

Animal Care Committee
August 17, 2016
Ontario Room
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Attendance: Denielle Duncan, Chair; Terri Daniels, Vice-Chair; Dr. Esther Attard; Dr. Pushprup Brar (arrived at 6:10 p.m. and left at 6:20 p.m.); Councillor Valerie Burke; Julie Sook-Man Chan; Kaushik Chawla (left at 6:30 pm); Furhail Kashmiri (left at 6:30 pm); Rhiannon Lane; Shirley Lesch; Michelle Lustri and Pamela Young.

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

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	Moved by Rhiannon Lane Seconded by Kaushik Chawla That the Minutes of the July 20, 2016, Animal Care Committee meeting be approved. CARRIED	
3. Business Arising From the Minutes	The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meeting. The following updates were provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that it may not be possible to do the online Krispy Kreme orders to lack of staff resources. She suggested that PayPal be used. She further advised that she can do the advertising through the City website but she will not be able to organize and manage a database for the online form and	

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	<p>related work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julie Sook-Man Chan explained how the PayPal account can be used for the Krispy Kreme orders. 	
<p>4. Animal Control Program Update</p>	<p>a. <u>Cat Adoption & Education Centre</u></p> <p>No update was provided.</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>	
<p>5. Events</p>	<p><u>Fundraising</u></p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair advised that Julia Colangelo gave her a cheque of \$161.13 from her clinic which is Wellington Veterinary Hospital for auction items that they sold to</p> <p>Janet Andrews informed that she collected \$1,363.50 from the ongoing auction and she had already given Laura \$50 received as a donation which amounted to a total of \$1,413.50.</p> <p>Janet Andrews informed that the total funds collected through the auction is \$3,082.90.</p> <p>Julie Sook-Man Chan advised that she collected an amount of \$1,604.33</p>	

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	<p>through the online auction + 14.26 (totaling \$ 1,618.59).</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair informed that the following sub-committees were formed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Julia Colangelo, Shirley Lesch, Janet and herself for the auction; - Terri, Dr. Brar, Julia and Furhait for Krispy Kreme; and - The rest of the members for the games night which is going to be for the CAEC. <p>Denielle further informed that it was decided to not have the games night. There will be a Christmas auction most likely in November. She will inform the Committee when further details are available. The committee will put together a business plan.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan advised that the thank you letters have been done, some will be sent by post and some will be emailed. She advised the committee to inform her if anyone has been missed so they could be added on.</p> <p>Thornhill Village Festival: Councillor Valerie Burke advised that there was a concern about insurance for the event. Discussions ensued with respect to the City's blanket insurance that covers all city events.</p> <p>Councillor Valerie Burke informed that all Vendors have to complete a registration form that is available on the Thornhill Village Festival website. She enquired whether the City would consider financial assistance for the Festival.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator informed that this matter has been referred to the Deputy City Clerk. It was suggested that the Animal Care Committee could use funds from their own budget for this purpose.</p> <p>Councillor Valerie Burke advised that she will explore the possibility of contributing from her Council Discretionary Budget.</p>	

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	<p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator informed that she cannot authorize any budget for the Animal Care Committee. The Committee will need to request Council to consider a budget through the City's annual budget process.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair advised that the Animal Care Committee donates a lump sum amount to the CAEC every year.</p> <p>Terri Daniels informed that volunteers are needed for the Markham Farmers Market and the Thornhill Village Festival.</p> <p>Costumes have been priced at \$190 for a pair.</p> <p>Councilor Valerie Burke re-confirmed that the money raised through the sale of donuts goes to the CAEC.</p> <p>Councillor Burke advised that the Budget Sub-Committee meetings will commence in October, and councilors have the opportunity to request for a budget. If the ACC so desires, a budget could be requested for the Committee. She asked the Committee to suggest a reasonable amount for a budget with reasons for seeking the budget, so she could make a submission to the Budget Sub-Committee for consideration.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the various budgets allotted to the various committees of Council.</p> <p>The Committee discussed that as volunteers, members are not expected to spend their own money when a budget could be provided by the City.</p> <p>Councillor Valerie Burke requested Denielle Duncan, Chair to make a formal request for a budget by next week so she could make a request to the City for considering an appropriate budget for the Animal Care Committee.</p>	

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	<p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator reiterated that the Animal Care Committee is accountable for the budget allotted by Council.</p> <p>Janet Andrews, a local resident, informed that the monies realized through fund raising efforts were in support of the CAEC.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that the Animal Care Committee passed a motion that all monies raised through fund raising would go to the Committee's account, unless specifically stated that it would be for the CAEC.</p> <p>Janet Andrews, a former Committee member, advised that the motion said that the Committee would periodically make donations to the CAEC, however funds in smaller amounts were still being given to the City.</p> <p>Discussion ensued on how the monies gained through fund raising would be utilized.</p> <p>In response to a question from a Committee member, Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that the Toronto Wildlife Centre has been contracted by the City.</p> <p>In response to a question from a Committee member, Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that work related to the off-leash dog report is funded through the City's Parks Department.</p> <p>Councillor Valerie Burke advised that the City is working on a City-wide Wildlife Strategy which has been the biggest accomplishment of the Animal Care Committee.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator will email all</p>	

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	staff regarding items for the auction to be held on October 1, 2016.	
<p>6. New Business</p>	<p>a. <u>Silent Fireworks</u></p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator, advised the Committee that the City regulates the sale of fireworks for the two major events in the City – Canada Day and Queen’s Birthday. Fireworks vendors need to be licensed and need clearance from the Fire Department. The sale of fireworks is permitted 10 days before the actual event. Christy further advised that on investigation, silent fireworks do not use gun powder, which is what actually causes the sound. Because of no gun powder, the fireworks do not have the capacity to explode and therefore stay low to the ground, which is a potential fire hazard. The Fire Departments views will need to be obtained on this particular aspect of silent fireworks.</p> <p>Christy was of the opinion that it may be difficult for staff to regulate the sale of silent fireworks, considering that fireworks are permitted only on two major events during the year.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair was of the opinion that if silent fireworks were almost as good as regular fireworks, and were not very expensive, they could be used instead of the regular fireworks. The use of silent fireworks could control noise pollution.</p> <p>Julie Sook-Man Chan suggested that the City organize an education program on the ill effects of explosions caused by fireworks on humans, pets and wildlife</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair informed the Committee that the City of Mississauga’s Animal Services Department spends approximately \$5,000 to</p>	

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	<p>\$25,000 on animal care and rescue after major events that involve the use of fireworks.</p> <p>Councillor Valerie Burke advised that she has received concerns about the effects of the noise from the explosion of fireworks on a group of nesting birds at the German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat.</p> <p>Moved by Rhiannon Lane Seconded by Michelle Lustri</p> <p>That staff investigate and report back on the feasibility of promoting the use of silent fireworks at city events and develop an education program on the adverse effects of explosive fireworks on pets and wildlife.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p> <p>b. <u>Circus animals</u></p> <p>Councillor Valerie Burke discussed a motion that was considered at the June 2016 Council meeting with respect to circus animals. She advised that a number of complaints are received from residents when the Shrine Circus comes to the City. She also advised that she recently learnt that since elephants are banned from crossing the border, the Shrine Circus will not be coming to the City this year. She further advised that Council considered a motion that the banning of circuses with animals in Markham was referred back to staff for review.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator informed that it is her understanding that the City has no authority to ban circuses. However this matter could be referred to the Legal Department for a review and legal opinion on the</p>	

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	<p>matter.</p> <p>Janet Andrews, a local resident, advised that some jurisdictions in western Canada have put in place regulations banning the use of exotic animals in circuses.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan, Chair informed that some municipalities in eastern Canada have banned circuses in their cities.</p> <p>Janet Andrews, a local resident, advised that Shriners Circus is in the process of gradually phasing out elephant performing in their circus. They will ultimately be using only horses and dogs.</p> <p>Councillor Valerie Burke suggested that the Committee wait for feedback from staff on this matter.</p> <p>In response to a question from a Committee member, Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator informed that no licence or permit is required for hosting a circus. The only permits required are from the Fire Department for fire, tents, etc. OSPCA carries out routine inspections of circus animals and their investigations unit.</p>	
<p>7. Adjournment</p>	<p>The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:05 p.m.</p>	