



**Electronic Animal Care Committee  
MINUTES**

**January 20, 2021  
ZOOM  
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

**Members Present**

Valerie Burke, Vice-Chair  
Areez Remtulla  
Aviva Harari (6:20 p.m.)  
Bernice Royce  
Dr. Esther Attard  
Janet Andrews  
Judy Postello  
June Ziola  
Sherry Klein  
Vikrum Pain

**Regrets**

Denielle Duncan, Chair

**Staff**

Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator  
John Britto, Committee Secretary (PT)

**Guest**

Anna Tennyson, Pet Hero (for Item # 2)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:35 PM with Valerie Burke in the Chair.  Valerie thanked Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator for her help to the Animal Care Committee, and welcomed the return of John Britto, Committee Secretary (PT).	
<b>2. Pet Hero</b>	Ms. Anna Tennyson, Co-Owner & President, Pet Hero made a verbal presentation about an App	

	<p>developed by her that helps pet owners locate lost pets. The Pet Hero App is a free global high-tech cellular animal location rescue app. Neighbours can look out for neighbours' pets by sending out localized phone alerts within their community when a pet goes missing, or when a stray is spotted running down the road or even escaped pet birds in a tree.</p> <p>Ms. Tennyson advised that she encountered issues with promoting the App in the United States of America, especially with the SPCA and the Humane Society. She further advised that she is seeking help from the Committee to promote the App in the City and the wider community.</p> <p>Ms. Tennyson will send related information about the App to John so he can circulate it to the Committee members.</p> <p>Responding to a question from Bernice, Ms. Tennyson advised that the App is currently being widely used in the Philippines and Barbados.</p> <p>Responding to a question from Janet, Ms. Tennyson advised that internationally the current number of users is very low. She further advised that Pet Hero has reached out to the Toronto and Ontario's Humane Society, and is currently reaching out to Markham, being a local resident of the City.</p> <p>Responding to a question from Areez, Ms. Tennyson was not able to provide the exact number of Pet Hero App users in the Philippines, however, she advised that they have partnered with the Pawssion Project, a non-profit organization in the Philippines dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and rehoming of dogs in distress. Their efforts helped save 3 different pounds from euthanizing 100+ dogs and cats.</p> <p>Ms. Tennyson gave a brief overview of a worldwide movement called "Stop the killing by 2023" started by her, which is connected with Pet Hero, and is related with responsible pet ownership.</p>	
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	<p>Responding to a question from Christy Lehman, Licensing &amp; Animal Services Coordinator, Ms. Tennyson advised that Pet Hero is not looking for funding, only to publicize the pet tracing free Pet Hero App.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing &amp; Animal Services Coordinator advised that with the City of Markham bringing Animal Care Services inhouse, she will look into suggesting that the City's Animal Services Officers have the Pet Hero App installed on their mobile devices. Christy also suggested that Ms. Tennyson reach out to the OSPCA, as well and volunteered to provide contacts in Newmarket.</p> <p>Christy also suggested that Ms. Tennyson reach out to pet stores like PetSmart who could assist in promoting the Pet Hero App.</p>	
<p><b>3. Approval of the December 16, 2020, Animal Care Committee Minutes</b></p>	<p>The following amendments were made to the minutes of the December 16, 2020 Animal Care Committee meeting.</p> <p><b>2) Price of Cookbook</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>Recommended charging \$12, which is on the low end of</del> A discussion was held regarding the price <del>recommend by the publisher</del> to be charged for the cookbook;</li> </ul> <p>Moved by Judy Postello Seconded by Bernice Royce</p> <p>That the December 16, 2020 Animal Care Committee Minutes be approved, as amended. Carried</p>	
<p><b>4. Business Arising From the Minutes</b></p>	<p>Committee reviewed the list of action items and updated the Action Item Table (view last page of minute document to see table).</p> <p><b>1) Webpage visits</b></p> <p>Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator advised that the statistics of the visits to the Animal Services Webpage was circulated along with the meeting Agenda for information of the Committee. She further advised that the numbers may need some analysis.</p>	

<b>5. Animal Services Program Update</b>	<u>Cat Adoption &amp; Education Centre</u> Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that the CAEC continues to remain closed due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic situation and the restrictions imposed on businesses in the province of Ontario.	
<b>6. Events</b>	<p>a. Fundraising</p> <p><b>1) Legal Opinion:</b>  Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator advised that Lisa from the City's Legal Department is still working on providing appropriate legal advice with respect to the production and sale of a Cookbook in an effort to fundraise for the Animal Care Committee.</p> <p><b>2) Breakeven analysis to determine the ideal price of the cookbook</b>  A discussion was held with respect to fixing an ideal price for a copy of each cookbook, taking into consideration printing, taxes and other related components.</p> <p>Valerie advised that the Deputy Clerk confirmed that a limited budget was available from the City for printing of the cookbooks.</p> <p>Areez advised that municipalities are exempt from charging HST.</p> <p>Christy suggested, and volunteered to seek confirmation from the Finance Department on the HST matter.</p> <p>After extensive discussion, it was agreed to keep this matter in abeyance, until appropriate advice is received from the City's Legal Department.</p> <p>b. Events</p> <p>No events have been scheduled for this year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic situation.</p>	
<b>7) New Business</b>	<p>a. Animal Services 2021 budget  This matter was considered at the December 16, 2020 Animal Care Committee meeting.</p>	

	b. Valerie advised that the husband of Terri Daniels (former member of the Animal Care Committee) passed away recently. Valerie volunteered, and the Members agreed to send Terri a Condolence Card.	
<b>8) Communication</b>	a. Cupcakes aren't cancelled: SPCA National Cupcake Day goes virtual – circulated along with the Agenda	
<b>9) Date of the Next Meeting</b>	The next Animal Care Committee meeting will be held on February 17, 2021, 5:30 PM.	
<b>10) Adjournment</b>	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 6:55 PM	

## **ACTION ITEMS**

<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
Contact the Volunteer Manager regarding the automated response to the volunteer application, as some volunteers said they did not get the response.	February 19, 2020	Christy Lehman	Completed
Update the Animal Services page on the City's Website	February 19, 2020  November 18, 2020	Christy Lehman June Heather Ziola	Completed
Confirm if the Guinea pigs are spayed.	March 9, 2020	Christy Lehman	Completed
Coordinate tour of Shade of Hope and CAEC	March 9, 2020	Christy Lehman	On hold due to the pandemic
Put together Cookbook proposal for the next meeting.	October 28, 2020	Judy Postello, June Ziola, and other Sub-Committee Members	Completed
Provide Laura Gold with the 2021 event dates, and proclamation description and dates	November 18, 2020	Areez Remtulla	Completed
Asked Finance if the Committee can use its funds from its account towards the project	November 18, 2020	Laura Gold	Completed
Research if recipes can be used from other sources	November 18, 2020	June Ziola, and Judy Postello	Completed

Action Item	Meeting Date	Person Responsible	Status
Provide info to Laura Gold on using recipes from other sources	December 16, 2020	June Ziola	Completed
Provide information on using recipes from other sources to the City's Legal Department	December 16, 2020	Laura Gold	Completed
Conduct a breakeven analysis to determine the ideal price of the cookbook	December 16, 2020	Judy Postello	On hold awaiting legal advice from the City's Legal Department
See if the City can track how many people visited the City's Animal Services web page	December 16, 2020	Christy Lehman/Laura Gold	Completed
Find out if Cookbook requires HST	January 20, 2021	Christy Lehman to check with Finance	
Information on Pet Hero App to be circulated when received from Ana Tennyson of Pet Hero.	January 20, 2021	John Britto	
Animal Services Officers to install Pet Hero App on mobile devices.	January 20, 2021	Christy Lehman	