

JRAAR Q1 2025 Meeting Minutes

Called meeting to order at 1:08 on 4/6/25

Attendance

John, Rosa, Bob, Rachel, and Amy. Mary not present but appointed Rosa as her proxy.

Meeting Minutes

Bob called to approve minutes as read, Rosa seconded and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Last Quarter

- Income: \$64,912.63
 - 10% decrease from last year
 - Biggest forms of income were Donations, Sales, and Adoptions
- Expenses: \$62,205.51
 - 76% increase from last year
 - Biggest expenses were Animal Care, Bills, and Event Expenses
- Surplus: \$2,707.12

Animal Outcomes

Last Quarter

- Adoptions: 1099 Animals found homes
 - 19% increase over last year
- Surrenders: 2252 Animals were surrendered
 - 204% increase over last year

Social Media

Facebook – 17,542 Followers – 69 Subscribers

Twitter - 95

Instagram - 718

TikTok – 3,477

YouTube – 79

Events

Surrender Events

Lakes and Rivers Partnership was a huge success. Lots of interest in booking events. John will be handing over the reigns to Macy in the coming months for bookings.

So far we have taken in 234 animals at these events

Fairs

Fox Valley Fish Fair

- Income: \$2,125.00
- Expenses: \$740.92
- Total: \$1,384.08
- Attendees: 315
- Vendors: 21

Fox Valley Plant Fair

- Income: \$4,702.21
- Expense: \$987.48
- Total: \$3,714.52
- Attendees: 791
- Vendors: 21

Fox Valley Craft Fair

- Income:
- Expense:
- Total:
- Attendees:
- Vendors: 24

Adoption Events

We had 8 events last quarter and 4 events planned for next quarter. We have 2 teams booking events so we should be able to fill the calendar.

Online Auction

We have donations rolling in. Will send out a letter to volunteers to bring to their jobs. Gift cards do really well.

Educational Events

Fully booked for Summer Reading program and are referring people to other organizations like Archie's Angels, Orner Exotics, Wisconsin Herpetological Society, Steve Keller, Cattail Critters, Tatiana's Tiny Zoo, New Zoo, Henry Vilas Zoo, Angell Road Wildlife Rehab and more.

Events Discussion

No further discussion.

Adoption Center

January		February		March		1st Quarter	
Total		Total		Total		Total	
Income	\$8,393.17	Income	\$7,739.18	Income	\$7,534.56	Income	\$23,666.91
Total Plan	\$8,262.65	Total Plan	\$7,370.70	Total Plan	\$8,130.25	Total Plan	\$23,763.59

Difference	\$130.52	Difference	\$368.49	Difference	-\$595.69	Difference	-\$96.68
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Volunteer Committee

We have had lots of workers through the DVR with good results and we are happy to work with them to get people work experience.

Old Business

Complaints

We had a complaint come in through the USDA about the number of animals we had and that it was over the limit. The investigation showed that we were not. We ordered a new license just to be safe that reflects the maximum number of animals we can safely house.

We had a complaint come through a FOIA request with WIDATCP. Brittany Graves from Oscar's Rabbit Rescue lodged a frivolous complaint because we could not transfer animals to them because they are not licensed through the USDA. There was no investigation to my knowledge because there were no violations in the complaint.

Constitution Changes

Our constitution now reads: "J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue's purpose is to give people an option for their unwanted pets other than releasing them into the wild; find homes for surrendered pets; to further the study of all forms of aquatic life, to promote interest, exchange ideas, distribute information concerning the aquarium hobby, and to encourage the responsible breeding and display of aquatic life." (OPTION 1)

Since we deal with more than just aquatics, John would like to change it to read "J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue's purpose is to give people an option for their unwanted pets other than releasing them into the wild; find homes for surrendered pets; to further the study of animals, to promote interest, exchange ideas, distribute information concerning the pet industry, and to encourage the responsible keeping, breeding and display of animals." (OPTION 2)

J&R Aquatic Animal Rescue's purpose is to provide options for unwanted exotic pets, other than their release into the wild. We are dedicated to finding safe, permanent homes for these animals, promoting responsible pet ownership, and fostering interest in the care and study of exotic pets and the environment. Through surrenders, adoptions, education, and outreach, we strive to protect ecosystems, help people, and help pets. (OPTION 3)

Bob made a motion to adopt option 3 into our constitution, Rachel seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Friends of JRAAR

Would like to move forward with the idea to start a friends non-profit while we change around our 501c3 status from a private foundation to a charitable organization. This process takes up to 5 years otherwise.

Potentially recruit a CPA board member to handle this.

Tabled until we recruit an accountant. Amy said she would ask around.

New Business

Date for next meeting

July 13th at 1 PM

Contact Page

I would like to add a contact page to our website for questions and complaints. This would go to the board members and employees so they can have an opportunity to answer questions or at least see the answers. Email addresses would be confidential and recipients can respond with their answers to adoptions@jraar.org for relay.

Rachel made a motion to add a contact page with names and initials and a contact form. Amy seconded and the motion passed.

Email addresses

Macy, Rachel, and Megan have their own JRAAR email addresses to use for things like booking events, grant applications, etc.

Open Forum

Would like to update our quarantine and observation protocol with input from a veterinarian.

We updated our written bird care, animal handling, and general policies and will be adding sections on fish, small mammal, and reptile care and handling.