

Animal Care Committee

September 16, 2015

Ontario Room

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke , Denielle Duncan, Chair, Esther Attard ,Terri Daniels , Jennifer Ford, Rhiannon Lane, Shirley Lesch, Michelle Lustri, and Pam Young
Staff: Christy Lehman, Licensing & Standards Coordinator, and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk
Members of the Public: Bernice Royce
Regrets: Pushproup Brar, Julia Colangelo , and Furhait Kashmiri

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:40 p.m. with Denielle Duncan presiding as Chair.	
2. Minutes	Moved by Esther Attard Seconded by Terri Daniels That the Minutes from the August 19, 2015, Animal Care Committee meeting be approved as presented.	CARRIED
3. Business Arising From the Minutes	The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meeting. The following updates were provided: • Action cannot be taken by the City or the OSPCA to protect octopuses, as they are not protected under the <i>Ontario SPCA Act</i> • The rabies clinic will now be held in the spring due to the City being unable to	

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	find an appropriate location to hold the clinic in the fall • Staff are unable to host a TNR seminar this fall, but the Committee was encouraged to attend the seminar being hosted by the OSPCA this fall (note: the Committee requested that staff look into the possibility of holding the clinic in the spring) • Tax receipts can be issued for donations over \$25 for the Cat Adoption and Education Centre	Look into holding a TNR seminar in the spring – Christy Lehman
4. Animal Control Program Update	a. <u>Trap Neuter and Return (TNR) Pilot Project Update</u> Christy Lehman reported that a large number of cats were trapped from an industrial site in Markham. Fifteen of the cats have been successfully relocated to local barns or homes. Three of the kittens passed away due to being very malnourished from being fed human food. There are still some cats remaining on the site. The OSPCA was recognized for doing an excellent job in finding homes for the cats. There was a discussion on whether free roaming cats should be prohibited in the City's Animal Control By-law. It was noted that the City of Toronto allows free roaming cats, and will only pick up sick and injured cats. It would be a Council decision if the City was to change its by-law to permit free roaming cats in Markham. The Committee was advised that the City has purchased three large cat traps for its TNR program. b. <u>Adoption Update</u> Christy Lehman reported that the City's Cat Adoption and Education Centre will open before Christmas. There will be a soft opening when it first opens this fall/winter and a grand opening in 2016. A consultant has been hired to develop a communication plan for the centre. Staff are also working on developing a sponsorship package to raise funds for the centre. The City has also received an influx of residents interested in volunteering at the centre. The Committee was thanked for their role with respect to	

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	generating interest in volunteering at the centre. c. <u>OSPCA Update</u> No update was provided. d. <u>Barn Cats and Fundraising for the Adoption Centre</u> The Committee raised \$155.20 that should be put into the general Animal Care Committee Account.	
5. Events	The Committee discussed what upcoming events it would like to attend, and the logistics of the events it planned to attend. It decided against attending the Markham Fair this year.	
6. New Business	a. <u>TNR Opportunity</u> A Committee Member spoke about a TNR opportunity. It was determined that the location is outside of Markham and that the City would be unable to assist. b. <u>Wild Ball</u> The Committee was advised that the Wild Ball is being held on Thursday, September 17, 2015 to raise funds for the Toronto Wildlife Centre. c. <u>Committee Mandate and Terms of Reference</u> The Committee reviewed the Terms of Reference and discussed possible changes. The Terms of Reference will be reviewed again at a future meeting.	Continue to review of Terms of Reference - Committee
7. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:15 p.m.	