

**Southern Arizona Greyhound Adoption
Board Meeting Minutes
Sunday July 14, 2024 at 2:00 pm**

Meeting called to order

Time: 2:09 pm

Verification of quorum

Board members present: Jeanne Gacke, Abrie Schroder (virtually), James Rappaport, Nancy Lynberg, Ann Poff, Sarah Hosea

Board members absent: None

Approval of minutes

- Jeanne moved to approve. Duly seconded. Unanimously approved.

Financial Report

- **Status of SA Greys finances**

Current assets: \$78,000

Current liabilities: \$0

This year's AZ Gives Day was strongest since 2017. We raised almost \$18,000.

Roadrunners raffle: \$1,500

IRS 990 extension filed

Expense breakdown January 2024 – June 2024: \$66,499

James Rappaport moved to approve Treasurer's Report, duly seconded. Unanimously approved.

Operations Director (Nancy Lynberg)

New tag line!

Change your life, change theirs: Adopt a Greyhound

Notable medical issues: Bruce and Kenny. Bruce passed away, Kenny is doing well.

New Apps since April Meeting: 18
Total Approved: 8
Denied: 3
On hold/conditional: 1
Withdrawn/Canceled: 4
New Foster Apps: 1

Applications are quite low, which is consistent with the current experience of shelters.

We moved back to Briarcrest. Much cheaper than the previous care provider.

Review of 2024 focus

Geography: We will only adopt to areas with active volunteers (emphasis on plural). Southern AZ, Phoenix, Las Vegas, ABQ, and El Paso.

We have an invitation-only SA Greys facebook group. Nancy is looking at non facebook options as well.

Home Visit Coordinators now use a standardized checklist. (Can be submitted online.)

Operations Team Engagement: our operations team received weekly email update from Nancy on the status of all dogs in our care. Biweekly Zoom meetings as well.

Adopter Education: We have a 47-page adoption guide for new owners. We also have a Lost Dog Handbook.

Health and Welfare: New hounds all have GPS trackers. We are also offering them at reduced rates to existing adopters.

Pairing: Foster family submits online survey form that provides a detailed behavior assessment. This helps pair new hounds with families.

Plan for the next six months: Revamping website with more resources; building a group of quality fosters; exploring new ways to educate and inform new adopters; more lunch and learn events (sometimes with vets) for public outreach.

Big news: Caliente (Tijuana dog track) has closed. 150 hounds to be moved. We have agreed to take 6. We have started a new relationship with Las Vegas Adopters and Fosters.

Old business

Status of Bylaw Review from Abrie Schroder. Almost done with a working draft for the membership to review and approve.

Update on the April RoadRunners event from Jeanne Gacke. Not a lot of money for a lot of effort. We may not do this in future.

New business

Booth at Pride. We are looking for six people and hounds to staff a booth from about noon to six p.m. (September 28, 2024.)

Jim Click Jeep raffle (on display in parking lot)

Beading Divas Bracelet Sales for July/August. Their items are on display at Karyn's table. August 24 from 2-4:30 (Mama's Pizza—no dogs), the Divas are celebrating their 15th anniversary. They have raised almost \$300,000 since their inception. They pick different charities and donate their time and talent. Location: 1500 E Speedway Blvd.

No dogs from NSW recently. QANTAS has stopped flying dogs out of Australia. There are allegations of mistreatment and an ongoing investigation.

Irish hounds: direct from London to Phoenix. Irish group is paying \$500/hound to help offset the cost.

Big priority is homing the dogs from Caliente.

Boo Roo-union planning has begun.

Discussions being held about bringing back Greyt Winter Festival.

Meet and greets coming up. Friday 4-7 pm at Cones for Bones (on Broadway and Wilmot). Open house.

Wine tasting August 17, 12-2 pm at Sand Reckoner. Hounds are welcome but there are limited spots for them. Location is 510 N 7th Ave #170.

Call to the Audience:

Raytheon is still not matching donations. Sarah and Nancy will look into that.

Mary Ann: Question about transporting her family's hounds, specifically loading them into the back from the side and not the back. Suggestions or trainer recommendations? Discussion ensued.

Jim: Where do you see the organization in 8 years?

Jeanne: Much will depend on the state of the racing industry and whether there will be a need to place ex-racing hounds.

Nancy: We need to get the word out that greyhounds are still available and there is still a need for loving homes. Australia is still breeding greyhounds—ten dogs for one good racer. I would love to see our role as continuing to support that overflow, and we also need to get the word out that greyhounds make amazing pets.

Jeanne: Not likely that we will spread out beyond what we have already, but we will likely need to collaborate nationally with other groups.

Audience member: Why aren't we investing our current assets?

Jeanne: We can certainly look into it. Noted that we will need to keep three months' operating expenses in reserves.

Audience member: Are we getting applications for adoption?

Nancy: No waitlist. Many are applications with restrictions (small kids, cats, small dogs), which are not always feasible.

Discussion ensued on adoptions. Summer lull in adoptions is not uncommon.

Audience member: How is Flint doing? (Dog with prior behavioral issues rescued from LA.)

Jeanne: Flint's aggressive tendencies did not improve. Multiple attempts at training and behavioral intervention were unsuccessful. Experienced adopter stepped up. Flint attacked trainer multiple times. We had to euthanize Flint, as future intervention was not likely to be successful.

Discussion ensued. Flint may have had prior head injury or other injury that explains his atypical behavior.

Nick: Do you have flyers for SA Greys we can circulate in workplaces?

Ann Poff: I will make one.

Kim: Perhaps a billboard ad would be appropriate?

Discussion ensued on the expense.

Gloria: Can we put something on the website in Spanish?

Nancy: Yes (Gloria volunteered to assist)

Audience member: Are there greyhound specialists at Briarcrest?

Jeanne: Yes, two.

Ann Lopez: Maybe local news will be interested in doing a story on the adoption process from Caliente since Caliente just closed? (In English and in Spanish.)

Discussion ensued. Could be broadcast tv or local print media as well.

Meeting adjourned: 3:12 p.m.