



Animal Care Committee

MINUTES

**March 20, 2019
Ontario Room
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

<u>Members</u> Janet Andrews, Vice-Chair Aviva Harari Sherry Klein Rhiannon Lane Shirley Lesch Michelle Lustri Judy Postello	<u>Regrets</u> Denielle Duncan, Chair Dr. Esther Attard Julie Sook-Man Chan
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<u>Staff</u> Michael Killingsworth, Deputy City Clerk, By-law Enforcement, Licensing and Regulatory Services. Chris Alexander, Supervisor, By-law & Regulatory Services Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator John Britto, Committee Secretary (PT)

<u>Guests and Members of the Public</u> Valerie Burke Terri Daniels

Call to Order: The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20, 2019, with Janet Andrews, Vice Chair presiding as Chair.

Michael Killingsworth, Deputy City Clerk, By-law Enforcement, Licensing and Regulatory Services attended the meeting as a special guest.

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Approval of the February 20, 2019, Animal Care Committee meeting minutes	<p>The following amendment was made to the February 20, 2019, Animal Care Committee meeting minutes:</p> <p>Page 3, Item 5 (b) – 2019 Calendar of Events</p> <p>The following sentence: “Rhiannon agreed to send the proposed event dates to Judy,” be replaced with “Rhiannon agreed to send the</p>	

	<p>proposed event dates to the Committee members”.</p> <p>Moved by: Rhiannon Lane Seconded by: Sherry Klein</p> <p>That the minutes of the February 20, 2019, Animal Care Committee meeting be approved, as amended.</p> <p>CARRIED</p>	
2. Business arising from the Minutes	<p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair reminded the members who were not at the February meeting that a presentation on Wildlife Signage was made by David Plant, Manager of Parks Operations.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair was unable to contact Cr. McAlpine as he was not available. She will try to contact him before the next meeting.</p> <p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair volunteered to follow-up with MNR with respect to turtle fishing and report back at the next meeting.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair forwarded an email to Committee members she received from Christy Lehman for the February 20, 2019 meeting, on the update on the CAEC.</p>	
3. Animal Control Program Update	<p>a. <u>Cat Adoption & Education Centre</u></p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator reported that the CAEC has had 625 adoptions to date. There are 34 active volunteers who have put in 466 volunteer hours. The CAEC has 2 students and efforts are on to take in one more student. 16 events have taken place to date this year.</p> <p>A new cat condo has been installed at the CAEC. Christy will try to reach out to high school students to paint some murals on the front windows. Efforts are on to get some attractive foot traffic stickers as well for the CAEC.</p> <p>A question was asked concerning the recent decision of the OSPCA to cease its animal cruelty investigative role. Chris Alexander, Supervisor, By-law & Regulatory Services advised that the OSPCA will not sign a new contract with the province after the current one expires at the end of March 2019. The OSPCA will offer a three-month transition phase, by way of contract, until June 28, 2019. The OSPCA will shift into a support role in animal cruelty investigations, providing</p>	

	<p>animal shelter, forensic evidence collection and veterinary services. It is expected that the OSPCA will continue to be involved as a support to law enforcement agencies. The OSPCA has advised that community members concerned about animal cruelty should contact their local police force or animal control units.</p> <p>Michael Killingsworth, Deputy City Clerk, By-law Enforcement, Licensing and Regulatory Services advised that the City is working on short-term and long-term solutions to these issues. The options available are to partner with another municipality and/or York Region to provide animal services in general, however this does not include animal cruelty, as this relies on legislation. The City is prepared to work with York Regional Police, however, this does not appear to be a priority issue for YRP at this time.</p> <p>b. <u>Barn Cat Program</u></p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that this is now an OSPCA program, details of which are available on their website.</p> <p>c. <u>By-law Review</u></p> <p>Chris Alexander, Supervisor, By-law & Regulatory Services advised that he is working in collaboration with Zoo Check in preparing a list of animal species that are permitted to be domesticated in the City of Markham. Chris will inform the Committee when the Draft By-law is ready to be presented to Council for consideration, expected for May. Staff will explore options for the regulation of the sale of small and exotic animals.</p> <p>Moved by: Rhiannon Lane Seconded by: Michelle Lustrì</p> <p>That the Animal Care Committee supports staff in their efforts to develop a positive list to replace the current prohibitive list of domesticable animals, as well as a recommendation to Council with respect to the sale of small and exotic animals.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>	
4. Events	a) <u>Fund Raising</u>	

	<p>Denielle and Janet are making various jams, so anyone that needs these are requested to contact Denielle.</p> <p>Judy handed over \$170.10 to Christy Lehman from various fund raising events held last year.</p> <p>b) <u>2019 Calendar of Events</u></p> <p>Earth Day in Downtown Markham, Saturday, April 20. Denielle and Janet are working the morning shift. Denielle and Valerie are working the afternoon shift.</p> <p>Stiver Mill Farmers Market will be re-opening on Sunday, June 9, 2019 – volunteers are required for this event.</p>	
5. New Business	<p>a) Recruitment of new members to the Committee are yet to be finalized by Council.</p> <p>b) Janet Andrews advised that the Committee decided to pay for three cat feeding stations made by Toronto Cat Rescue for a local individual who is feeding a couple of colonies of stray cats.</p> <p>c) Janet advised that she and Denielle have completed the writing involved in the wildlife brochures. Gail Lenters of Shades of Hope has agreed to design the brochures at a cost of \$300 for 5 brochures to be ready in time for the Earth Day celebrations. Janet and Denielle made an executive decision to pay the \$300 for this purpose. Christy and Chris advised that the City could bear the cost of printing the brochures within the Committee's \$800 printing budget and suggested Gail Lenters be asked to do the printing.</p> <p>d) Janet advised that the \$3,000 cheque presentation for the CAEC has been scheduled for the April 8, 2019, General Committee. Rhiannon volunteered to prepare a large size cheque.</p> <p>e) Responding to a question from Janet Andrews with respect to information on assistance for removal of wildlife from residences that was on the City's website and has now disappeared, Christy advised that staff have training programs in April, and this information will be put back on the website.</p>	<p>Rhiannon to prepare a large size cheque for the April 8, 2019 General Committee.</p>

	f) The Committee discussed a slide on new initiatives to be included in the PowerPoint presentation for the cheque presentation to General Committee in April.	
6. Date of next meeting	5:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 17, 2019.	
7. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.	
