



Pets as Therapy
Annual General Meeting Minutes
 08 June 2019

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| 1 | Opening, Welcome & Apologies | Judith Dodds |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A warm welcome to our 18th AGM from the EXCO of PAT • Welcome to Bronwynn Douglas from London • Welcome to our guest speakers: Dick Crane, volunteer from Stellenbosch; Tannith Hechter, Branch Manager of Regal Pet Health (our sponsors); Lucy Breytenbach from Honey's Garden Medical Alert Dogs; and EXCO members; Leigh Tucker, Clinical Psychologist from UWC; and Marieanna le Roux from Stellenbosch University. • Welcome to all the volunteers and their dogs, and friends of PAT, and any representatives of the facilities. • Reminder to switch off phones, to please indicate any apologies for those not in attendance, and for all present to sign the attendance register. <p>Apologies All the names noted on the attendance list.</p> | |
| 2 | Chair's Report | Chrisna Richard |
| | <p>Ten printed copies of the chair report is available here at the venue and will be uploaded on the website. The minutes of the previous AGM is on the website. Previous minutes proposed by Margie Wood and seconded by Marieanna le Roux</p> <p>NEW AREA COORDINATORS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen van Wyk – Northern Suburbs • Jackie James – Atlantic Seaboard • Resignations: Peter Neethling (West Coast) and Charmaine French (Deep South) • There are vacancies for coordinators in Deep South, Boland/Worcester, and West Coast. Also vacancies in the Eastern Cape (i.e. East London and Port Elizabeth) but no volunteers there currently to restart the branch. <p>NEW VOLUNTEERS 14 New volunteers since the last AGM in 2018. Total number of volunteers countrywide: 92 Total number of friends countrywide: 98 Total number of institutions countrywide: 77 and 59 on waiting list.</p> <p>NEW INSTITUTIONS 8 new institutions.</p> <p>LEES – UKUFUNDA – READ programme Workshop for new READ volunteers was held on 23 February 2019 The programme was awarded the ATKV Woordveertjie for promoting reading amongst children in August 2018, and received a R10000 cash incentive.</p> | |

TALKS/EVENTS

- Marianna visited a Psychology Group in Somerset West to discuss benefits of Therapy dogs.
- Marieanna was interviewed by Matie FM regarding the SUN campus visits.
- In 2018, PAT was involved as a sponsor for the first Animal Assisted Therapy Conference in South Africa, hosted by JellyBeans. Nici Reed, Marieanna le Roux, Leigh Tucker, Magdie van Heerden and Chrisna Richard were in attendance. Marieanna le Roux and Magdie van Heerden provided oral presentations at the AAT conference, while Leigh Tucker did a poster presentation. Avril Cronje and Annica volunteered.
- In May 2019, PAT members attended the second AAT conference hosted by JellyBeans. Marieanna le Roux and Magdie van Heerden provided oral presentations.
- Leigh Tucker will be speaking spoke about her visit to a Conference in the USA on Animal Assisted Therapy.

DOGS PASSING

- Leo (Heide Gali)
 - Ray (Gerry Staegeman)
 - Peyton (Norma Salmon)
 - Wilbur (Eileen Keogh)
 - Simcha (Annatjie van Graan)
 - Bertie (Greta Wilson)
 - Crystal (Irene Modlin)
 - Whisper (Magdie van Heerden)
- Request for a moment of silence*

FUNDRAISING

- Wine2 Whales event, moving cars from Elgin to Hermanus. The team raised R5400.
- Friends of PAT (Susan Strafford and Ona Greeff) donated R4710 to PAT, as money received from family and friends for their birthdays.
- Lou May walked the Botterkloof Enduro from Calvinia to Clanwilliam from 18-23 August 2018, and raised R3800 for PAT.
- Jason Tucker did the Cableway Challenge and raised R2350 for PAT.

OTHER

- We mourn the passing of Lesley Devine from Durban (*request for a moment of silence*)
- PAT volunteers Dick Crane, Louise Botha, and Peter Neethling, as well as Avril's husband have recovered from operations.
- 3 dogs have retired: Caesar (Annemarie van Vuuren), Hugo (Nathan & Natasha Gibson) and Juno (Nici Reed).
- Review of the items inside the goodie bags, which are suitable/not-suitable for dogs.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

- To recruit more animal behaviourists to assist with assessments.
- To consider instituting measures to uphold the retirement ages of therapy dogs and the age limits when recruiting new dog volunteers.
- To institute measures to more closely monitor the health of therapy dogs.

Opportunities were provided to ask questions.

Request from one audience member for the waiting list of facilities to be made available.

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| 3 | Guest Speaker | Tannith Hechter |
| | Tannith provided a review of the Regal Pet Health care products. Opportunities were provided to ask questions. | |

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| 4 | Guest Speaker | Marieanna le Roux |
| | <p>Marieanna provided a review of the therapy dog programme at Stellenbosch University, which was initiated to assist students in dealing with stress, in partnership with the Student Counseling Division. The programme started in May 2018. The presentation included a slideshow of images from the programme in action. Feedback was also provided by Annica Richard, a Stellenbosch student and volunteer on the programme.</p> | |
| 5 | Guest Speaker | Dick Crane |
| | <p>Dick, a long standing PAT volunteer, shared his experiences during his various site visits with his dog, Trixie (who was also in attendance).</p> | |
| 6 | Raffle prize draw (round 1) | EXCO members |
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| 7 | Guest Speaker | Lucy Breytenbach |
| | <p>Lucy is a qualified animal behaviourist. She is the owner of Just Dogs behavioural training and is the founder of Honey's Garden Medical Alert Dogs. Lucy spoke about how she trains dogs to assist people with Chronic Diseases. Since 2016, she has trained 21 dogs. In her presentation, she explained how the dogs are trained and the various conditions that the dogs are trained to identify and support.</p> | |
| 8 | Guest Speaker | Leigh Adams Tucker |
| | <p>Leigh provided a review of her recent travels to the USA, and some of the key developments in animal-assisted therapy, and shelter management.</p> | |
| 9 | Financial Report | Margie Wood |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last financial year was audited (2018/9) and the reports are available on the website, accessible for all. • Reminder that everyone involved in PAT is volunteers and does not draw a salary. Our expenses are minimal. • Nett Income R279000 (Liquidity Plus). Current Account R6486. • Interest earned R14500 (money invested in Liquidity account) • Various avenues to source donations. Driving fundraising earned us R2600. • Faircape Trust donate R2000 a month. • Debtors outstanding is approx. R2000 <p>Opportunities were provided to ask questions. There were no questions on the Financial Report.</p> | |
| 10 | EXCO and Committee Elections | Avril Cronje |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHAIR: Chrisna Richard • VICE CHAIR: Leigh Adams Tucker • EXCO: • Karen van Wyk • Margie Wood • All nominees voted in unopposed. • The same Non-Executive members are standing for re-nomination | |
| 11 | Raffle prize draw (round 2) | EXCO members |
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| 12 | Vote of Thanks | Chrisna Richard |
| <p>A special thanks to the volunteers and the working dogs, the EXCO, the area co-ordinators, and the assessors.</p> <p>Guest speakers: Lucy Breytenbach, Dick Crane, Marieanna le Roux, and Leigh Tucker MC: Judith Dodds Election Official: Avril Cronje Newsletter/website: Bronwynn Douglas Photography at AGM: Jason Tucker Coordination of Venue & Refreshments: Margie Wood Sponsors & Prizes: List is available on the website. In alphabetical order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bonnie Bio Cake and Desserts (The Pastry Chefs) Dionne Bray Doggobone Gwen Burgess Jenny Morris Kaatjie Produkte voucher for personalised artwork Magdie van Heerden Megan Durant Nici Reed Petworld Somerset West Regal Pet Health Renee Treats Ricky Litchfield Rouge Day Spa Terbedore Coffee Vondi's <p>A special heartfelt thanks to Marieanna le Roux and Nici Reed, as we bid them farewell as they retire from the EXCO.</p> | | |
| 13 | Close and refreshments | Judith Dodds |
| <p>A final special thanks to all the volunteers and friends of PAT for attending. All are invited to join after the meeting for refreshments.</p> | | |