

Animal Care Committee

March 19, 2014

Ontario Room

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke, Janet Andrews, Chair, Esther Attard, Kathy Clark, Julia Colangelo Jody Greenlaw, Furhait Kashmiri , Rhiannon Lane, and Pam Young

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

Members of the Public: Terri Daniels and Denielle Duncan

Regrets: Trudie Ross

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:30 p.m. with Janet Andrews presiding as Chair.	
2. Minutes	Moved by Jody Greenlaw Seconded by Furhait Kashmiri That the Minutes from the Animal Care Committee Meeting held on February 19, 2014 be approved. Review of Action Items The following update on the action items was provided: • The OSPCA statistics have been put back on the website and the 2013 OSPCA statistics are in the process of being put on the website; • The OSPCA will not be providing pets to the Pet Value on Highway 48 on an exclusive basis. • The request to proclaim the National Wildlife Week and Be Kind to Animals Week were submitted to the Clerk's Office and were processed.	CARRIED

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
	The request to proclaim Animal Health Week and Feral Cat Day was submitted to the Clerk's Office. The purpose for proclaiming these days was requested to process this request, as this is the first time these dates have been proclaimed in Markham.	Provide purpose statement for proclaiming Feral Cat Day and Animal Health Week – Rhiannon Lane
3. Animal Control Update	<u>TNR Update</u> Christopher Alexander provided an update on the City's Trap Neuter and Return (TNR) Program. The City will be focusing on the following two colonies: (1) the IBM site; (2) a site on Denison Street. The first trapping session will be held on March 28 and 29, 2014. The Committee updated the schedule and worked out the logistics for the March 28, and 29, 2014 trapping sessions. <u>Store Front</u> A draft business plan for the animal control store front is in the process of being reviewed by senior staff. The report on the store front is targeted to go to the General Committee on April 7, 2014. Some of the Committee Members planned to attend the General Committee on this day to show their support. <u>Licensing of Wildlife Specialist</u> An update on the licensing of wildlife specialist was provided. City of Toronto staff will be recommending to its Council not to proceed with the licensing of wildlife specialist, as its Legal Department does not think it is within the City's jurisdiction. This is not consistent with the initial response staff obtained from the City of Markham's Legal Department. Staff will be speaking with trappers and animal advocates regarding the licensing of wildlife specialist. The report on this matter is targeted to be brought forward to the General Committee prior to the summer break.	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
	Wildlife Contract The City will proceed to enter into a wildlife contract with the Toronto Wildlife Centre. The Committee requested more information on the City's policy/practices regarding the handling of beavers.	Provide information on the City's policy/practices regarding the handling of beavers – Laura Gold
4. Events	<u>Events</u> Sonia Singh and the owner of Pet Value was in attendance to discuss the 2014 Emergency Preparedness Week (May 5 to 11, 2014). The focus of this year's event will be on the pet welfare during an emergency. The event will be held in front of the Pet Value located at Highway 7 just east of Warden. Some of the highlights of the event included the following: • Handing out a list of pet friendly hotels; • Having a fire truck and fire staff at the event showing how to use pet masks; • Advertising the event on Rogers; • Handing out a variety of giveaways (e.g. glow sticks, pens, pet toy, or water tray) • Hoping to have a radio station at the event. The Committee suggested that the following items be provided as giveaways at the event: • A sticker that pet owners can be put on their pet carriers in an emergency. Stickers can be created in few different sizes. Only key items can be put on the smaller stickers; • Slip leashes, as this is a practical and inexpensive item that can be used for a cat or a dog; • Lids for cat and dog food with the City's logo and website.	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
	The owner of Pet Value will inquire whether any of the other stores at the plaza would like to participate in the event. A Committee Member asked for a flyer promoting the event to circulate. The Emergency Preparedness Week Sub-Committee will meet on April 2 at 5:30 p.m. to work out more of the event details. Sonia Singh will send out the meeting invitations.	Set up Sub-Committee meeting – Sonia Singh
5. New Business	Kijiji-Changes to Pet Listing Policy The Committee thought that Kijiji charging for pet ads was a step in the right direction. Canadians encouraged to “tie one on” to Support Animal Adoption Item 5. B. on the agenda entitled Canadians encouraged to “tie one on” to Support Animal Adoption was deferred to the next meeting.	
5> Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:28 p.m.	