



ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 19, 2022

Electronic Zoom Meeting

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

<u>Members Present</u> Areez Remtulla, Interim Chair Janet Andrews Dr. Esther Attard Curtis Bekking Valerie Burke Filandro Fernandes Cathy McKnight Bernice Royce June Ziola	<u>Regrets</u> Denielle Duncan Aviva Harari Vikrum Pain
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<u>Guests</u> Quiddie Chung
<u>Staff</u> Christy Lehman, Animal Care Supervisor Bindi Patel, Council/Committee Coordinator Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Secretary (PT)

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:30 PM with Areez Remtulla in the Chair.	
2. Approval of the November 17, 2021 Animal Care Committee Meeting Minutes	Moved by Bernice Royce Seconded by Valerie Burke That the minutes of the November 17, 2021 Animal Care Committee meeting be approved, as presented. Carried	

3. Introduction and Welcome to New Members	On behalf of the Committee, Areez Remtulla welcomed three new members: Filandro (Fil) Fernandes, Chris Bekking, and Cathy McKnight, and introductions were made.																					
4. Status Update re: Term Durations for Existing Members	<p>It was reported that the terms of some members have expired. These members were given the option of beginning a new term; some accepted the option but two members did not, leaving a vacancy on the Committee.</p> <p>The terms for existing members were reviewed; it was noted that the end dates fall in different years to ensure there are always experienced members on the Committee.</p> <table><tr><th>Committee Member</th><th>Term ends November 30</th></tr><tr><td>Areez Remtulla</td><td>2023</td></tr><tr><td>Janet Andrews</td><td>2019*</td></tr><tr><td>Dr. Esther Attard</td><td>2021*</td></tr><tr><td>Valerie Burke</td><td>2023</td></tr><tr><td>Denielle Duncan</td><td>2021</td></tr><tr><td>Aviva Harari</td><td>2020*</td></tr><tr><td>Vikrum Pain</td><td>2022</td></tr><tr><td>Bernice Royce</td><td>2022</td></tr><tr><td>June Ziola</td><td>2022</td></tr></table> <p>* Has agreed to another term</p> <p>It was noted that various Committee roles, including that of Treasurer, are vacant. Elections will be held during the February meeting.</p>	Committee Member	Term ends November 30	Areez Remtulla	2023	Janet Andrews	2019*	Dr. Esther Attard	2021*	Valerie Burke	2023	Denielle Duncan	2021	Aviva Harari	2020*	Vikrum Pain	2022	Bernice Royce	2022	June Ziola	2022	<p>Areez Remtulla will send descriptions of elected roles to Committee members who, in turn, are asked to advise if they would be interested in serving.</p>
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5. Business Arising from the Minutes	<p>Committee reviewed the list of action items and updated the Action Item Table (view last page of the Minutes document for details).</p> <p>- <u>Pet Licensing Renewal Form outstanding revisions:</u> June Ziola reported that she had reviewed the Pet Licensing Renewal Form and observed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the Sample Form on the website is the 2012 version and it would take a lot to change it on the website;- the changes requested by the Committee have been made to the actual Pet Licensing Renewal Form; however, the donation section still reads “Animal Care	<p>Christy Lehman will advise the Tax Department that this should be corrected.</p>																				

	<p>Committee” whereas it should read “Markham Animal Care Services”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - that there may still be confusion regarding payment methods - during the online renewal process, there is a notice that one would receive the tags within 5-7 days, but tags are no longer used <p>- <u>Coyote Response Report Update from November 29, 2021 General Committee</u> Christy Lehman advised that, following a lengthy discussion, the Markham Animal Care Services report was approved with few changes. It has been published on the City’s website and officers are using it in the course of their duties. Markham will host a virtual public education session on this topic on March 23, 2022 @ 7:30 pm. Markham is also planning to develop educational pieces for schools.</p> <p>Responding to questions about possible plans for guidelines for destruction of coyotes, Christy confirmed that Markham has the authority to kill a coyote but only does so as a last resort in extreme circumstances, since this does not solve the problem. Markham practices a human coexistence strategy with wildlife but this means residents must not feed coyotes.</p> <p><u>2022 Proclamations</u> Christy Lehman advised that all proclamations were approved by Council. A further report will be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Christy Lehman will have the website form and process updated.</p> <p>Vikrum Pain will provide a report at the February meeting.</p>
6. Animal Services Program Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Cat Adoption & Education Centre (CAEC)</u> Christy Lehman advised that the CAEC is closed at this time. - <u>Shades of Hope Wildlife Centre (SOH)</u> Christy advised that SOH attended the November 29, 2021 General Committee meeting in support of the staff report and the coyote coexistence plan. Christy further advised that the Committee will be welcome to tour the SOH facilities when health 	

	guidelines permit. It was also suggested that a tour of the CAEC be arranged for Committee members.	
7. Communications	None	
8. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Emergency Preparedness for Pets and Educating residents about keeping cats and wildlife safe</u> Valerie Burke put forward these ideas for the Committee to consider, possibly as part of the Committee's Annual Plan. - <u>Roadmap for the New Year/Annual Plan</u> For the benefit of new members, Areez Remtulla reviewed the Committee Terms of Reference (TOR), noting that it is a valuable guiding reference. The TOR require the Committee to develop an Annual Plan. <p>Christy Lehman suggested that the Animal Care Services department would welcome help from the Committee to educate Markham residents about the human coexistence strategy with wildlife. It was suggested that Committee members be sent the TOR, a previous business plan, and a previous PowerPoint presentation, to use as references to form ideas for the 2022 Annual Plan.</p> <p>Quiddie Chung and Dr. Esther Attard joined the meeting at 6:30 pm.</p> <p>Dr. Esther Attard spoke about her role in animal care services for the City of Toronto and provided insight into the decision-making process for the recent shooting of a coyote in Toronto. Dr. Attard reported that Toronto is, and Christy Lehman advised that Markham has started, reaching out to the Indigenous community to help educate residents about coexistence; it was agreed to include this outreach in the Annual Plan.</p>	<p>Staff was asked to follow up on the status of a Committee motion requesting General Committee to ask staff to update bird-friendly guidelines to CSA standards.</p> <p>Janet Andrews will send Committee members the TOR, a previous business plan, and a PowerPoint presentation to use as references.</p>
7. Date of the Next Meeting	The next Animal Care Committee meeting will be held on February 16, 2022, at 5:30 PM.	
8. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:00 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
2022 Proclamation Request dates	November 17, 2021	Vikrum to update 2022 Proclamation Request dates	Completed
Committee Elections	January 19, 2022	Areez Remtulla to send descriptions of elected roles to Committee members who, in turn, are asked to advise if they would be interested in serving.	Elections to be held at the February 16, 2022 meeting.
Pet Licensing Renewal Form	January 19, 2022	Christy Lehman to advise the Tax Department of needed correction, and have the website form and process updated.	
Follow up on the status of a Committee motion requesting General Committee to ask staff to update bird-friendly buildings to CSA standards	January 19, 2022	Staff	
Committee Annual Plan	January 19, 2022	Janet Andrews to send Committee members the TOR, a previous business plan, and a PowerPoint presentation to use as references.	