



**Electronic Animal Care Committee
MINUTES
November 17, 2021
ZOOM
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

Members Present

Valerie Burke, Interim Chair
Areez Remtulla
Aviva Harari
Bernice Royce
Dr. Esther Attard
Judy Postello
June Ziola
Vikrum Pain

Regrets

Denielle Duncan
Janet Andrews

Guests

None

Staff

Christy Lehman, Animal Care Supervisor
John Britto, Committee Secretary (PT)

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:30 PM with Valerie Burke in the Chair.	
2. Approval of the October 20, 2021 Animal Care Committee Meeting Minutes	<p>Moved by Bernice Royce Seconded by Dr. Esther Attard</p> <p>That the minutes of the October 20, 2021 Animal Care Committee meeting be approved, as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p>	
3. Business Arising from the Minutes	Committee reviewed the list of action items and updated the Action Item Table (view last page of the minute's document for details).	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Pet Licensing Renewal Form outstanding revisions:</u> Christy advised that the License Renewal Form on the City's website has since been revised. June advised that the sample Form on the website does not reflect the Form that the people are being asked to fill in now. She believes that a different group was responsible to change this Form, but she is not aware that this request has been given its required priority for affecting the changes. Christy advised that it is basically the same Form. Staff have updated the Form including the verbiage of the donation piece. June volunteered to go through the sample Form and check whether all the errors have been corrected and will report back at the next ACC meeting. - <u>ACC Description in Terms of Reference</u> Christy advised that there must have been some terms that were incorrect, and the Terms of Reference for all the Committees are still being looked into. Valerie advised that the Terms of Reference for the Animal Care Committee can be found in the Advisory Committee page. She further advised that changes were recently made and if any further changes are needed Council will need to approve those additional changes. - <u>General Web issue when users click on ACC link</u> Christy advised that this page belongs to the Clerks Department and will need to be looked at by them, and she believes that Clerks has been alerted to the fact that some changes need to be made. - <u>Coyote Response Report Update from November 15, 2021 General Committee</u> 	<p>June to confirm at next meeting if errors in the online Licensing Form and Terms of Reference have been corrected.</p>
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	<p>Valerie advised that the Coyote Response Report has been rescheduled for consideration at the November 29, 2021, General Committee meeting.</p> <p>Responding to a question by Valerie, Christy advised that Council has a very high regard for the Animal Care Committee and the Committee's input in all animal care related matters is very valuable to Council. She further advised that staff understand that the ACC's position on such documents is shared with Council.</p> <p>Christy advised that the statement sent by Valerie on behalf of the Animal Care Committee has been included as an Attachment to her staff report that will be presented to General Committee for consideration at its meeting on November 29, 2021. She further advised that although the Attachment has been formatted as a strategy document, the contents and intent remain unchanged. Christy advised that the report along with related attachments will be published on the City's website sometime next week so it can be viewed by the public.</p> <p>Responding to a further question from Valerie, Christy confirmed that the comments sent in by Dr. Esther Attard have also been incorporated into the staff report.</p> <p>Responding to a question from June, Christy confirmed that the report has been reviewed by senior staff and all typos have been corrected.</p> <p>June advised that she accidentally received the Ward 6 Newsletter and was pleased to see the article on coyotes in the Newsletter. She referred to an article in the Newsletter that states, "negative interactions between humans and wildlife can lead to unnecessary relocation or destruction of animals". June was concerned that this statement is in the public realm.</p>	
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	<p>Responding to the above observation, Christy confirmed that this is not what staff promote. She advised that unfortunately she can't police everything that a Councillor publishes in their Newsletters, however, she was surprised because that Councillor usually reaches out to her to ask for content to include in the Newsletter but did not do it this time. Christy further advised that she would not encourage such material be published in a Councillor's newsletter.</p> <p>Valerie suggested that June email the Councillor and her Executive Assistant expressing concern in a very diplomatic way about the subject statement in the newsletter and seek their feedback on the matter.</p> <p>Christy advised that after consideration of the staff report and recommendations at the November 29 General Committee meeting, it is hoped that there will be a clear understanding of what can and cannot be done with respect to coyote sightings and also the effective human coexistence with wildlife.</p> <p>Valerie thanked June for bringing this matter to the attention of the Animal Care Committee.</p> <p>Responding to a question from Aviva, June explained the contents of the article published in the Councillor's newsletter with respect to human-coyote interaction/s.</p> <p>Christy advised that the Councillor's intent is to emphasize humans taking responsibility for their actions with respect to violating the personal space of the coyotes, leading to negative human-coyote interaction.</p> <p>Dr. Esther Attard advised that humans interacting with wildlife could result in the implications of their actions, as well, which could result in fines being issued or charges laid, which will also need to be explained.</p>	
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	<p>Valerie suggested that committee members subscribe to their Councillor's newsletters.</p> <p>Aviva advised about the postings in the Next Door App of coyote sightings in the Pomona Mills Park area. She also inquired if staff had any update on the coyote suffering from mange in the German Mills Meadow area. Christy advised that staff is aware of this matter and are currently working with Shades of Hope to formulate a plan to provide treatment to the animal.</p> <p>Responding to a question from June about asking residents to report coyote sightings, Christy advised that residents can call in if more information or assistance is required. Christy further advised that staff are aware of where the animals are located and are monitoring their behaviour, suspected injuries, etc.</p> <p>Dr. Esther Attard advised that it is important to notify sightings so that staff can be made aware of wildlife existence. But also if it is known that the sightings are happening at a certain time of the day, and if they are in your yard, it is good that your neighbours know (if they have a little dog), they will be cautioned about the coyote's presence. It is unusual for coyotes to be in peoples' yards. There was a case in Toronto where there was a coyote den in somebody's yard and the residents were not aware of it, and the neighbours got really angry because they were not told about the den, but these residents were not aware of the den, till the neighbour's dog was attacked by the coyote. These are risks that are taken, but one has to be aware of this. If this was known, maybe a day earlier, that neighbour's dog could have been protected. Case in point, awareness of coyote existence and keeping the neighbourhood known of the fact of their existence.</p> <p>Valerie reminded the members of the November 29 General Committee meeting and encouraged them to send in written</p>	
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	<p>communications as individual residents. She further advised that Areez has kindly agreed to speak on behalf of the Committee. The Committee will be sending in a statement which will be very similar to the one previously sent. Valerie advised that a short statement would be best. All the information is available on Page 1 of the City's website. Valerie also encouraged members to make a verbal deputation by reading out their written statement at the meeting, as this has a much better impact as compared to just a written statement. The agenda should be posted on the City's website approximately a week prior to the meeting date.</p> <p>Valerie volunteered to email the members to let them know when the agenda is published.</p>	<p>Valerie to email Committee when GC agenda is published on the City website.</p>
<p>4. Animal Services Program Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Cat Adoption & Education Centre</u> Christy advised that the CAEC has opened, and adoptions are being done via Zoom, using curbside pickups. - <u>Shades of Hope Wildlife Centre</u> Christy advised that SOH will be attending the November 29, 2021 General Committee meeting in support of the staff report and the coyote coexistence plan. Christy further advised that representatives from Coyote Watch Canada and the Ministry will also be attending the meeting, so questions or clarifications that cannot be addressed by staff, can be done by these members. <p>Christy advised that the Mayor alluded to the fact that a lot of discussion is anticipated on this topic, which will be the first item on the agenda.</p>	
<p>5. Communications</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>6. New Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>2022 Proclamations:</u> Valerie advised that Areez kindly put together a table with all the 2021 Proclamation Request dates which was submitted to the Clerks Department. 	

	<p>John shared the document on screen for review by the members.</p> <p>Valerie encouraged members to add any relevant dates to the table. Vikrum volunteered to update the list with potential 2022 Proclamation Requests and send it to Valerie for review, which will then be submitted to Clerks by the Committee.</p> <p>- <u>Interim Chair:</u> Valerie advised that elections for Committee positions such as Treasurer and Events Coordinator be held in January 2022.</p> <p>Valerie advised that interviews are being held for appointing new members to the Committee.</p> <p>June suggested that elections for the various positions be held in February 2022 as the new members will be appointed in January 2022.</p> <p>Moved by Aviva Harari Seconded by Vikrum Pain</p> <p>That Areez Remtulla be appointed Interim Chair of the Animal Care Committee effective January 2022.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Carried</p> <p>The Committee agreed to cancel the December meeting and meet next in January 2022.</p>	Vikrum to update 2022 Proclamation Request dates
7. Date of the Next Meeting	The next Animal Care Committee meeting will be held on January 19, 2022, at 5:30 PM.	
8. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 6:20 PM.	

ACTION ITEMS

Action Item	Meeting Date	Person Responsible	Status
Conduct a breakeven analysis to determine the ideal price of the cookbook	December 16, 2020	Judy Postello	On hold awaiting in person meetings
Pet Licensing Renewal Form	September & October, 2021	Christy to update web page this quarter and include a list of animal services programs in the 2022 renewal notices.	Further revisions are necessary.
Errors in sample online Licensing Form and Terms of Reference	November 17, 2021	June to confirm at next meeting if errors in the online Licensing Form and Terms of Reference have been corrected.	
Nov. 29 General Committee agenda published on website	November 17, 2021	Valerie to email Committee members	
2022 Proclamation Request dates	November 17, 2021	Vikrum to update 2022 Proclamation Requests dates	