

**BOD ELECTION/FERRET FREEDOM DAY
MARCH 18, 2006**

Open Meeting- Mark and Jody's House

Meeting called to order 1:30PM

Attendees: Bill Harkins, Jackie Marmen, Jo Ouellette, Alan Ouellette, Mark Rosenstein, Phyllis Spy, Mike Lagrou, Donna Connors, Kenny Mayne, Jody Renouf

BOD Election

Thanks for a great job

Bill Harkins – Treasurer

Lisa Andrews – Vice President

Introduce Nominee for Vice President – Donna Connors

Introduce Nominee for Treasurer – Bill Harkins

10 Ballots collected, unanimous votes for Bill and Donna.

Congratulations to MaFF's new Vice President and Treasurer!

Open Discussion

This past year has been a very busy one for MaFF and the shelter. (show slideshow)

As we move into a new year with a new Board of Directors, there are several goals that MaFF should be working towards.

I would like us to take this opportunity to open up discussion on these goals, as your opinions and ideas are very important to this board as we begin to lay out plans for their implementation:

- Shelter director and facility for MaFF Rescue and Shelter

Phyllis has located a used laptop for shelter, but there may be deals on new equipment at BJ's etc. Laptop should be loaded with Microsoft Office Professional, which includes Microsoft Access for the shelter database.

The MaFF Shelter was established as a long-term, but not permanent arrangement. If anyone has ideas for a new shelter location, or if anyone feels they could take over leading the shelter eventually, please let Phyllis know.

- Update literature & website, prepare DVDs on general ferret care

Need three to four volunteers to rework the literature - to research, write, design, proofread

DVD - Mark to schedule a day with Jo to get video footage of teeth brushing, ear cleaning, bathing, nail clipping. Review the videos already available (Jackie Marmen has a ferret care tape)

- Begin preparations for "Pirates of the Caribbean" event

We will start earlier this year with preparation. The event will take place 9/15 (SAT), or 9/16 (if 9/15 isn't available). Volunteers to be there 8AM for the 10A event.

Phyllis recommends we find a place with a pond or water. Plan on having in Natick again, but we are open to other places as well.

Ken knows someone who owns a tall ship (The Formidable) - will check into publicity / ferret photo op or possibly incorporating the ship into the event.

Mike has volunteered to come down the day before and clean up the area.

Need Raffle Coordinator and Vendor Coordinator. Phyllis to send email to all members asking for committee leaders.

New activity: Scavenger Hunt - people would pick up clues at tables and use the to uncover a buried treasure.. Donna Connors has lots of ideas for this activity.

Prize for most attractive booth - 'best bounty' to encourage attractive and thematic booths

- Minimum age of kits sold in pet stores
Prepare and submit to legislature a bill that would require that ferret kits be no less than 8 weeks of age before going to pet stores
Alicia (FerretWise) has volunteered to assist us with seminars and workshops
- Disaster Management Team
Establish teams in strategic areas in Mass.
Certification with NIMS, ICS100 and SMART training
Continuity and Evacuation Plans
Training (sample scenarios)
Documentation
- Area Teams for North Shore, South Shore and Western Mass.
Education Days, Fundraisers, Events
Western MA - Donna Spirito has resigned as the area coordinator. Phyllis will go through the member list with Donna Connors and see if anyone is in the area. Ken will help train the new coordinator.

2007 Ferret Appreciation Award and Video

Recipients: Joanne and Alan Ouellette

New Business -

Pet Gazette has offered free space to list adoptable ferrets for both MaFF Rescue and Shelter and South Shore Ferret Care.

Recommend holding the Ferret Freedom Day celebration before the Providence Pet Show. It will encourage better attendance, generate energy around the Providence event and allow for last minute volunteers to join in.

MaFF has received a check from PETCO for proceeds from donations from 2006 Tree of Hope. Unclear based on amount which store it's from. Ken to talk to PETCO Saugus to get a feel for what the typical proceeds should be.