

Animal Care Committee
January 16, 2013
Canada Room
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke, Janet Andrews, Esther Attard, Kathy Clark, Terri Daniels, Denielle Duncan, Furhait Kashmiri
Via telephone: Jody Greenlaw, Caroline Lane, Rhiannon Lane
Regrets:
Staff: Trinella Cane, Chris Alexander, Kitty Bavington

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:500 p.m. with Councillor Valerie Burke presiding as Chair. Janet Andrews assumed the Chair following the election of the Chair.	
2. Minutes of the Animal Care Committee Meeting	Moved by Janet Andrews Seconded by Furhait Kashmiri That the Minutes from the December 19, 2012 Animal Care Committee meeting be approved as presented. CARRIED	
3. Discussion on Consultant's Report	Kathy Wiele, Consultant, presented a report "The Future of City of Markham Animal Services: Priorities for Action to 2016". The report provided an analysis of the current state of Markham's animal services and identified top priorities for immediate action, as well as a proposed position on pet licensing. Chris Alexander brought several items in the report to the Committee's attention for review, and Ms. Wiele will update the report according to the Committee's directions. Chris will be meeting with Senior Management to present the report, and it will then be presented at a Special General Committee meeting on February 14, 2013. The Committee expressed appreciation to Kathy Wiele for her work on this report.	Update the report as directed by the Committee - Kathy Wiele

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	Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services, attended later in the meeting and discussed the consultant's report with respect to moving forward to set the strategy for the future of animal care in Markham. Moved by Denielle Duncan Seconded by Terri Daniels That the Markham Animal Care Committee endorses the report "The Future of City of Markham Animal Services: Priorities for Action to 2016" as revised. CARRIED	
4. Business Arising From the Minutes	A. <u>Review of Action Items</u> The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meeting. The following updates were provided: Terri Daniels provided an update on her consultation with the municipalities of Uxbridge, Windsor-Essex, and Guelph regarding fundraising calendars and processes. Terri indicated the municipalities are finding it to be a lot of work for the amount of return; however, Guelph is working on a new photo submission program and a further update will be provided. The Committee discussed alternate successful fund-raising events such as "Cheer for a year" involving a raffle of LCBO cards or other items. It was noted the calendar is a messaging vehicle, as well as a fundraising opportunity. Chris Alexander advised that he has been discussing a new electronic platform with IT staff for calendar submissions and will provide an update to the Committee. The Committee may do an e-mail vote for a decision on this matter, due to time constraints.	E-mail follow-up documents and information - Terri Daniels Update on new submission program - Chris Alexander Coordinate electronic vote, if required - Laura Gold

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	B. Harvesting of Animals The Committee reviewed correspondence between Mayor Frank Scarpitti and the Minister of Agriculture and Food in this regard, and considered the wording could be more specific. It was suggested that the demonstration video be shown at a regular General Committee meeting (not the Special GC meeting on February 14) to provide an impact to Council members. The presentation would occur following the outcome of the appeal by the City of Toronto, and could be presented in an environmental sustainability context with reference to the Greenprint sustainability plan.	
5. Animal Control Program Update	<u>A. Trap Neuter and Return (TNR) Pilot Project Update</u> Chris Alexander advised that during early discussions with the OSPCA, it has been agreed that there will be two neuters/spays per week and that the City will pay for any necessary post-surgery recovery care. <u>B. Adoption Update</u> The OSPCA has agreed to hold six adoption days per year, to be held off-site within Markham. The Committee suggested fall and spring dates and that an event be held at the Stiver Mill. It was also suggested that fees be reduced when there is a surplus of animals, and that adoption days be coordinated with other agencies reduced-fee days. <u>C. OSPCA Update</u> Chris provided an update on the contract progress, advising the consultant's report will have a positive impact. The 2012 OSPCA Stats for Markham were reviewed: Intake: 213; Outcomes: 202 There were some discrepancies that were brought to the OSPCA's attention. Chris will be working with shelter officials to ensure figures are accurate in the future.	

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	A request for 2010 stats will be addressed by Bill Wiles.	Provide an update on the 2010 OSPCA stats - Bill Wiles
6. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair	Moved by Terri Daniels Seconded by Danielle Duncan That Janet Andrews be nominated as Chair. CARRIED Janet Andrews was nominated as Chair and agreed to stand for the position. There were no other nominations, therefore Janet Andrews was acclaimed as Chair. Moved by Janet Andrews Seconded by Kathy Clark That Esther Attard be nominated as Vice-Chair. CARRIED Esther Attard was nominated as Vice-Chair and agreed to stand for the position. There were no other nominations, therefore Esther Attard was acclaimed as Vice-Chair. Janet Andrews assumed the Chair from this point in the meeting.	
7. New Business	A. <u>Membership Update</u> Staff advised that two applications had been received.	

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_____	B. <u>2014 Fundraising Calendar</u> The Committee will wait until Chris reports back from discussions with IT regarding a new photo submission platform, then do an electronic polling on this issue. See Item # 4. C. <u>Correspondence – Goddard Information Systems Limited</u> The Committee reviewed correspondence from Goddard Information Systems dated December 12, 2012, and requested staff to follow up on linking the “Helping Lost Pets” website to the Markham website. Chris Alexander will provide an update at the next meeting. D. <u>Be Kind to Animals Week</u> If the committee does not proceed with the calendar, another project needs to be planned. This will be added to the next agenda. E. <u>Licensing Wildlife Companies</u> Chris Alexander is preparing a business plan. The Committee requested that efforts be coordinated with Toronto Councillor, Glenn De Baeremaeker, who is working on a similar initiative.	Check link on website - Chris Alexander Add to next agenda - Laura Gold Coordinate the licensing of wildlife companies and provide an update - Chris Alexander
8. Date of the Next Meeting	February 20, 2013 - 5:30 p.m., Ontario Room	
9. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:13 p.m.	