

**Animal Care Committee**  
**October 19, 2016**  
**Ontario Room**  
**5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**  
**Informal meeting due to lack of quorum**

<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Regrets</u></b>
Terri Daniels, Vice Chair Esther Attard Councillor Valerie Burke Kaushik Chawla Shirley Lesch Michelle Lustri	Denielle Duncan, Chair Pushprup Brar Julie Sook-Man Chan Julia Colangelo Nicole Hendricks Furhail Kashmiri Rhiannon Lane Pamela Young

**Staff**

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

**Guests and Members of the Public**

Bernice Royce

The Animal Care Committee meeting of October 19, 2016, could not be convened due to lack of quorum.

Quorum = 8, Members present = 6

Members present were informed that no motions or formal decisions could be made at this meeting.

Following are notes of informal discussions held on October 19, 2016.

The Committee discussed the review of the Animal Control By-law. Members were advised to provide comments and staff would endeavor to include the comments in the review of the By-law scheduled for 2017.

The Committee discussed significant differences between the City of Toronto by-law and the City of Markham by-law.

Responding to a comment that the City of Toronto prohibits circuses, Christy Lehman advised that the City of Markham may not be able to ban circuses, but they could be required to be licensed and prohibited from using exotic animals.

Christy Lehman agreed to meet with Councillor Valerie Burke to review the materials provided by Esther Attard.

The Committee also discussed the Parks By-law with respect to fishing, expressing concerns with respect to catch and release. Members were advised to provide staff with suggestions they would like incorporated into the Parks By-law.

Christy Lehman advised the Committee that stakeholders and animal control officers are being consulted in the review of the by-law. Staff are also reviewing pet stores, grooming centres, and any other pet related businesses.

The Committee discussed the Shriner's Circus and the use of horses in the circus.

Kaushik Chawla expressed concerns about clustering of animals in supermarkets and their inhumane treatment, especially fish, lobsters, etc. in Longos. Christy Lehman advised that these issues fall under the animal cruelty legislation.

The Committee discussed the TNR program conducted by the City of Toronto. Christy Lehman advised that the City of Markham has achieved an 85% positive outcome with respect to Animal Control, as compared to 75% in the previous year. She further advised that no cat has been euthanized in the City of Markham since she joined the City.

The Committee expressed concerns about garbage spills that attract wildlife. Christy Lehman advised that complaints need to be lodged with property standards through the Contact Centre, with respect to these issues.

Councilor Valerie Burke advised about a performance at the Markham Theatre that had exotic animals. Christy Lehman advised that this issue falls under the Circuses, Rodeos and Entertainment Act.

Terri Daniels informed about a good news story of the quick response by the enforcement staff to complaints from a concerned resident with respect to illegal fishing.

Councilor Valerie Burke agreed to publish an article in her e-newsletter about cat adoption.

Terri Daniels advised that \$456 was collected from the sale of donuts.

Christy Lehman advised the Committee about the date of the December ACC meeting which is scheduled to be held just before Christmas, and suggested that the Committee could consider moving the meeting to a week earlier. She suggested that an email could be circulated among the members seeking their views on moving the meeting to a convenient earlier date.

The Committee discussed the issue of how donation cheques should be made out to the Animal Care Committee. Christy Lehman agreed to find out the proper procedure from the Finance Department.

Councilor Valerie Burke discussed the issue of dealing with the motion regarding the Shriner's Circus. Christy Lehman advised that the City could look at licensing the circus.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.