

Animal Care Committee
May 18, 2016
Ontario Room
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke , Denielle Duncan, Chair, Terri Daniels, Vice-Chair, Esther Attard , Shirley Lesch, Kaushik Chawla, Nicole Hendricks, Julie Sook-Man Chan, Michelle Lustri and Rhiannon Lane

Staff: Christy Lehman, Licensing & Standards Coordinator, and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk

Guests and Members of the Public: Bernice Royce, and Janet Andrews

Regrets: Furhait Kashmiri, Pam Young, and Pushproup Brar,

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:38 p.m. with Denielle Duncan presiding as Chair.	
2. Minutes	Moved by Rhiannon Lane Seconded by Nicole Hendricks That the Minutes from the April 20, 2016, Animal Care Committee meeting be approved. <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>	
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"> • Toronto Wildlife will provide a presentation for Markham camps this summer and it will provide a presentation to the general public in the fall • Will follow up with the Mayor's Office on the letters sent to McDonald and Tim Hortons on the dome lids to see if any action has been taken by the organizations 	Follow up with Mayor Office on letters sent to McDonalds and Tim Hortons – Denielle Duncan

Item	Discussion	Action
<p>4. Animal Control Program Update</p>	<p>a. <u>Trap Neuter and Return (TNR) Pilot Project Update</u> Christy Lehman notified the committee of an upcoming TNR workshop being held on Aug 20, 2016, that is open to all.</p> <p>b. <u>OSPCA Update</u> The Committee reviewed the 2015 OSPCA statistics. The positive outcome for cats was 73%. Only sick or injured cats were euthanized. Healthy cats were either adopted out, trap neutered and returned, or placed into the Barn Cat program. The 2016 year to date number of adoptions was up significantly from last year, which highlights the success of the new Cat Adoption & Education Centre. The Committee suggested communicating these types of good news stories to Council.</p> <p>There was a small increase in the number of negative outcomes for dogs and small pets. The increase in the number of euthanized small pets was believed to be due to a large number of sick bunnies that were found in a hoarder's house. The Committee suggested having small pets for adoption at the Cat Adoption and Education Centre. Christy advised that this may be looked at in the future.</p> <p>c. <u>Barn Cats and Fundraising for the Cat Adoption & Education Centre</u> Christy Lehman advised that 84 cats were adopted out from the Cat Adoption Centre since January. The Committee suggested regularly referencing the Cat Adoption & Education Centre and its programs in Markham Life, as there was no reference to the centre in the last addition of Markham life.</p> <p>In response to a Committee inquiry, Christy Lehman advised that cats can be adopted from either the OSPCA animal shelter in New Market or from the Cat Adoption & Education Centre in Thornhill. The Committee suggested that the OPSCA upload better pictures of the pets it has up for adoption on its website. It recommended finding a volunteer photographer to take the pictures. Christy will make this suggestion to the OSPCA.</p>	<p>Suggest to the OSPCA that they get a volunteer photographer to take pictures of the pets for adoption – Christy Lehman</p>

Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>d. <u>Fundraising Auction</u></p> <p>The Committee discussed the fundraising auction. To date about 89 items have been donated to the auction. The auction will go live June 1, 2016. Cards and posters promoting the auction were circulated to the Committee to distribute to businesses and friends to promote the auction.</p>	
<p>5. Events</p>	<p>The Committee discussed upcoming events it will be participating in and the volunteer schedule.</p> <p>The Committee recently had a booth at the first Markham Farmer's Market. Patrons were very excited about Markham's new Cat Adoption & Education Centre. The booth was visited by new Markham Syrian refugees. The children were very interested in the animals and learned how to say cat, dog, and rabbit in English.</p> <p>Committee Members were encouraged to participate in the upcoming Unionville Festival Parade, as the Committee typically marches together in the parade with their pets. The Committee will also have a booth at the event. Rhiannon Lane was still trying to secure their booth with the organizing committee.</p> <p>Christy Lehman reported that the May 15, 2016, rabies clinic held in Markham Village was a success; about 70 people had their pets vaccinated at a cost of \$20 per pet. The next rabies clinic is scheduled to be held on June 26, 2016, in Thornhill.</p> <p>Christy Lehman was requested to email the promotional posters for upcoming events to the Committee. They in-turn will help promote the events.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan submitted an invoice for \$322 for a canopy to be withdrawn from the ACC account and another invoice for \$297 for the cost of printing the auction cards- as per Chris Alexander's approval.</p>	<p>Email promotional material for upcoming events to Committee – Christy Lehman</p>

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	The Committee agreed to cancel its booth at the Stiver Mill Festival on October 9, 2016 due to it being Thanks Giving Weekend. Possibly the booth can be booked sometime in September instead.	
6. New Business	There was no new business.	
7. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 6:43p.m.	