

Animal Care Committee

August 19, 2015

Canada Room

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke , Esther Attard, Julie Chan, Julia Colangelo, Vice – Chair Terri Daniels, Chair Denielle Duncan, Jennifer Ford, Shirley Lesch, Michelle Lustri, Trudie Ross, and Pam Young Staff: Christy Lehman, Licensing & Standards Coordinator, Bev Shugg Barbeito, Committee Coordinator Members of the Public: Janet Andrews, Bernice Royce, K. Tung, Esther Vered, Mimi Y. Regrets: Pushproup Brar, Rhiannon Lane, Furbait Kashmiri , Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing & Animal Control, and Laura Gold, Committee Coordinator

Item	Discussion	Action
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:36 p.m. with Denielle Duncan presiding as Chair. New members were welcomed and introductions were made.	
2. Minutes	It was Moved by Trudie Ross Seconded by Jennifer Ford That the Minutes from the July 15, 2015 Animal Care Committee meeting be approved as presented. CARRIED	
3. Review of Action Items	The following updates were provided for the action items from the previous meeting: - Christy Lehman, Licensing & Standards Coordinator, will follow up with Christopher Alexander about whether octopi are covered by the Ontario SPCA Act and advise Chair Denielle Duncan. - Canada's Wonderland will be added as a vendor providing discounts to Pet Loyalty Card holders. - Review Animal Care Committee Terms of Reference – deferred to the September meeting - Creation of brochure on Markham's Animal Services - Christy Lehman reported that Markham is recruiting a marketing firm to assist in marketing animal services in general,	Terms of Reference and Guiding Principles will be distributed to Committee members

Item	Discussion	Action
	and creation of the brochure is part of that marketing plan. • Chair Denielle Duncan advised that no date has been set yet for the Rescue Summit. • Christy Lehman reported that the Rabies Clinic will be held either October 17 & 18, or October 24 & 25. • No date has been set for the TNR Seminar; Chair Denielle Duncan will follow up. • Christy Lehman will investigate whether tax receipts may be issued for donations to the new Cat Adoption and Education Centre (CAEC).	
4. Animal Control Services	Christy Lehman provided the following updates on Markham's Animal Control Services: <u>Trap Neuter and Return</u> It was reported that there are approximately thirty feral cats in the McCowan Road/ Denison Avenue area. Markham is trapping one or two each day and plans to relocate them gradually to a few barns in the Clarendon area. Some cats are young; it is hoped that they may be tamed and then adopted. It was also reported that another colony of cats has been located in an industrial area in the Yonge St./Steeles Ave. area. <u>Barn Cats</u> Christy Lehman reported that Markham needs to place thirty cats. Markham plans to develop guidelines once the CAEC is closer to being ready. In the interim, Markham takes care when relocating a cat to a barn since Markham does not want to place a cat in an environment where it would not do well. Committee members would be welcome to assist in developing criteria to assess barns in order to provide the cats with a safe environment. Esther Attard will share the Toronto program guidelines with Christopher Alexander. <u>Cat and Pet Education Centre</u> Christy Lehman reported that Markham has hired a consultant to create branding and advertising for the CAEC as an adoption and education centre. She is creating a large donation bin to be placed at the community centre. <u>Fundraising for the CAEC</u> At the meeting held on July 27, Committee members developed a number of fundraising ideas for the Cat at the Adoption and Education Centre (CAEC). It was agreed the Committee needs to have another meeting in order to develop other more lucrative ideas, and	Esther Attard will share the Toronto program guidelines with Christopher Alexander. Chair Denielle Duncan will poll Committee members about possible dates for this meeting.

Item	Discussion	Action
	that it would be helpful to have Christopher Alexander and Christy Lehman attend. Chair Denielle Duncan will poll Committee members about possible dates for this meeting. <u>OSPCA Update</u> It was reported that TNR activities occupy a great deal of time for the OSPCA but that it also handles car patrols and adoption events such as the Pet Smart adoption event and the OSPCA Walkathon event.	
5. Events	Chair Denielle Duncan reviewed the Dog Days event at the Stiver Mill Farmer's Market on August 9, 2015. She mentioned that the Animal Care Committee was not assigned a booth in a prime location, and as a result, there were few opportunities to share information about the Committee's activities with attendees. Because this problem has been experienced in the past, the Committee discussed whether to continue participating at this event. It was agreed that Chair Denielle Duncan would approach the Dog Days event coordinator to discuss the location of the Committee's booth. If the Committee were to be assigned a better booth location, the Committee may consider participating once more before the closing of the outside market for the winter months. It was reported that a member of the public may have been discussing Committee activities and the new CAEC with Dog Days event attendees. K. Tung advised that he had done so. It was advised that the Committee welcomes volunteers and asked K. Tung to work with the Committee to ensure that messages shared with others are correct. The Committee discussed whether to attend the Thornhill Village Festival which will not feature a parade this year. The Committee agreed to attend this event. Chair Denielle Duncan will ask Pushprou Brar and Rhiannon Lane to coordinate volunteers and materials for the event. Christy Lehman reported that Markham is considering hosting the Markham Bark Walk in spring 2016 to encourage residents to license their pets. Committee members expressed concerns about an aggressive vendor and suggested combining a licensing event with a rabies clinic. Julie Chan reported that the Peace for Paws group is hosting a 5 km walk on Sunday September 13 starting at the Pet Valu store at 7355 Bayview Avenue (at Laureleaf Road). It	Chair Denielle Duncan will approach the Dog Days event coordinator to discuss the location of the Committee's booth. Chair Denielle Duncan will ask Pushprou Brar and Rhiannon Lane to coordinate volunteers and materials for the Thornhill Village Festival event. Chair Denielle Duncan will ask Pushprou Brar and Rhiannon Lane to coordinate

Item	Discussion	Action
	was agreed that the Committee will host an information table during the walk and the Peace for Paws group will make a donation to the Committee. Chair Denielle Duncan will ask Pushproun Brar and Rhiannon Lane to coordinate supplies for the event.	supplies for the Peace for Paws event.
6. New Business	In response to a request from Committee members, Christy Lehman agreed to provide copies of the Markham Animal Control bylaw so that Committee members may refer to it to answer questions from the public at events. She also advised that she will create a PowerPoint presentation. Pam Young advised that she knows someone who would like to adopt a declawed cat. At the September meeting, Pam Young will give Laura Gold for safekeeping the \$55.20 collected by the Committee at the Markham Village Music Festival. Members of the public attending the meeting engaged Committee members in discussing the Markham trap, neuter and return bylaws.	Christy Lehman agreed to provide copies of the Markham Animal Control bylaw.
7. Adjournment	It was Moved by Pam Young Seconded by Julie Chan That the Animal Care Committee adjourn at 6:55 p.m. CARRIED	