

Animal Care Committee
May 16, 2012
Ontario Room
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke, Chair, Chris Alexander, Janet Andrews, Esther Attard, Kathy Clark, Denielle Duncan, Terri Daniels, Caroline Lane and Rhiannon Lane.
Regrets: Jody Greenlaw, Jeannie Kavanagh and Bill Wiles

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Item
1. Call to Order	The Animal Care Committee convened at 5:30 p.m. with Councillor Valerie Burke presiding as Chair.	
2. Minutes of the March 21, 2012 Animal Care Committee Meeting	Moved by Denielle Duncan Seconded by Terri Daniels That the Minutes from the April 18, 2012 Animal Care Committee be adopted as presented. CARRIED.	
3. Business Arising From the Minutes	No report was provided.	
4. Animal Control Program Update	<u>A. Trap Neuter and Return Program</u> Mr. Chris Alexander , Supervisor of Licensing & Animal Services, provided a Trap Neuter and Return (TNR) update. It was reported that Markham staff are working with IBM to implement a TNR program for its grounds. The following TNR tips were provided: 1) do not feed the cats the night before; 2) place a light at the end of the trap; 3) place grass at the bottom of the trap; 4) offer the cats something they really like; and 5) place a tiny bit of food at the front of the trap (note: the food should be in oil not in water). An update was provided regarding the feral cat colony living at a local farm discussed at the last meeting. The cats were TNR to the farm and are now being cared for by the person residing at the farm.	

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	<u>B. Adoption Update</u> It was reported that June 24, 2012 has been confirmed to hold an adoption day at the Unionville Train Station. The Committee recommended that an adoption day be held on October 7, 2012. It was noted that the adoption days will operate out of a vehicle. <u>C. OSPCA Statistics</u> It was reported that the OSPCA statistics will be provided at an upcoming meeting. The statistics will be from January 2012 to present and will include detailed information (e.g. the reason the animal was euthanized). It was reported that the survey conducted on animal control in Markham was complete. A total of 385 surveys were completed, exceeding the target number of surveys staff had hoped to be completed. <u>D. Report on the African Dwarf Frogs</u> The report prohibiting the keeping of the African Dwarf Frogs will be brought forward to the General Committee on June 11, 2012. The focus of report has shifted from prohibiting the sale of the frogs to prohibiting the keeping of the frogs due to health and safety concerns. Janet Andrew and Denielle Duncan will attend the General Committee on this date. <u>E. Animal Control Feasibility Study</u> It was questioned when the Animal Control Feasibility Study will be complete. It was advised that the study will be finished towards the end of June and that this Committee will have an opportunity to view the study once it is made available to the public. It was noted that the study was designed to provide a comprehensive cost analysis of the various animal control options for Markham.	Provide OSPCA statistics at an upcoming meeting – Christopher Alexander Attend the General Committee meeting that Report on the African Dwarf Frogs – Denielle Duncan and Janet Andrews
5. Events	It was noted that the schedule for manning the booth at Unionville Festival had been finalized and that Denielle Duncan will arrange to pick up the banner from the	Arrange to pick up the banner from the Committee

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	Committee Coordinator. The schedule to man the booth at the Stiver Mill Farmers Market and at Barkham is still being created.	Coordinator – Denielle Duncan
6. New Business	a. The Election of the Chair and Vice Chair The Committee agreed that the Chair and the Vice Chair shall remain the same. b. Key Dates The Committee was reminded to provide key dates to this Committee to Caroline Lane. c. City Program Provides Fountain of Furry Youth for Calgary Seniors The article regarding a City of Calgary program, which pairs cats and dogs seven years and up with seniors by subsidizing the adoption cost was discussed. This program idea will be brought forward to staff for their consideration. There was a discussion on whether Markham’s by-law provides a special allowance for the fostering of cats, as many municipalities will temporary allow more cats to reside in a household to permit for the fostering of cats. d. Correspondence Form the Ontario Wildlife The Committee agreed in principle with the Ontario Wildlife letter regarding the progressive and humane response to human-wildlife conflicts, although it felt more information was required to make a recommendation. It was requested that Barry MacKay, Director, Animal Alliance of Canada, be requested to come to an upcoming meeting to provide more information on this matter. There was a discussion on whether wildlife removal specialists should be licensed. It was recommended that Markham consider creating a checklist/questionnaire on how to	Email Caroline Lane key dates for this Committee – All Committee Members Invite Barry MacKay, Director of Animal Licences, Ontario Wildlife to an upcoming meeting – Laura Gold Consider creating a checklist/questionnaire on how to hire a wildlife specialist for Markham residents – Christopher Alexander

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	hire a wildlife specialist.	
7. Date of the Next Meeting	June 20, 2012, 5:30 p.m., Ontario Room	
8. Adjournment	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 6:48 p.m.	