

**Animal Care Committee
November 16, 2016
Ontario Room
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

<p><u>Members</u> Denielle Duncan, Chair Terri Daniels, Vice-Chair Furhail Kashmiri Rhiannon Lane Shirley Lesch Michelle Lustri</p>	<p><u>Regrets</u> Esther Attard Pushprup Brar Councillor Valerie Burke Julie Sook-Man Chan Kaushik Chawla</p>
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Staff

Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, Licensing & Animal Services (6:02 p.m.)
Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator
John Britto, Committee Secretary (PT)

Guests and Members of the Public

Janet Andrews
Bernice Royce

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:37 p.m. with Denielle Duncan presiding as Chair	
2. Minutes	<p>Moved by: Terri Daniels Seconded by: Rhiannon Lane</p> <p>That the minutes of the August 17, 2016 meeting of the Animal Care Committee meeting be approved; and that the informal meeting notes of September 21 and October 19, 2016 Animal Care Committee meetings be approved, CARRIED</p>	
3. Business arising from the minutes	<p>The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meetings. The following updates were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christy Lehman has not yet had an opportunity to meet with Councillor Burke on the circus issue and the materials provided by Esther Attard. Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that review of the Animal Control By-law will be presented to Council in the first quarter of 2017. Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that, as informed by the Finance Department, 	Report back on the circus issue – Christy Lehman and Councillor Burke

	donation cheques should be made out to City of Markham Animal Care Committee.	
4. Animal Control Program Update	<p>a. <u>Cat Adoption & Education Centre</u></p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that 173 cat adoptions were done this year.</p> <p>Christy will organize photos with Santa in the second week of December.</p> <p>b. <u>Barn Cat Program</u></p> <p>No update was provided.</p> <p>c. <u>Barn Cats and Fundraising for the Cat Adoption & Education Centre</u></p> <p>No update was provided,</p>	Christy to provide members with the promotional material when ready.
5. Events	<p>Denielle Duncan, Chair advised that volunteers are needed for the Markham Santa Claus Parade scheduled to be held on Saturday, November 26, 2016.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair advised that the Unionville Old Tyme Christmas Parade will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 2, 2016.</p>	
6. New Business	<p>a. <u>Letter of Support regarding Starting a TNR program in Georgina</u></p> <p>Terri Daniels, Vice Chair advised that she received a request from a group in Georgina with respect to supporting a TNR program in Georgina. She advised that she has drafted a letter of support and Denielle Duncan, Chair has reviewed the draft letter.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that the Town of Georgina has contacted the City of Markham's Animal Services Department seeking support for initiating a TNR Program in Georgina, and so a letter from the Animal Care Committee may not be necessary at this point in time.</p> <p>Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, Licensing & Animal Services advised that he was contacted by Georgina's By-law Manager with respect to a letter of support for their proposed TNR program. He advised that it may not be proper for an advisory committee to send correspondence directly to another municipality. It would be appropriate for the committee to make a resolution requesting Council to write an official letter to the Town of Georgina. He advised that he would contact the City Clerk to find out what would be appropriate.</p> <p>Moved by: Terri Daniels Seconded by: Furhait Kashmiri</p>	Chris Alexander to contact City Clerk to confirm if an advisory committee can correspond directly with another municipality.

	<p>That the City of Markham send a letter to the Town of Georgina supporting their proposed TNR program.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>b. <u>2017 Animal Care Committee budget</u></p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair advised that she is waiting to hear back from staff with respect to the 2017 budget request for the Animal Care Committee.</p> <p>c. <u>Recruitment of new members to the Animal Care Committee</u></p> <p>Denielle Duncan expressed concerns that relevant activities of the Committee are not being conveyed to prospective candidates applying to serve on the committee. Denielle suggested that prospective candidates should be made aware of the committee's activities at the pre-selection interview stage so they are able to make an informed decision on their commitment to serve in the committee.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the issue of members leaving after attending one or two meetings on realizing the amount of personal time required to be dedicated for the activities of the committee, especially with respect to fund raising, organizing events, etc.</p> <p>In response to a question from Denielle Duncan, Chair, Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that information about the Animal Care Committee's activities and commitments for prospective candidates should be relayed to Laura Gold, Committee Co-ordinator in the City Clerk's Office. Christy further advised that generally the primary role of an advisory committee is to advise Council on issues that relate to the relevant advisory committee.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair discussed one example of a request from a Member of Council that took nine hours of her personal time to research and assimilate the relevant information required. Denielle advised of a current committee member who attended five out of seventeen meetings, and left early on three occasions.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that the Rules of Procedure governing statutory and advisory committees provides that if a member is absent without good reason or prior acknowledgement from meetings of the Committee for three (3) consecutive meetings or five (5) meetings in any one (1) year, the Committee may pass a resolution requesting that Council declare the position vacant and ask for a replacement member.</p>	
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	<p>Policy sets out the minimum donation amount. The committee suggested that the minimum donation amount of \$25 should be reviewed.</p> <p>e. <u>North Toronto Cat Rescue</u></p> <p>Chris Alexander, Acting Manager, Licensing & Animal Services provided an update on the status of the North Toronto Cat Rescue. He advised that he met with Donna a couple of months ago. He advised that Animal Services will continue to monitor the facility on a monthly basis until the eviction date, which has been extended until June 2017. He further advised that he will update the ACC in January 2017.</p> <p>Responding to a question from Denielle Duncan, Chair, Chris advised that if the City of Markham decides to take over the North Toronto Cat Rescue facility, the ACC's efforts to provide medical attention for the cats that need it could be supported by the City.</p>	<p>Chris Alexander to update ACC on the status of the North Toronto Cat Rescue in January 2017.</p>
7. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.	