

Animal Care Committee
July 20, 2016
Ontario Room
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Attendance:, Denielle Duncan, Chair, Terri Daniels, Vice-Chair, Julie Sook-Man Chan, Kaushik Chawla (left at 6:30 pm), Julia Colangelo, Furhait Kashmiri, Shirley Lesch, Rhiannon Lane (arrived at 6:24 pm) and Pamela Young.

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

Guests and Members of the Public: Janet Andrews

Regrets: Dr. Esther Attard, Dr. Pushprup Brar, Councillor Valerie Burke, Nicole Hendricks and Michelle Lustri.

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:42 p.m. with Denielle Duncan presiding as Chair.	
2. Minutes	Moved by Julie Sook-Man Chan Seconded by Julia Colangelo That the following amendment be made to the June 15, 2016, minutes of the Animal Care Committee: Guests and Members of the Public: Janet Andrews That the Minutes of the June 15, 2016, Animal Care Committee meeting be approved. <div>CARRIED</div>	

Item	Discussion	Action
3. Business Arising From the Minutes	<p>The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meeting. The following updates were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christy Lehman, Licensing & Standards Coordinator advised that a response was received from McDonalds which was emailed to the Animal Care Committee by Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator. No response to date has been received from Tim Hortons. 	
4. Animal Control Program Update	<p>a. <u>Trap Neuter and Return (TNR) Pilot Project Update</u></p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator circulated by email posters regarding upcoming TNR seminars in and around the GTA, including the one at the Markham Cat Adoption and Education Centre (CAEC) scheduled for Saturday, August 20th, 2016.</p> <p>b. <u>OSPCA Update</u></p> <p>The Committee discussed the recent increase in Cat Adoption fees by the OSPCA. The Committee further discussed that such an increase is proving to be expensive for potential adopters and was of the opinion that the OSPCA should be requested to review the increase in cat adoption fees.</p> <p>Moved by Kaushik Chawla Seconded by Julie Sook-Man Chan</p> <p>That Markham Council request the OSPCA to review the increase in adoption fees at the Markham CAEC for cats and kittens to make it consistent with other rescue groups.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>	

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	<p>c. <u>Barn Cats and Fundraising for the Cat Adoption & Education Centre</u></p> <p>Responding to a question from the Committee, Christy Lehman, Licensing & Standards Coordinator advised that 116 adult cats have been adopted to date from the CAEC.</p>	
<p>5. Events</p>	<p><u>Fundraising Auction</u></p> <p><u>T-shirts for new volunteers:</u></p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that she will follow up with the new uniform provider to find out if they can provide t-shirts for the volunteers. She further informed that she needs to check the City policy with respect to providing uniforms for volunteers/committee members and the related budgetary implications, especially with respect to the quantity involved.</p> <p><u>Unionville Exotic Car Show:</u></p> <p>Denielle Duncan discussed the event organized by the Unionville Business Improvement Area (UBIA) on June 26, in support of the Toronto Humane Society and Hand Over Hand, a not-for-profit organization, dedicated to fostering a community where people with disabilities will feel safe, accepted and supported through peer networks. This public and free event featured the display of approximately 100 exotic cars, a photo booth, electronic basketball booths, raffle giveaways, DJ, donation booths, The Unionville Arms Pub, and shopping and dining along Main Street in Unionville.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan advised that she will contact Cr. Hamilton and/or the UBIA to find out details about the how the event was organized.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan discussed the upcoming Stiver Mill Farmers Market opening on</p>	<p>Christy Lehman to check City Policy regarding uniforms and also contact new uniform provider.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan to contact Cr. Hamilton and/or UBIA.</p>

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	<p>July 24. Denielle Duncan and Kaushik Chawla volunteered to attend.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan informed the Committee that all but 14 of the 116 items on auction were bid on, with approximately 4 to a bid. She further informed that \$70 was received as a donation. The monies have yet to be recovered from PayPal. Approximately \$3,000 has been made from the Auction. The Committee was of the opinion that this was a very successful fundraising auction, and it would be a good idea to have a similar event in 2017, providing sufficient number of items to be auctioned were received. Denielle volunteered to prepare a thank you letter and email to all those who participated in the fundraising unction.</p> <p><u>Game Night fundraiser for the Markham CAEC</u></p> <p>Danielle Duncan informed that it is proposed to organize an event on the lines of a trivia night sometime in November this year to generate funds for the Markham CAEC. This event could be held at the Markham District Veterans' Association Legion Hall. The Legion could be requested to waive the rental fees considering that this will be a fund raising event for the CAEC. The Legion may charge a small fee for custodial services, which could be recovered in the form of a donation. The event can be advertised once the details are finalized. Denielle suggested a grand prize worth approximately \$100, a lesser value second prize and smaller door prizes.</p> <p>Responding to questions from the Committee, Denielle advised that each member will be responsible for selling at least four tickets for the event, one of which could be the members' own ticket.</p> <p>Denielle informed that a sub-committee will be meeting on Monday, July 25, to discuss the Krispy Kreme event proposed to be held sometime in September. Discussions ensued with respect to additional members for the sub-committee. Julie Sook-Man Chan agreed to provide online assistance.</p>	<p>Denielle Duncan to email Christy details about the Stiver Mill Farmers Market. Denielle Duncan to prepare and send out thankyou letter</p> <p>Shirley Lesch to send out the thank you email.</p>

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	<p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator agreed to find out about online orders, etc.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan updated the Committee on the Unionville Festival Parade on June 6, the opening of the Stiver Mill Farmers Market on June 26 and the Markham Music Festival held on the weekend of June 16. An amount of \$305.25 was received.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan discussed attending the “Dog Days” at Stiver Mill on Aug 7 and encouraged Christy to tell OSPCA to attend, Christy thought they were already attending. Furhait and Shirley will volunteer for the morning shift and Denielle will do the afternoon alone as no one was available to help in the afternoon.</p> <p>Denielle inquired if any committee members are available to volunteer for the Thornhill Village Festival scheduled to be held on September 17. Councilor Burke told committee previously that she would donate her driveway again to the committee for their table.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the missing donation box at the CAEC. Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator informed the Committee that the plexiglas display was vandalized. The Committee inquired whether a replacement is being considered. Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator informed that a clear box with a sign “donations welcome” could be put up inside the door.</p> <p>Denielle informed the Committee that she had to call Toronto Wildlife Services (TWS) two Sundays ago, to take care of a distressed raccoon in the delivery bay of the Michaels Store. They advised that the animal should not be disturbed, and that it should be shielded from the street and traffic by placing an empty box in front of it. TWS called in the morning to inform Denielle that the raccoon had</p>	<p>Christy Lehman – Krispy Kreme online access.</p>

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	<p>retreated from hiding. Denielle was very impressed by the response from the TWS.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the advertising of the City of Markham's Animal Services. Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that the City has recently prepared its annual calendar where all the services are advertised. Terri Daniels and Julie Sook-Man Chan suggested that a letter along with a poster be sent to all veterinarians in the City informing them of the services provided by the City's Animal Services.</p> <p>Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator informed the Committee that the City offered free licences in May and June to all veterinarians in Markham for their clients who have pets. However they were not very co-operative and the City ended up giving out only about 30 licences.</p> <p>The Committee discussed issues with renewing pet licences. Some members informed that the Contact Centre did not have PetConnect Cards. Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised members to refer such cases to her and she will ensure that they get a PetConnect Card. Denielle Duncan advised that PetConnect Cards were not available at the Markham Music Festival. She further informed that CAEC does not provide pet licence renewal services.</p>	
<p>6. New Business</p>	<p>Furhait Kashmiri discussed the issue of illegal fishing in the City ponds. Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that fishing is not illegal unless there is a No Fishing sign. Furhait Kashmiri advised that local wildlife is getting disturbed by people fishing, especially on 16th Avenue.</p> <p>Christy also informed that a report relating to wildlife is being prepared with</p>	

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	<p>recommendations on improvement to wildlife services provided by the City. She advised the Committee that complaints regarding speeding motorists need to be referred to the Police.</p> <p>In response to questions regarding the location of ponds, Christy Lehman, Licensing & Animal Services Coordinator advised that this is as planning issue and needs to be referred to City Planning. Discussion ensued about planting of sufficient vegetation to protect the local wildlife.</p> <p>Denielle Duncan advised that “Stormwater pond locations” be added to the agenda for the August meeting.</p>	
7. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:00 p.m.	