

ANIMAL CARE COMMITTEE

October 19, 2011

ONTARIO ROOM

5:30 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Attendance: Councillor Valerie Burke, Janet Andrews, Esther Attard, Terri Daniels, Denielle Duncan, Jody Greenlaw, Jeannie Kavanagh, Caroline Lane, Rhiannon Lane, and Laura Gold, Committee Clerk

Regrets: Kathy Clark and Yasuko Naka,

Item	Discussion	Action Items
1. CALL TO ORDER	The Animal Care Committee was called to order at 5:35 p.m. with Councillor Valerie Burke presiding as Chair.	
2. ORIENTATION	Laura Gold, Committee/Coordinator, provided a Board and Committee orientation.	
3. ELECTION OF THE CHAIR	Moved by Janet Andrews Seconded by Terri Daniels That Valerie Burke be elected as Chair of the Animal Care Committee for a one year term. CARRIED. Moved by Terri Daniels Seconded by Caroline Lane That Denielle Duncan be elected as Vice Chair of the Animal Care Committee for a one year term. CARRIED. Moved by Caroline Lane Seconded by Rhiannon Lane That Janet Andrews be elected as Treasurer of the Animal Care Committee for a one year term. CARRIED.	

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4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES	Moved by Denielle Duncan Seconded by Janet Andrews That the Minutes of the September 21, 2011 Animal Care Committee Meeting be adopted. CARRIED. It was requested that past meeting minutes be provided to the new Committee Members.	Provide past meeting minutes to new Committee Members – Laura Gold
5. 2012 Business Plan	The Committee conducted a brainstorming session regarding the 2012 Business Plan, the following ideas were brought forward: • Education on spay and neuter program • Returning animals to their homes • Increase Animal Adoptions • Review of the process for treating injured wildlife and suggest improvements • Look at the impact of wildlife on development and at pre-development considerations that should be made • Work with the OSPCA to reduce its euthanasia rate • Have a low cost spay and neuter clinic (possibly free and mandatory) • Increase education and successful of TNR program • Implement a improved program for wildlife(should be with a separate service provider) • Promote the appreciation and not feeding of urban wildlife • Establish a school age program regarding Markham's animal care services • Survey the public regarding having an animal shelter • Increase fundraising activities • Continue community outreach by attending community events	

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	- Review and change legislation regarding trapping of live animals - Look into road ecology - Increase awareness/education of existing animal care services - Attend Feral Cat day in 2012 - Move further ahead regarding having an Animal Shelter Next steps include prioritizing ideas and making more specific measurable goals. The Committee reviewed the Terms of Reference. There was a discussion regarding making reference to raising funds for an animal shelter in Markham in the Terms of Reference Moved by Janet Andrews Seconded by Denielle Duncan That the Animal Care Committee review its Terms of Reference within 60 days and make recommendations for improvements where required. CARRIED.	Review Terms of Reference at next meeting - Committee
6. NEW BUSINESS	a. Status of OSPCA Contract The Town is currently negotiating its contract with the OSPCA. It is considering both the separation of its wildlife services and the length of its contract with the OSPCA, but no decisions have been made. It was reported that there will not be a tender for wildlife services until Council determines its direction. It was requested that the Committee be provided with a copy of the Town's current contract with the OSPCA for it to review. b. OSPCA Website and the number of Animals shown available for Adoption	Provide Committee with

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	It was reported that the OSPCA adoptions are dramatically reduced, as people are not surrendering their animals as a result to the recent ringworm crisis. It was suggested that all of the OSPCA animals be placed on Markham's website (e.g. animals from Barrie and other municipalities in Ontario). It was noted that euthanasia occurs at all shelters due to lack of space. Markham should consider the amount of holding space provided by the OSPCA and look into establishing partnerships with organizations like Pet Smarts and Pet Value to obtain additional short-term holding space to resolve concerns regarding the OSPCA's euthanasia rate. It was noted that Pet Smarts and Pet Value also provide space to rescue groups. It was confirmed that the OSPCA has just over 110 spaces for cats and dogs. c. Phyllis the Beagle Cross A story was told about a lost blind dog named Phyllis the Beagle Cross. The dog was brought to the OSPCA animal shelter. When the owner asked if the dog was at the OSPCA they were wrongly informed that the dog was not there. The police recognized the dog and it was returned to its owners. It was noted that these types of issues should be brought to the Town's attention. Mr. Bill Wiles will contact the individual to identify the gap in service so that the issue can be addressed. It was requested that the new Executive Director of the OSPCA be invited to a meeting and that a tour of the animal shelter be scheduled for the new Committee in the new year. d. Bill Bruce's Lecture It was requested that the Committee preview Bill Bruce's presentation at a future meeting or at an informal meeting. Highlights from Bill Bruce's presentation were provided. It was noted that the law in Alberta is very different than in Ontario.	copy of OSPCA contract – Bill Wiles Contact individual who lost their dog regarding service gap – Bill Wiles Organize for the Executive Director to come to a meeting in the new year – Laura Gold Organize for a tour of the OSPCA animal shelter in the new year – Laura Gold

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	Permitting municipalities in Alberta to collect greater enforcement revenue than municipalities in Ontario. It was noted that the Town is looking at fining residents for not having licensed their pets. <u>Donations Collected</u> Markham Fair - \$23 It was suggested that there be a brainstorming session on pet adoptions at a future meeting.	Have a brainstorming session regarding pet adoptions at a future meeting - Committee
7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING	The next meeting of the Animal Care Committee will be held on November 16, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.	
8. ADJOURNMENT	The Animal Care Committee adjourned at 7:46 p.m.	

Ongoing Action Items

1. Participate in Feral Cat Day next year.
2. Have a brainstorming session regarding pet adoptions at a future meeting
3. Invite new Executive Director of the OSPCA to a Animal Care Committee meeting in the new year
4. Schedule a tour of the OSPCA Animal Shelter in the new year