



Animal Care Committee

MINUTES

September 20, 2017

Ontario Room

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

<u>Members</u> Janet Andrews, Vice-Chair (Acting Chair) Dr. Esther Attard Councillor Valerie Burke Julie Sook-Man Chan Kaushik Chawla Rhiannon Lane Shirley Lesch Michelle Lustri Kar Pak Ng	<u>Regrets</u> Denielle Duncan, Chair Sherry Klein
<u>Staff</u> Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, By-Law & Regulatory Services Christy Lehman, Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Animal Services John Britto, Committee Secretary (PT)	
<u>Guests and Members of the Public</u> Terri Daniels	

Call to Order: The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:38 p.m. on Wednesday, September 20, 2017, with Janet Andrews, Vice Chair presiding as Acting Chair

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Approval of the June 21, 2017 Animal Care Committee meeting minutes	Moved by: Rhiannon Lane Seconded by: Dr. Esther Attard That the minutes of the June 21, 2017, Animal Care Committee meeting be approved as distributed. CARRIED	

<p>2. Business arising from the Minutes</p>	<p>Review of Action items:</p> <p>The Committee reviewed the Action items from the previous meeting. The following updates were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Off leash dog parks in the City – Update</u> <p>Janet Andrews advised that the City has prepared a survey titled “Off Leash Area Policy and Design Standard Review” seeking input from the community.</p> <p>Janet advised that Denielle thought it would be a good idea if committee members took a few surveys and handed them out to pet owners to complete and either hand it back to committee members, mail or drop them off at the Civic Centre.</p> <p>Rhiannon Lane inquired if the Survey is available online on the city website. Christy Lehman, Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Animal Services advised that she is not aware if the survey is available online. Janet Andrews, Acting Chair advised that it may not be available online as the city’s website is on lockdown.</p> <p>Business arising from minutes of the June 21, 2017 Animal Care Committee meeting:</p> <p>a. <u>Canada Geese Signage</u></p> <p>Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, By-law & Regulatory Services suggested that the Animal Care Committee should pass motions requesting Council to direct staff to attend Committee meetings to provide required advice and/or information to the Committee. He further advised that such actions would help staff resources and also provide staff authorization to respond to Council’s directions.</p> <p>Moved by: Julie Sook-Man Chan Seconded by: Rhiannon Lane</p> <p>That Council direct appropriate staff to attend a future Animal Care Committee meeting to provide an update on animal care activity programs.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>b. <u>Oh My Dog – Pet Store</u></p> <p>Christy Lehman, Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Animal Services advised that the OSPCA attends the property regularly and has found no violations to date.</p>	
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	<p>She further advised that the OSPCA have found a few things that are of minor concern, e.g. overturned water bowls, etc.. Christy also advised that staff are aware of this business, the zoning is appropriate for the business operation and there are no violations. She advised that if staff continue to make unsolicited visits to the premises, it could be perceived as harassment.</p> <p>Responding to the Committee's concerns about the smell within the Oh My Dog pet store, Christy Lehman, Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Animal Services advised that the smell is typical of a pet shop.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the issue of sale of pets in parking lots and sought staff opinion on whether these activities are permissible under city by-laws.</p> <p>Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, By-law & Regulatory Services suggested that the Animal Care Committee could pass a motion seeking Council direction on enacting a by-law permitting the sale of domestic animals provided they are sourced through recognized rescues and/or shelters.</p> <p>Moved by: Rhiannon Lane Seconded by: Julie Sook-Man Chan</p> <p>That Council enact a by-law permitting the sale of domestic animals, provided they are sourced from recognized rescues and/or shelters.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>	
<p>3. Animal Control Program Update</p>	<p>a. <u>Cat Adoption and Education Centre</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. 159 adoptions to date (387 since opening!) ii. Reading Program has been booked solid all summer (Tuesdays and Fridays 4pm-5pm). Residents are encouraged to call the Centre directly to book future sessions. iii. Halloween photos scheduled to take place on Sunday, October 22, 2017 between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Thornhill Community Centre. Promotional material is being finalized and will be sent to Committee members for distribution when ready. <p>b. <u>Barn Cat Program</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. No updates at this time <p>c. <u>Animal Control By-law Review</u></p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A review of the Animal Control By-law is currently underway, and is tentatively scheduled to be presented for consideration by General Committee in early 2018. d. <u>Wildlife Services Review</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Held a focus group over the summer made up of Advisory Committee members from all different communities, gained excellent feedback. ii. Next steps sending a survey to residents in order to rank our improvements in order of importance. <p>Responding to a question from Janet Andrews, Acting Chair, Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, By-law & Regulatory Services advised that the handover of the North Toronto Cat Rescue (NTCR) premises was uneventful. All the cats from the NTCR have been give out to volunteers. Chris further advised that Donna Cox was trying to acquire a suitable location somewhere in the City of Vaughan, but no details are available at this time.</p> <p>Councillor Valerie Burke complemented City staff for being proactive and sensitive in providing assistance to NTCR.</p> <p>Councillor Burke further advised that the reading program has been very popular and well received throughout the summer break.</p>	
<p>4. Events</p>	<p>a. Fundraising</p> <p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair advised that the following funds were collected during the various fundraising events organized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Stiver Mill Doggy Days \$105.75; ii. Markham Farmers Market opening event held in May \$24; iii. Unionville Festival opening \$160.65 iv. Markham Music Festival Opening event \$54 through sales and \$31.35 through donations; and v. Councillor Valerie Burke – sale of salsa = \$29.50 <p>All of the above cash was given to Christy Lehman, Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Animal Services who advised that she would hand it over to Laura Gold, Committee Coordinator in the Clerks Department.</p> <p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair advised that a list is being maintained of the questions asked during the various events.</p>	

	<p>These questions will be handed over to staff for consideration when preparing wildlife education programs.</p> <p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair further advised that the Committee proposes to compile an Annual Report of its activities held during the year that will be provided to Markham Council. The report will also contain the amount of money raised by the Animal Care Committee through fundraising events.</p> <p>b. Events scheduled for the remainder of the year</p> <p>Rhiannon Lane will circulate details of the Markham Santa Claus parade and the Unionville Old Tyme Christmas parade. Members are encouraged to sign up for these two year-end events, as numbers of people and dogs attending need to be provided to the organizers.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Animal Services advised that she will find out if the OSPCA would like to bring some the dogs from their shelter for the parades.</p> <p>Responding to a question from Janet Andrews, Acting Chair, Christy Lehman, Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Animal Services advised that she will find out from the OSPCA if they have the “ADOPT ME” vests.</p>	
<p>5. New Business</p>	<p>a. <u>Storage of Committee’s supplies</u></p> <p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair suggested that this matter be considered off-line.</p> <p>b. <u>Expiration date of members’ terms of office</u></p> <p>Christy Lehman, Acting Supervisor, Licensing & Animal Services advised that Laura Gold, Committee Coordinator in the Clerks Department is working with staff from the IT Department on this matter.</p> <p>Resending to a question from Janet Andrews, Acting Chair, Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, By-law & Regulatory Services advised that the term of Committee members continues till a successor is appointed.</p> <p>c. <u>2018 fundraising activities – possible “Community Sale” in the Spring</u></p> <p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair advised that she and Denielle Duncan, Chair had off-line discussions about considering a “Community Sale” in the Thornhill</p>	

	<p>Community Centre parking lot, the proceeds of which could be donated to the CAEC.</p> <p>Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, By-law & Regulatory Services suggested that this should be organized after the hockey season ends.</p> <p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair suggested that tables could be set up along with sidewalks within the parking lot.</p> <p>d. <u>New Events Coordinator</u></p> <p>Janet Andrews, Acting Chair advised that Rhiannon Lane suggested a new Events Coordinator be appointed as her term ends in November 2018. It was decided that this matter be considered at the October meeting.</p>	
6. Date of Next Meeting	October 18, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Ontario Room	
7. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.	