



# Maryland Department of Agriculture

Office of Marketing, Animal Industries and Consumer Services

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Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

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Spay and Neuter Grants Program

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## SPAY AND NEUTER GRANT PROGRAM

### Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, August 11, 2023

9:30am – 4:30pm Hybrid Meeting

#### **Board Members Present**

- Caroline Griffin, Esq. (Chair): President, Animal Welfare Institute, and Co-Founder, Show Your Soft Side; representing a private animal shelter
- Nathaniel Boan: Executive Director, Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners; representing the Maryland Department of Agriculture
- Patty Crankshaw-Quimby, CAWA: Administrator, Talbot County Animal Control/Executive Director, Talbot Humane, and President of the Professional Animal Workers of Maryland (PAWS); representing a local animal control agency
- Betsy Flores: Senior Vice President of Public Policy, Pet Food Institute
- Emily Hovermale: Director of Government Affairs, Humane Rescue Alliance; one of two members representing an animal welfare advocacy organization;
- Lisa G. Radov: President and Chairman of the Board for Maryland Votes for Animals; one of two members representing an animal welfare advocacy organization
- Jen Swanson: Program Coordinator, MDA Spay and Neuter Grants Program (*non-voting*)

#### **Guests Present**

- None

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#### I. Welcome

- a. Meeting called to order by Caroline at 9:28am on Friday, August 11, 2023
- b. Welcome to Betsy Flores, new to SNAB this year. Betsy is the Senior Vice President for Public Policy at the Pet Food Institute.
- c. Lisa and Nathaniel attended via Google Meet.
- d. Dr. Quigley had a work conflict and could not attend, but she submitted her comments in advance.

#### II. Overview of meeting structure and review process – Caroline

- a. Thanks to everyone for taking time to carefully review the applications. This Program is more important than ever, when you look at the dramatic increase in shelter intake and euthanasia following the relative lull of the early pandemic.
- b. The Program received a one-time allocation of \$200,000 from the State's General Fund, and this cycle we have approximately \$915,000 to award in grants.

#### III. Proposal Reviews

- a. 24-9013 Maryland SPCA – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fully fund, by Nathaniel
    1. Motion seconded by Lisa

2. Discussion regarding MDSPCA's ask being 11% of the program's total grant budget for this cycle contrasted with MDSPCA's available resources, per their Form 990, and the lack of cost-sharing; program cost-effectiveness when compared to other area programs; and the lack of any other MDA-funded pet projects in Baltimore City this cycle.
3. Motion for funding tabled
- b. 24-9107 Petey & Furends – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to remove from consideration, due to a failure to meet program requirements, by Nathaniel
    1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    2. Discussion regarding how the project does not meet program requirements, high costs/low returns, missing data, and other issues with this grant application.
    3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- c. 24-9104 BHS Hope – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to remove from consideration, due to multiple issues with the application, by Nathaniel
    1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    2. Discussion regarding overall poor grant application, high costs/low returns, missing data, inconsistencies, and other issues with this grant application.
    3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- d. 24-9086B Forgotten Cats (Wicomico County) – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fully fund, by Patty
    1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- e. 24-9012 Baltimore Animal Rescue & Care Shelter (BARCS) – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fully fund, by Patty
    1. Motion seconded by Emily
    2. Discussion regarding reducing funding to 85% as they are off schedule in terms of the grant timing, due to a slow down on a prior year grant – this would allow them to catch up and start/end their grants on time going forward. Decision made to stay at 100% for this cycle but Jen will have a conversation with BARCS about this and adjusting their FY25 grant request accordingly. This is their only grant this cycle as they didn't submit their pet grant in time due to an unexpected internal issue.
    3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- f. 24-9050 Sunshine's Friends Dog & Cat Rescue – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fully fund, by Emily
    1. Motion seconded by Patty
    2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor

- g. 24-9086A Forgotten Cats (Worcester County) – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 95%, by Nathaniel
    - 1. Suggested amendment to 90% by Emily
    - 2. Amendment accepted by Nathaniel
    - 3. Amended motion seconded by Emily
    - 4. Amended motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- h. 24-9005 Baltimore Humane Society – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 90%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Patty
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- i. 24-9027 Talbot Humane – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 90%, by Nathaniel
    - 1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor (Patty recused)
- j. 24-9049 Sunshine’s Friends Dog & Cat Rescue – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 90%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Patty
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- k. 24-9062 Alley Cat Rescue – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 85%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Patty
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- l. 24-9073 Cecil County Animal Services – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 80%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- m. 24-9101 Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 90%, by Lisa
    - 1. Motion seconded by Emily
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- n. 24-9094 A Cat’s Life Rescue – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 75%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Nathaniel
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- o. 24-9010 Laurel Cats – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 75%, by Nathaniel
    - 1. Motion seconded by Lisa

2. Discussion regarding the number of feral cat projects in Prince George’s County, and overlapping target areas.
- ii. Motion amended to 70% by Emily
  1. Amendment accepted by Nathaniel
  2. Amendment seconded by Lisa
  3. Amended motion passed
    - a. All in favor
- p. 24-9078 Shadow Cats TNR – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 90%, by Patty
    1. Motion seconded by Emily
    2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- q. 24-9001 Rude Ranch – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 75% of surgeries and no coordinator, by Patty
    1. Motion seconded by Nathaniel
    2. Discussion regarding this and Sunshine’s Friends being the only AA County pet applications this cycle, as AA Co Animal Services is having staffing issues and therefore didn’t submit an application and is behind on their active grant.
    3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- r. 24-9019 Prince George’s County Animal Services – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 75%, by Emily
    1. Motion seconded by Patty
    2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- s. 24-9040 Baltimore County Animal Services – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 60%, by Nathaniel
    1. Motion seconded by Emily
    2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- t. 24-9052 Snip Tuck – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 85%, by Caroline
    1. Motion seconded by Patty
    2. Discussion regarding the lack of impact on the reported County/State intake/euthanasia numbers, as this is a cat application and Dorchester County only reports dog statistics, and they do not have a municipal cat shelter.
    3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- u. 24-9032 Humane Society of Somerset County – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 80%, by Nathaniel
    1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    2. Discussion regarding the lack of impact on the reported County/State intake/euthanasia numbers, as this is a cat application and Somerset County only reports dog statistics, and they do not have a municipal cat shelter.
    3. Motion passed
      - a. Yeas: Caroline, Nathaniel, Patty, Lisa, Betsy

- b. Nays: Emily
- v. 24-9007 HART for Animals – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 60%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Patty
    - 2. Discussion regarding missing data in their application.
    - 3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- w. 24-9002 Rude Ranch – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 50% for surgeries and traps, but no coordinator, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Nathaniel
    - 2. Discussion regarding the large number of feral cat projects in Prince George’s County.
  - ii. Motion amended to 50% for surgeries, 25% for traps, no coordinator, and no work in Prince George’s County, by Nathaniel
    - 1. Amendment accepted by Emily
    - 2. Amendment seconded by Nathaniel
    - 3. Amended motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- x. 24-9003 Caroline County Humane Society – Pet Application **(dogs only)**
  - i. Motion to fund at 70%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Patty
    - 2. Discussion about the SNAB’s concerns regarding leadership changes.
    - 3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- y. 24-9042 Last Chance Animal Rescue – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 60%, by Patty
    - 1. Motion seconded by Emily
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- z. 24-9004 Caroline County Humane Society – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 50%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    - 2. Discussion about the SNAB’s concerns regarding leadership changes, and performance issues on their active feral cat grant.
    - 3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- aa. 24-9064 Feral Cat Rescue – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 40%, by Patty
    - 1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- bb. Revisit 24-9013 Maryland SPCA – Pet Application
  - i. Motion for 100% dog surgeries, and 80% cat surgeries, by Caroline
    - 1. Motion not seconded
    - 2. Motion for funding tabled

Adjourned for lunch 12:15pm

Meeting called back to order by Caroline at 12:48pm

- cc. Revisit 24-9013 Maryland SPCA – Pet Application
  - i. Motion for 100% dogs, 90% cats, by Nathaniel
    - 1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    - 2. Discussion
    - 3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- dd. 24-9025 Wicomico County Humane Society – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 82% (\$5,000), by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- ee. 24-9099 Queen Anne’s County Animal Services – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 50%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Patty
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- ff. 24-9046 Chesapeake Feline Association – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 35% for surgeries and travel, by Nathaniel
    - 1. Motion seconded by Patty
  - ii. Motion amended to 35% for surgeries but omitting travel expenses, by Patty
    - 1. Amendment accepted by Nathaniel
    - 2. Amendment seconded by Patty
    - 3. Amended motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- gg. 24-9016 Humane Society of Charles County – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 30% for surgeries, no additional expenses, and work to be performed only in Charles County, by Patty
    - 1. Discussion regarding target areas of grant, concerns with leadership turnover, reporting issues, and performance concerns with active grants.
  - ii. Motion amended to fund at 30% for surgeries, no additional expenses, and work to be performed only in Charles County, St. Mary’s County, and zip code 20613 in PG County, by Nathaniel
    - 1. Amendment accepted by Patty
    - 2. Amended motion seconded by Emily
    - 3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- hh. 24-9079 St. Mary’s Animal Welfare League (SMAWL) – Pet Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 25%, by Emily
    - 1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    - 2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
- ii. 24-9098 Montgomery County Community Cat Coalition (MCC3) – Feral Application
  - i. Motion to fund at 60%, by Nathaniel

1. Motion seconded by Patty
    2. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
  - jj. 24-9092 February Star Sanctuary – Feral Application
    - i. Motion to remove from consideration due to performance and reporting issues with their active grant, and the overall impression that the grant application was not thorough or substantive, by Emily
      1. Motion seconded by Betsy
      2. Discussion
      3. Motion passed
        - a. All in favor
  - kk. 24-9015 Humane Society of Charles County – Pet Application
    - i. Motion to fund at 20% for surgeries, no additional expenses, and work to be performed only in Charles County, St. Mary’s County, and zip code 20613 in PG County, by Patty
      1. Motion seconded by Lisa
      2. Discussion regarding concerns with leadership turnover, reporting issues, and performance concerns with active grants.
      3. Motion passed
        - a. All in favor
  - ll. 24-9105 Somerset County Dog Control – Pet Application **(dogs only)**
    - i. Motion to fund at 50% by Nathaniel
      1. Motion seconded by Patty
      2. Discussion regarding this being their first grant application, and the first dog project in Somerset County.
      3. Motion passed
        - a. All in favor
- IV. Balancing of Remaining Funding
- a. Motion by Caroline, to add back:
    - i. 10% to application 24-9086A Forgotten Cats (Worcester Co) – Feral (100%)
    - ii. 10% to application 24-9005 Baltimore Humane Society – Pet (100%)
    - iii. 10% to application 24-9027 Talbot Humane – Pet (100%)
    - iv. 10% to application 24-9049 Sunshine’s Friends – Pet (100%)
    - v. 15% to application 24-9062 Alley Cat Rescue – Feral (100%)
    - vi. 10% to application 24-9073 Cecil County Animal Services – Pet (90%)
    - vii. 10% to application 24-9101 Linda L. Kelley Animal Shelter – Pet (100%)
    - viii. 5% to application 24-9094 A Cat’s Life – Feral (80%)
    - ix. 10% to application 24-9010 Laurel Cats – Feral (80%)
    - x. 10% to application 24-9078 Shadow Cats TNR – Feral (100%)
    - xi. 10% to application 24-9001 Rude Ranch – Pet (90% for surgeries)
    - xii. 5% to application 24-9019 PG Co Animal Services – Pet (80%)
    - xiii. 10% to application 24-9003 Caroline County Humane Society – Pet (80%) **dogs only**
    - xiv. 10% to application 24-9004 Caroline County Humane Society – Pet (60%)
    - xv. 10% to application 24-9064 Feral Cat Rescue – Feral (50%)
    - xvi. 10% to application 24-9099 Queen Anne’s Co Animal Services – Pet (60%)
    - xvii. 10% to application 24-9079 SMAWL – Pet (35%)
    - xviii. 50% to application 24-9105 Somerset Co Dog Control – Pet (100%) **dogs only**

1. Motion seconded by Patty
2. Motion passed
  - a. All in favor
- b. Revisit 24-9013 Maryland SPCA – Pet Application
  - i. Motion for 100% dogs, 92% cats, by Nathaniel
    1. Motion seconded by Lisa
    2. Discussion
    3. Motion passed
      - a. All in favor
  - ii. Motion for 100% for both dogs and cats, by Emily
    1. Motion seconded by Nathaniel
    2. Discussion
    3. Motion passed
      - a. Yeas: Emily, Nathaniel, Patty, Lisa
      - b. Nays: Caroline
      - c. Abstaining: Betsy
- V. Total amount awarded is \$913,578 for 14,690 surgeries
- VI. Closing
  - a. Motion to adjourn meeting made by Caroline
  - b. Motion seconded by Patty
  - c. Motion passed
    - i. All in favor
- VII. Meeting adjourned at 2:53pm on Friday, August 11, 2023