

Animal Care Committee

November 19, 2014

Ontario Room

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke, Janet Andrews, Chair, Kathy Clark, Julia Colangelo, Furhait Kashmiri, Jody Greenlaw, Rhiannon Lane, and Trudie Ross

Staff: Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing & Animal Control, Laura Gold, Committee Clerk

Members of the Public: Denielle Duncan, Mohammad N.

Regrets: Esther Attard, and Pam Young

Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Opening Remarks	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:46 p.m. with Janet Andrews presiding as Chair. The Committee thanked Jody Greenlaw for her service on the Committee and wished her luck in her future endeavours.	
2. Approval of the Minutes	Moved by Trudie Ross Seconded by Kathy Clark That the October 15, 2014 Animal Care Committee Minutes be approved as presented. <u>Review of Action Items</u> The Committee reviewed the action items from the last meeting. The following update was provided: • The OSPCA is looking at the best way of transferring the animal care donations to the City and is investigating if past donations were transferred to the City; • Staff plan to issue a press release on the improvements to Markham's Wildlife in early 2015 after Toronto Wildlife provides a presentation on its services to the General Committee; • Chris Alexander will ask the new OSPCA manager the Committee's questions at his next scheduled meeting with her or him.	Provide Committee with answers on OSPCA stats and on if donation money was transferred— Chris Alexander Issue press release in early 2015 on Toronto Wildlife contract – Chris Alexander

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3. Animal Control Program Update	Christopher Alexander provided the following Animal Control Program Update: <u>OSPCA</u> No report was provided. <u>TNR</u> The Canada Cat Coalition TNR workshop will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2014 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. at Markham Civic Centre. The Committee asked if there would be a cost to attend the workshop. Chris considered charging a \$20 entrance fee, but agreed to waive the fee for Committee Members. The Committee discussed the trapping and neutering of the feral cats on the IBM site. Only three cats were caught and neutered and one past away. The volunteers were very helpful. It was unclear how many feral cats there are on the IBM site, but it was estimated that there are 20 to 25 cats. The Committee will undertake another TNR on the IBM property in the early spring. <u>Wildlife</u> No update was provided. <u>Store Front</u> Senior Staff are very supportive of the animal care control storefront concept. The storefront is being proposed to be opened at the Thornhill Community Centre. The City is looking at re-locating the spin room that is currently in the proposed location for the storefront. It is also looking at reimbursing the community centre for lost revenue if the spin room cannot be relocated. <u>Adoption</u> No report was provided. <u>Pit Bulls in Markham</u>	

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	Markham will take the same position as Toronto and not pursue legal action to have the half breed pit bulls removed from the Markham households. The City hopes the legislation is changed to provide more clarity. <u>License Renewals</u> The City will be implementing rolling animal license renewals. Renewal letters will be sent by email to residents who have provided an email address. The tag provided will now be for a lifetime. These changes will help manage the workload of staff. A Member questioned how they would get a new animal tag if they lost theirs. Staff would mail them a new tag upon request.	
4. Events	The Committee discussed the upcoming events it is scheduled to attend.	
5. New Business	Email from Resident A resident has approached the Committee about the following: • Meeting with a lawyer from Animal Justice to discuss animal cruelty and circuses • Providing information to children on animal cruelty and circuses <u>Holiday Celebration</u> The Committee discussed its holiday celebration.	Invite the resident to attend a future meeting of the Committee.
6. Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Animal Care Committee will be held on Wednesday, December 17, 2014.	
7. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 6:35 p.m.	