

Animal Care Committee
November 21, 2012
Ontario Room
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Denielle Duncan, Chris Alexander, Esther Attard Janet Andrews, Kathy Clark, Terri Daniels, Jody Greenlaw and Furhait Kashmiri.
Regrets: Councillor Valerie Burke, Rhiannon Lane and Caroline Lane.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:40 p.m. with Denielle Duncan presiding as Chair.	
2. Minutes of the Animal Care Committee Meeting	Moved by Janet Andrews Seconded by Esther Attard That the Minutes from the October 17, 2012 Animal Care Committee meeting be approved as presented. CARRIED	
3. Business Arising From the Minutes	A. <u>Review of Action Items</u> The Committee reviewed the action items from the previous meeting. The following update was provided: • Wildlife questions will be put on Markham's website by next week; • OSPCA statistics will be put on Markham's website by next week; • Chris Alexander will confirm if an electronic form can be created for the Animal Care Committee calendar at the December meeting (note: the Committee Clerk will provide Chris with a copy of the paper form previously used by the Committee for calendar submissions); • Terri Daniels will investigate which municipality had an electronic process for its animal care fundraising calendar; • Chris Alexander will ask Toronto Wildlife for permission to place its link on Markham's website;	Add questions and OSPCA statistics to website – Christopher Alexander Confirm if electronic form can be created for the 2014 animal care fundraising calendar – Christopher Alexander Ask Toronto Wildlife if a link to its website can be added to the agenda – Christopher Alexander

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	• The Committee Clerk will add the Thornhill Festival to the next meeting Agenda; • Members were requested to arrive at 10:30 a.m. for the Main Street Markham Christmas parade and the Committee will be spot number 11 in the parade.	Investigate which municipality had an electronic process for its animal care fundraising calendar - Terri Daniels Add Thornhill Festival to the next meeting agenda under key dates to remember – Laura Gold
4. Animal Control Program Update	<u>A. Trap Neuter and Return (TNR) Pilot Project Update</u> Denielle Duncan reported that the IBM feral cats are being trapped neutered and returned (TNR) offsite. Local vets are assisting with the spaying and neutering of the feral cats and rescue groups and volunteers are housing the cats while they recover. To date four cats have been TNR from the IBM site. It was anticipated that there is still anywhere from 6 to 12 cats on the IBM site. It was challenging to estimate the exact number of cats, as the cats have been travelling further from the site. There is a second feral cat colony off of Warden, which the City is currently focusing on. <u>B. Adoption Update</u> Concern was expressed that there are few photos of the Markham animals up for adoption on the OSPCA's website. It was recommended that the OSPCA consider using a volunteer to upload the pictures onto its website if it does not have enough staff resources to fulfill this responsibility. Staff advised that it would like to include adoption provisions in its new contract with the	

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	OSPCA. <u>C. OSPCA Update</u> The Committee questioned both the accuracy of the OSPCA statistics and why the 2010 OSPCA statistics are not available to this Committee. Staff advised that they are working on establishing an OSPCA oversight committee to help resolve some of the matters pertaining to the OSPCA and that they are considering creating a new position that would assist with overseeing Markham's animal control. In addition, staff would like to have shared access to Pet Point, so that it can track Markham's animals being housed by the OSPCA. It was noted that Markham had its first meeting regarding contract negotiations with the OSPCA. The Committee was concerned that the OSPCA is understaffed and that this could affect its ability to meet its contractual obligations. <u>D. Special Animal Care Committee</u> The Committee confirmed that the Special Animal Care Committee meeting will be held on December 4, 2012.	
5. Events	<u>Main Street Markham Christmas Parade</u> Denielle Duncan will bring reindeer ears and other festive costumes to the Main Street Markham Christmas Parade. Some members will bring their cats or dogs. Denielle Duncan will ask if Caroline Lane can bring the wagon (mini float). <u>Main Street Unionville Christmas Parade</u> Caroline Lane will send out an email with the Unionville Christmas Parade details.	Email details with respect to being in the Main Street Unionville Christmas Parade – Caroline Lane Ask Caroline Lane about bringing the mini float – Denielle Duncan

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6. New Business	A. <u>2014 Fundraising Calendar</u> The Committee will make a decision regarding the production of a 2014 fundraising calendar once it knows whether the submission forms can be processed electronically. B. <u>Email from Rescue Group About Trying To Retrieve A Lost Cat From the OSPCA</u> An email from a rescue group trying to retrieve one of its chipped cats from the OSPCA was read the Committee. Staff will investigate the rescue groups concerns. C. <u>Ducks</u> Staff reported that a number of domestic ducks were released into the wildlife as part of a Buddhist ceremony. The OSPCA brought 5 of these ducks to a local horse farm and a resident was caring for some of the other ducks. Staff hoped to find the individual who released the domesticated ducks into the wildlife so that they could be educated on why this is harmful to the ducks.	Investigate concerns regarding retrieving a cat from the OSPCA – Chris Alexander
7. Date of the Next Meeting	December 19, 2012, 5:30 p.m., Ontario Room	
8. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:07 p.m.	