



Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Minutes

Thursday, February 18, 2010

1:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

Action



Present: Councillor W. Cuthbert, Chair
Chris Madison, It's a Dog's Life
Celynn Alcock, Cat Shelter
Gloria Alcock, Rescue North
Crystal Friesen, Public-at-Large
Celia Christensen, Kenora Veterinary Clinic
B. Preisentanz, CAO
J. McMillin, City Clerk
J. Simpson, Animal Control Officer

Regrets: Councillor D. McCann
R. Perchuk, Operations Manager
K. Robertson, CBO
O.P.P. Representation

A. Public Information Notices

N/A

B. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & the General Nature Thereof

- 1) On Today's Agenda
- 2) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance
There were none declared.

C. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by C. Friesen, Seconded by G. Alcock, & Carried:-

THAT the Minutes of the last Committee meeting held January 21, 2010 be confirmed as written and filed.

D. Deputations:-

N/A

Councillor W. Cuthbert, Chair, called the meeting to order.

1. Generic Tracking Form (for review)

Committee reviewed the tracking form as used by the agencies in the past month. The form illustrates to the City the number of calls being received

by the agencies, i.e. within and outside the city. It was discussed the form could be set up as a monthly summary only and the detailed form could just be used by the agencies.

Celynn noted that she already maintains a 'lost and found cat registry' and the City could contact her if need be regarding cats for detailed information.

Committee agreed that the monthly summary form as provided by Chris Madison and illustrated below, would be used by the agencies for purposes of statistics to be forwarded to Jeff Simpson at the end of each month:

Statistics Report

Month	Year	Pound	Rescue	Surrender	Total
Jan-Apr					
May					
June					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
Total		Pound	Rescue	Surrender	

2. Role of OPP and dogs

It was mentioned there has been no response from the OPP. It was noted that Rick Perchuk is working on this item and to involve the OPP with respect to the Pound and an 'after hours plan.'

This item is to be held on the Agenda.

Reference was made to the OSPCA with respect to the telephone message at its head office that directs callers to 'contact their local police force' for animal calls. It was mentioned they should be advised this isn't always the case. The local telephone directory was referenced and there is no listing for the OSPCA, only Animal Control which directs callers to City Hall.

3. Communication Plan

It was discussed a communication plan should include what telephone numbers the public is to call and for what reason(s). Various forms of advertising were discussed to get 'the plan' out to the public, i.e. City Portal, form letters, various agencies, TV Channel 10, radio, and various community bulletin boards.

The information should set out why it's important to have a dog tag and where to buy them.

Hold

Bill mentioned Heather Kasprick is working on a communication plan and it is expected to be presented at this Committee's next meeting.

HKasprick

Reference was made to calls pertaining to wildlife and it was mentioned these are to be directed to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

This item is to be held on the Agenda.

Hold

4. OSPCA Membership on Committee

Councillor Cuthbert advised she spoke with the provincial Chief Inspector of the OSPCA, Connie Mallory concerning this matter and forwarded her the Committee's Terms of Reference. Ms Mallory will be getting back in touch with Councillor Cuthbert regarding the involvement of the local OSPCA on this Committee.

5. Discretionary Legislation - Animal Control By-law

This item was for purposes of information only. Jeff Simpson outlined the legislation and that it is discretionary not mandatory for a municipality to have an animal control by-law.

The Municipal Act, Section 10(2)9 states that Council may pass a by-law in regards to animals.

Section 103(1) references what can be in the by-law (impoundment, sale, claiming of animal) Section 105 (1) deals with muzzling a dog and that an appeal or hearing is to be held.

The Animal Research Act contains the length of time a animal must be held before we can sell or otherwise dispose of the animal, including Section 20 (1) the minimum redemption period shall be three days, excluding the day on which the dog or cat was impounded, or such longer period as the regulations prescribe and holidays shall not be included in calculating any redemption period.

The Pound Act apparently only deals with livestock. The Police Services Act does not deal with animals at all. The Act is a law in regards to policing and the actions of police only. The one area in the Act that applies is Section 15(1) which states that a municipality may appoint persons to enforce by-laws and 15(2) carrying out these duties; the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer is a Peace Officer for this purpose.

6. Dog Tags/Licencing

Bill circulated a copy of a report from Heather Kasprick with respect to the sale of dog licences, recommending that pet supply retail outlets be authorized to sell tags with City Administration developing the procedures and monitoring the success of the program.

Committee discussed that aside from the pet supply stores that the Vet Clinic as well as It's a Dog's Life would be willing to sell licences.

Heather's report sets out that she is prepared to design and provide signage for the retailers to display indicating that owners could purchase dog tags at those outlets. It was mentioned it would also be helpful to have an information brochure made available at the outlets as part of enhancing the communication plan.

While this matter doesn't necessarily have to go forward to Council, Councillor Cuthbert asked that the report be added to the March meeting of the Operations Committee which would allow this new procedure to get public exposure.

JMcMillin

7. Other Business

N/A

8. Next Meeting

Thursday, March 18, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

9. Close Meeting

The meeting was declared closed at 1:55 p.m.

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