CALL TO ORDER
Priscilla Parker called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PRESENT EITHER IN PERSON OR ON THE PHONE:
Carol Borden, Chris Borden, Gerry Petrone, Paul Bertram, Mary Jo Brandt and Priscilla Parker.

MINUTES FROM THE MAY ANNUAL BOARD MEETING:
Motion made by Chris Borden to approve the minutes as written. Paul Bertram seconded. All voted in favor.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
No report at this time.

REPORT ON ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING:
Carol reported on the recent changes. She is now the liaison for this group. Mike Hudson has been elected Chairperson. Brian Vines will continue as Secretary. There will be a new format to the meeting and the group will be taking on more responsibility. They have invited Jon Sullivan to attend their next meeting.

TREASURER’S REPORT:
Deferred until Carol’s report.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
Priscilla is continuing with her project of writing thank you notes to the donors.

FACILITIES/MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS:
As of now, the farm is running smoothly with only routine maintenance being needed. The generators are checked monthly and working fine. Our only concerns presently are some fencing and shelter issues. Kudos to Chris for managing the farm by himself.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT:
Two trainers and a dog care specialist are needed at this time. We tried having the staff work 4 - 10-hour days per their request but it is found to be too taxing due to heat and rain. It is also hard to cover vacations and sick leave. As of August 31st, we will go back to 8 - hour days. Due to high turnover in the dog specialist area, we have developed a career path to vet tech which
includes a pay raise after specific criteria is met. Discussion held on Nate’s position. He has been with GAMSD for 2 years but due to family issues, he needs to become part time as of September 1st. He has taken a job with the USDA in Atlanta to be closer to his family. He will return to full time status when the PA site is up and running.

NON-PROFIT BUSINESS PROGRAM RESEARCH REPORT:

No report at this time.

COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING RESEARCH:

No report at this time.

LEGAL EXPERT:

No report at this time.

BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM:

Gerry reviewed the new cards that Bernadine has made for us. There are two kinds with both having Sarge on the cover but one has the flag in the background and one has a plain background. Gerry is paying for these cards so no cost to the organization. These will be sent out to the recipient upon the death of the service dog. There have not been any this quarter.

FIRST AID:

Priscilla has put together a first aid booklet. She will get with Gerry to set up some dates for training. At this time due to financial concerns, the purchase of the AED is put on hold.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS UPDATE:

Chris states that all is in order at the farm in case of a hurricane, etc. We have new fire extinguishers. A fire drill was held and staff was quizzed on this. He is looking into getting walkie talkies as this would make it easier to contact staff during an emergency. The generator has been checked and is in good working order.

BUILDING MATERIALS/TRADE SHOWS:

Paul will be attending the International Hurricane Protection meeting and will share any pertinent information. He will also be meeting with Joey Jones, a double amputee from an IED. Paul will attend conferences in DC. Until a materials list is put together, He is not able to move on it. He will be in Pittsburg around the 2nd, 3rd or 4th of October. He will also see if he can find groups that will help in cleanup after a hurricane. Paul will research this while in DC and meeting with FEMA.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
Old Business:

Campus update – Nothing new as of now. We are still working on getting grants.

Update on Development Team efforts – The team is working hard on bringing in new monies and we have a new excellent grant writer. Soon have we will have the final report on the direct mail campaign. MJ and Carol have put together a $15-million dollar proposal for the Dunlaps. We are currently training a service dog for Mrs. Dunlap. MJ gave a presentation to a group in Marco Island and received two pledges for $25,000 each with one already received.

Update on Colorado Tech scholarships – We are partnering with them to decide who gets a scholarship. Carol has to review their plan which is comprised of two large books. A flyer will go out to all recipients letting them know about this great opportunity.

PA Prison Program – We are still waiting for the check which is needing signatures. Hopefully the program will start in September. Our traveling trainer, Jo Ann, will pick up dogs from here and bring them to PA and start classes.

501(c)2 – still waiting.

Pairaversary and Birthday Cards – We would like to begin sending cards to acknowledge these dates. This is another way to reach out and contact our recipients.

Other – no further old business.

New Business:

Financial Strategy – Carol discussed this dry spell and what we are doing to get through this without hurting our mission. The executive team members have not taken a salary, Chris is providing all the maintenance at the farm. This cost cutting has been completed with zero layoffs and all bills are paid. The good news is the money raising efforts have been paying off. Carol expects $1,000,000 to come in the next 60 days. This will be through grants, donations and other fundraising efforts. From PA, we will submit a proposal through the senators for 4.5 million and through the township for matching building funds. This will take place in the spring.

Mr. Dunlap – His memorial is coming up in October and the family has asked for donations to be given to GAMSD.

Federal Grant/Inspection – The inspectors visited from D.C. and were very impressed with our organization. The three-hour scheduled visit lasted for six hours. One of the inspectors even expressed interest in working for us upon her retirement.

Updates on Awards - Alice was awarded Service Dog of the Year and will be heading to California for this honor. Carol will also attend with the family and has meetings set up for the Friday before. The award ceremony will be aired on the Hallmark channel on October 21st. Carol also was part of a podcast in Lake City. Once again, we have been nominated and are a
finalist for the Vetty award in the suicide category. Please vote and ask you friends and family to vote as we believe it is a one-time opportunity.

Facebook – Please make sure you are checking daily, liking and reposting so others can become aware of us.

Naples training program – We are suspending this program as of now because it is taking too much time and resources from the Williston Campus.

New Paw Prints Brochures – Please make sure you have the updated brochures and are sharing them with everyone you meet/ know.

Carol’s Website – This is a great marketing tool and we need to be on it each day and liking it so it stays at the top when a web search is made. Carol is being recognized as an industry expert. The website is Carol Borden.com

Travel Schedule – Carol will be meeting with a Senator in Michigan in November. She had ten appointments to raise awareness in her recent trip to Michigan and attended two events, GMAR and Yellow Ribbon Event. We need more Michigan and Connecticut recipients due to sponsor requests. Jon is meeting with the Virginia UPS regarding the United Way Campaign. UPS has 100% compliance at 8 locations. Jack will attend the Erie event. In September, Carol will go to Colorado and from there to PA possibly for 10 days, then California for AUSA, Dayton for the Mutt Strut and then back to Michigan. There are plans for a Mutt Strut possibly in Orlando with PNC rep, Diane Jacobs, taking the lead. We may have a bark-a-que in Orlando. PNC also involves volunteers from other organizations. Rocky Blier has written a book called “Fighting Back” and has designated us a recipient for the proceeds.

Other - Paul shared that the VFW in Winter Springs has expressed an interest in holding an event for us. They are having a November planning meeting for an April event. Carol suggests that this group pair up with PNC to combine resources.

Paul also thanked Carol for his service dog, Walker.

Carol shared that we will now do pairings quarterly rather than monthly as it takes too much time away from the trainers. We will continue to pair the same number of dogs.

There being no further business to discuss, we adjourned at 7:15 pm.