

GoldHeart Golden Retriever Rescue, Inc.
Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: January 5, 2008

Place: Harford County, MD Library - Jarrettsville Branch
3722 Norrisville Road
Jarrettsville, MD 21084

Officers Present:

Donna Blake (Treasurer)
David Beaver (Board Member at Large/Adoption Coordinator)
Melissa Bageant (Secretary)

Lunch was served first.

At 1:55 pm Melissa Bageant called the meeting to order.

Current Board members were introduced: Melissa Bageant, David Beaver, Donna Blake

Operational reports were given.

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

David Beaver - Adoption Coordinator report:

57 Current Applicants
24/57 In process
58 Adopted Dogs
11 Declined Applicants
81 In-Active Applications

Donna Blake - Treasurer's report:

For the fiscal year ending 12/31/07, Goldheart had a loss of \$4389.79. Total income of \$51,396.22. Total expenses of \$55,786.01. Over 70% of expenses were used on vet care. We do have a reserve account of approx. \$18,000.00 that I would rather not touch unless it is an emergency. For fiscal year 2008, we need to step up fundraising and watch unnecessary expenses to at least break even.

Melissa Bageant gave Merchandise Coordinator report (provided by Valerie Williams):

GoldHeart participated in nine events where merchandise was sold (including member events such as the Picnic and Annual Meeting). These events, plus orders through the redesigned website, brought in roughly \$3,800 as of mid-December (total from tracking sheets – official total will be in Treasurer's

report). There were also donations at the events, raffle income from the Picnic, and a contest win at Goldstock.

Overall sales this year are up by about \$500 from last year due to more events (only seven last year), including Goldstock. Goldstock brought in roughly \$1,200 total, an increase of about \$200 from 2005, the last year we participated.

The inventory is moderate as of the end of the year. The new shirt designs continue to be popular, as do small, inexpensive items like car magnets, decals, stickers, wristbands, etc. These have proven popular as they are small and easy to carry at events. Merchandise orders (mostly calendars) through the website brought in over one third of sales in 2007.

The purpose of the merchandise sales is to support the rescue, so we continue to balance carrying enough inventory to bring in some steady income vs. sinking money into merchandise which would be better spent on the dogs. The new Board and Merchandise Coordinator should look at needs for 2008, and how merchandise should be positioned as part of overall fundraising for the rescue. We are still carrying a large number of cookbooks (188) despite slashing the price once again to \$5.00 to clear them out. We continue to need donations from the membership of items suitable for auctions, raffles, and special events, as these are pure profit for the rescue.

GoldHeart Events in 2007

Annual Meeting, Jarrettsville, MD, 1/20/07:	\$181.00 in merchandise sales
MDSPCA March for the Animals, 4/22/07:	\$200.00 in merchandise sales
Dogs Day in the Park, York, PA, 4/22/07:	\$175.00 in merchandise sales
Board Meeting, Cockeysville, MD, 4/28/07:	\$177.00 in merchandise sales
Frederick Walk for Paws, 6/9/07:	\$155.00 in merchandise sales
Goldstock, PA, Labor Day Weekend:	\$251.00 in merchandise sales
	\$236.00 silent auction*
	\$545.00 live auction*
GH Volunteer Picnic, Mt. Airy, MD, 9/15/07:	\$249.00 in merchandise sales
Pets on Wheels, MD, 9/29/07:	\$171.00 in merchandise sales
BCHS Paws on Parade, MD, 10/21/07:	\$147.00 in merchandise sales
Total merchandise sales:	\$2,487.00
Internet merchandise sales:	\$1,347.00
Grand Total Merchandise Sales**	\$3,834.00

*Auction items were donated

**Note: Internet sale total does not include S&H paid. Event sale total does not include donations collected at the events.

Melissa Bageant gave the In-Take/Foster Coordinator report (provided by John Williams):

In the final days of 2007 GoldHeart accepted dog number 456. The statistics for 2007 are as follows.

73	Dogs accepted into GoldHeart (2 of which were returns)
73	Dogs place in loving homes (15 of which came into GoldHeart in 2006
4	Dogs place in permanent foster home due to their advanced age or a terminal medical condition
5	Dogs in Foster-to-Adopt homes – adoption pending
5	Dogs in Foster Care
1	Dog in a commercial kennel

The oldest dog was 12-1/2 years old – Sunny

The youngest was 17 weeks – Butter

31 Females and 42 males

10 Females needed to be spayed

16 male needed to be neutered.

12 were 8 years of age or older

7 were 1 year of age or younger

NEW BUSINESS

There were 24 GoldHeart members present that were eligible to vote.

ACTION: Vote was taken to confirm Donna Blake in her position of Treasurer for one more year and approved by all 24 members present.

ACTION: Vote was taken to elect Melissa Bageant for the position of Secretary for a two year term and approved by all 24 members present.

ACTION: Vote was taken to elect Trish Thomas for the position of Vice-President for a one year term and approved by all 24 members present.

ACTION: Vote was taken to elect David Beaver for the position of President for a two year term and approved by all 24 members present.

ACTION: Vote was taken to elect Lisa Hecker for the position of Board Member at Large for a two year term and approved by all 24 members present.

ACTION: Vote was taken to elect Edie Galpin for the position of Board Member at Large for a one year term and approved by all 24 members present.

ACTION: Vote was taken to elect Barb Schaefer for the position of Board Member at Large for a one year term and approved by all 24 members present.

After the voting, the newly elected President, David Beaver gave his goals for the rescue for 2008:

- Better communication between Board members, and between Board members and the GoldHeart membership.
- Increase the membership
- Assist more Golden Retrievers
- Better standardize procedures
- Review and revise/update as needed current SOP's
- Have more group events for GoldHeart members
- More public service announcements

Joan Taylor, of the Chesapeake Golden Retriever Club attended the meeting again this year. She invited GoldHeart to join them in events and activities.

There was a general discussion of ways to raise funds. Edie Galpin suggested a gift wrap fundraiser around the Christmas holidays next year. Edie Galpin and Lisa Hecker volunteered to hold a microchip event at Lisa's daughter's school in April, charging \$40 for the chip, with \$5 of it going to the school, and \$35 to GoldHeart. GoldHeart pays \$15 for the chip, so profit would be \$20.

Other suggestions were:

Attending the Paws on Parade event held in Columbia, MD every year

Have a booth at the Maryland Wine Festival and the Columbia, MD Wine Festival

Have a booth at various fall festivals, such as the Nat'l Apple Harvest Festival in Arendtsville, PA

Attend events at private schools

Dovetail on to rabies clinics various fire stations hold by having a microchipping booth on location

Trish Thomas and Donna Blake agreed to take on finding grants. Trish will handle fundraising.

Lisa Hecker agreed to be the Adoption Coordinator, assisted by Sandy Miller.

Edie Galpin agreed to being the In-Take and Foster Home Coordinator.

At 2:35 David Beaver declared the annual meeting adjourned.

After some more socializing, and cleaning up, at 3:30 the new Board held a board meeting.

ACTION: Jen Brechin, the new webmaster, will also keep the membership spreadsheet up-to-date.

ACTION: Edie Galpin will keep the Board members informed of all new dogs coming in.

ACTION: It was agreed by all Board members that Foster-to-Adopt dogs will also have their photos posted on the GoldHeart website, with "Under evaluation" next to them.

It was noted that someone is still needed to do the newsletter.

At 4:25 pm David Beaver declared the meeting adjourned.