

Animal Care Committee

June 17, 2015

Ontario Room

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke , Esther Attard, Vice – Chair, Julie Chan, Terri Daniels, Denielle Duncan, Rhiannon Lane, Michelle Lustri, Julia Colangelo, Trudie Ross, and Pam Young
Staff: Christopher Alexander, Acting Manager of By-Laws & Regulatory Services, Christy Lehman, Licensing & Standards Coordinator, and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk
Members of the Public: Janet Andrews, and Sophia Trettin
Regrets: Furhait Kashmiri , Pushproup Brar, Jennifer Ford, Shirley Lesch, and

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:40 p.m. with Esther Attard presiding as Chair.	
2. Board/Committee Orientation	This item was deferred, as some of the new members were unable to attend the meeting.	
3. Minutes	Moved by Rhiannon Lane Seconded by Denielle Duncan That the Minutes from the May 20, 2015 Animal Care Committee meeting be approved as presented. CARRIED	
4. Review of Action Items	The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meeting. The following updates were provided: Look into if there is anything that can be done to protect octopus – Staff are working with the OSPCA on this matter	Follow up on deferred action items at the next meeting -

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	• Look into putting open recycled cages on sites the City plans to trap on prior to trapping – deferred • Purchase cage to house feral cats while recovering from being neutered/spayed, or that are nursing kittens –deferred • Adding Pet Valu to Pet Loyalty Card – already included on the card • Adding Canada’s Wonderland to Pet Loyalty Card – waiting for response • Review Animal Care Committee Terms of Reference – deferred to the fall when the new members get settled • Creation of brochure on Markham’s Animal Services - deferred	Committee
5. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair	Moved by Pam Young Seconded by Esther Attard That Denielle Duncan be appointed to the position of Chair of the Animal Care Committee. CARRIED Moved by Denielle Duncan Seconded by Esther Attard That Terri Daniels be appointed to the position of Vice-Chair of the Animal Care Committee. CARRIED The Committee deferred the elections for the position of treasurer, and event coordinator to the next meeting to provide the new members with an opportunity to run for the positions.	Add election of Treasurer and Event Coordinator to the next agenda – Laura Gold

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6. Animal Control Services	Christopher Alexander provided the following updates on Markham's Animal Control Services: <u>Trap Neuter and Return</u> Christopher Alexander reported that he attended an event last month where he shared information on Markham's TNR project with other municipal representatives in a format similar to speed dating. Many of the participants were interested in the project and requested more information. <u>Wildlife</u> There was a discussion on promoting that Markham's wildlife services are being provided by Toronto Wildlife. The services should be promoted to residents, and to Park's and Forestry staff, which may encounter wildlife in their positions. Staff agreed to educate internal staff on Markham's wildlife services, and to provide the Committee with pamphlets from Toronto Wildlife, which it can use to promote the City's wildlife services to residents at events. Staff are still negotiating the City's new contract with Toronto Wildlife. They would like to add real response time to the contract. The response times were anticipated to improve once Toronto Wildlife moves to the Rouge Park. Also, as it enters into similar service agreements with other municipalities. It was reported that a 2016 budget request is being made for funds to develop a wildlife strategy for the City. <u>Cat Adoption and Education Centre (CAEC)</u> Christopher Alexander reported that the City has done a total of five open houses regarding the proposed Cat Adoption and Education Centre (CAEC). The feedback from the sessions was mostly positive. Senior staff are very supportive of the project.	

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	The Committee announced that it would like to make a contribution to the CAEC to show its commitment and support to the project. It passed a resolution to donate \$30,000 towards the project. The Committee worked very hard over several years to raise these funds. The funds were raised by undertaking several fundraising activities, most memorable, the pet calendar and through donations made at events it attended. Staff extended their sincere appreciation to the Committee for all of its hard work and for the donation. It was noted that Esther Attard will be making a deputation to the General Committee on June 22 on behalf of the Committee in support of the. The Committee knew of many residents who would be sending in letters of support for the project. Moved by Terri Daniels Seconded by Rhiannon Lane 1) That the Animal Care Committee will donate \$30,000 from its reserve fund towards the purchase of cat cages (or other agreed upon equipment) for the City of Markham's Cat Adoption and Education Centre (CAEC); and, 2) That the Animal Care Committee will consider future funding donations depending upon the need and success of the CAEC; and, 3) That the Animal Care Committee respectfully requests that a plaque be placed in the CAEC to recognize the donation; and, 4) That in the event the CAEC ceases its operations, the cages and or other equipment purchased with the Animal Care Committee's funds shall become	

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	the property of the Committee. CARRIED The Animal Care Committee raised \$20.50 in donations at a recent event it attended. Julia Colangelo reported that \$262 was raised by the Wellington Veterinary Hospital at an event held on June 13 to help raise money for the CAEC. Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke Seconded by Julia Colangelo That the Animal Care Committee write a thank you letter to Doctor Cliff Redford for holding an event to raise funds for the CAEC. CARRIED	Write a thank you letter to Doctor Cliff Redford - Committee Member TBD
7. Events	The Committee discussed the logistics of its upcoming events.	
8. New Business	<u>Low Cost Rabies and Micro Chipping Clinic</u> Christy Lehman asked if anyone was available to volunteer at the low cost rabies and micro chipping clinic being held at Markham Village Arena on Sunday, June 28th, 2015, from 11am-2pm. The Committee suggested also extending the invitation to the new members not in attendance at tonight's meeting. The Committee advised that it has been promoting the clinic to residents. <u>Barn Yard Program</u> The Committee suggested forming a Sub-Committee to discuss the proposed Barn Yard Program.	Let Christy know if you are able to volunteer at clinic being held on June 28th – All Committee Members Ask new members not at meeting if they are available to volunteer – Laura Gold/Christy Lehman

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	<u>Promoting the Adoption of Shy Cats</u> A suggestion was made to promote the adoption of shy cats and to try and socialize feral cats so that they can be adopted. It was noted that shy cats are different than feral cats and that it could be dangerous to adopt out a feral cat. <u>Talk By Nathan Winograd</u> Sophia Tretin, Guest, reported that she attended a talk by Nathan Winograd, producer of the film <u>Redemption: The No Kill Revolution in America</u>. The film explores the philosophy followed by no kill animal shelters. The talk was very interesting and well attended. The Committee was encouraged to watch the film. The Committee agreed to watch the film at a meeting this summer. The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:29 p.m.	
9. Adjournment		