Toby and Licorice have been adopted. Moose and Licorice were adopted by attendees at Community Day.

It was noted that we believe Goose has been adopted, but we have not heard from Emilia to verify the adoption.

Kelly will be making follow-up calls to recent adopters this week.

Nan Charpiot reported that recent follow-up calls/emails to Tiny and Bluebell’s adopters have produced gratifying feedback on how well the dogs are integrating into their new families. In the good news department – Tiny has lost another pound! She is now 17 lb.

**Update on HALO garage sale at DeCordova Bend Estates**

Nan reported for Linda that the garage sale had brought in close to $600 and had provided a good opportunity for working together and promoting HALO in the community.

**Update on Bow Wow Trick or Treat**

Pami stated that BBTT will be held on October 29th. Three posters are available if anyone has a great place to post them. People will be needed for various jobs, and she will circulate a list shortly for volunteers.

Animal Control and HALO will both bring dogs and do adoptions during event hours. Dr. Innes will still be in town, and will be present to do vaccinations. Town and Country Bank will have their popcorn machine at the event and will give away popcorn for a ‘donation’ that will benefit Friends for Animals and HALO.

Emilia will supervise two Teen Court participants who will draw chalk paw prints around the square.

The next BWTT meeting will be Wednesday, October 19th, 6:00 at the Baymont Inn and Suites.

**Update on Putts for Mutts**

Hugo reported we have six teams of four whom have indicated they will play in the tournament so far. He and others are still soliciting in the community for hole sponsors, donations, etc. We have approx. 6 or 7 hole sponsors, and have received prizes or commitments to help from Beall’s, Walmart and Show Biz Cinema among others.

Rowena is working with Brookshire Brothers on providing lunch; Pam has approached HEB for food donations. Hugo was asked to send an email listing businesses that have been visited so that they aren’t approached a second time.

Volunteers will be needed and decisions are pending as to what type of prizes, raffles, etc. we will hold. Hugo advises a “wait and see” approach so we will know what we have donated to use. In case funds are needed to build a successful event, a motion was made, seconded and passed to provide up to $200 in seed money for the event.

There will be a 50/50 contest for entrants who wish to participate.

Hugo asked Nan to prepare a few fundraising proposals for him to pick up the next day.

The next meeting on the golf tournament will be held after BWTT is complete.

**Old Business**

Pat Van Osten said she had followed up with the professor whose class is writing grant proposals for nonprofit organizations to insure they have received our request to be included. She has not received a reply to her inquiry. The class will choose ten nonprofit organizations with which to work. If we are chosen, our grant request will be for funds to sponsor spay/neuter programs.

Linda Facer reported that landscaping work for the new exercise area at AC has been completed. Work on the fencing will start Wednesday. The work is being performed by Danny Souder at G&L Construction and is being done at cost. Three gates have been donated to the project anonymously, which may allow some of our funds to be diverted to creating small, separate areas in the yard.

Linda and Pam will work together to see if HEB will donate two steel benches for the yard. Linda will take the lead on planning a dedication ceremony to include a ribbon cutting, the presence of a county official, reporting by the Hood County News, etc. Hugo suggested that Channel 27 might wish to film the event.

Judy Hull suggested we might want to make a plea for additional help for AC from the community in the news coverage of the dedication event.

Pami reminded everyone she has our “Kroger letter” and can provide copies if needed.

There was a brief discussion about continuing to lobby for Parvo vaccinations for puppies at AC. The comment was made that unless a clean, quarantine area is available for puppies undergoing the shot and booster process, vaccinations will have little impact. Everyone acknowledges Parvo at AC is an issue, but solutions are hard to come by.

Pat has been looking into getting new trays for some of the crates at AC, but has found they are almost as expensive as a complete new crate. The suggestion was made that she check with Tractor Supply to see if they can cut plastic to fit in the bottom of crates.

**New Business**

Kelly volunteered to chair our Christmas parade float committee and will complete our application. There does not appear to be an entry fee, but the float must be lighted and comply with other city guidelines. The theme suggested for our float is “I Want A Home for Christmas”.

Pam talked about a fundraising fashion show she attended recently. It was a successful event, and something for us to consider for the spring.

Linda F. said she would like to sponsor a spring tea at her home as a HALO fundraiser. Nan said she would assist.

Pami reported she had invited the pastor from Cornerstone Church to attend our next General Meeting and talk to us about how to make an impact on how pets are treated by residents in Oak Trail Shores. This gentleman lives in Oak Trail Shores and can give us insights into what will work in the community.

**Adjourn**

Hugo reminded everyone that our relationship with AC is a valuable asset worth protecting. As we go about our business with county employees, he suggests we remember we are a ‘guest in their house’, and be tactful and respectful in our dealings.

Kelly adjourned the meeting

Minutes filed 10/18/11

by Nan Charpiot

Meeting Attendees

Kelly McNab

Pami Fine

Pat Van Osten

Nan Charpiot

Judy Hull

Michael Cheek

Pam Wurtz

Linda Facer

Brittney Stoudenmire

Justice