

Agenda

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

8th Meeting of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

September 5, 2019, 5:00 PM

Committee Room #4

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Next Meeting Date: October 3, 2019

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Report

7th Meeting of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
August 1, 2019
Committee Room #4

Attendance PRESENT: P. Lystar(Chair), M. Blosh, A. Hames, A. Hayes, S. James, M. Toplack; and P. Shack (Secretary)

REGRETS: W. Brown and M. Szabo

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

1. Call to Order

1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

2. Scheduled Items

None.

3. Consent

3.1 6th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 6th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on July 4, 2019, was received.

3.2 S. Walters - Resignation

That it BE NOTED that a communication dated July 4, 2019, from S. Walters with respect to his resignation from the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

That it BE NOTED that a general discussion was held with respect to the sub-committee activities.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 Regional Facility (RF) Zone - Variation 2 By-law - Request for amendment to exclude zoos

That it BE NOTED that a verbal presentation from G. Barrett, Manager, Long Range Planning and Research with respect to the Regional Facility Zone-Variation 2 By-law, was received; it being noted that the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee held a general discussion with respect to the above matter.

5.2 Chaining/Tethering (Dogs & Cats)

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) held a general discussion with respect to the Chaining/Tethering of Dogs and Cats, and that it BE REFERRED to the sub-committee working group to report back to AWAC.

5.3 London Animal Control Centre

That the following action be taken with respect to the request for reporting of the small animal statistics from London Animal Control Centre; that Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to amend the public reporting of London Animal Control Centre to include specific numbers on each species of animal intake and outcome; it being further noted that the attached communication R. Oke, Animal Welfare Coordinator with respect to the above matter, was received.

5.4 2019 Work Plan

That it BE NOTED that the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee held a general discussion with respect to the 2019 Work Plan.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Activity	Background	Responsibility	Timeline	Proposed Budget	Strategic Plan Alignment
Animal Care Services - Potential Service Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AWAC will research best practices in other municipalities including new initiatives, processes and products for enhanced service provision, promote licensing, return to owner, adoption etc. and provide updates to Civic Administration and Municipal Council to assist with possible new initiatives. The AWAC will research design strategies for reducing conflict and increase safety for dogs/owners using dog parks. AWAC will provide recommendations to civic administration and municipal council guided by research findings. Develop educational materials (in cooperation with Civic Administration) to provide the community with information about caring for domestic and companion animals. (eg choosing the right animal, care of pets, safety, etc) Host a booth for “Go Wild, Grow Wild” in 2019 to educate and disseminate educational materials. 	<p>AWAC Working Group</p> <p>London Dog Owners Association</p>	Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening Communities, Caring and Compassionate Services, 3.E Healthy, Safe, 5.F
Creation of a list of allowable species in the City and a restriction on the sources and sales for specific species (domestic and exotic) from retail stores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AWAC will research the practices of other municipalities with respect to restrictions on the sales of specific species from retail stores. These actions would assist with minimizing the local ecological impacts of potential invasive species and the global ecological impact by sourcing species from other countries. (Completed) As well this would alleviate the pressure on rescue organizations and animal services. (Completed) Additionally these actions could improve the welfare of many animals.(Completed) 	AWAC Working Group	Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening Communities, Caring and Compassionate Services, 3.E

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Civic Administration to develop a positive list of animals allowed in the City. (Completed) • AWAC to be available to provide support, and input as needed as it relates to the Business Licensing of Pet Stores Bylaw recommendations endorsed by City Council. 				
Living With Wildlife – Resources for the Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research best practices to promote peaceful co-existence with wildlife and in accordance with the Humane Urban Wildlife Conflict Policy. • Develop awareness strategies and educational materials to provide the community. • Host a booth for “Go Wild, Grow Wild” in 2019 to educate and disseminate educational materials. 	AWAC Working Group	Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe 3.E, 5.F • Building Sustainable City Strong Healthy Environment 3.C
Living With Domestic Animals – Resources for the Community	MOVED TO ANIMAL CARE SERVICES – POTENTIAL SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS	AWAC Working Group	2018		
Development of a Communication Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the local Libraries and school boards to distribute wildlife and companion animal educational awareness strategies and materials. • Work with Civic Administration to distribute wildlife and companion animal educational awareness strategies and materials online and at city facilities. 	AWAC Working Group	Ongoing		
Wildlife Control Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Civic Administration to ensure that tenders be awarded to service providers based on their compliance with the City of London’s Humane Urban Wildlife Conflict Policy. • Follow up with city staff regarding tree trimming protocols endorsed by the city to understand what outcomes have been implemented. AWAC to offer to provide input and support if needed. Provide education and incentives to London residents regarding strategies for reducing bird window strikes using a variety of media and public awareness platforms such as “Go Wild Grow Wild” expo. 	AWAC Working Group	Ongoing		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe 3.E

Travelling Zoos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By-law recommendations regarding travelling zoos 		Ongoing		
Animals in Cars During Summer Months – Public Awareness Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating the public about not leaving animals in cars during the summer, even for a few minutes, including, but not limited to, a media blitz and getting information to all households; • Approaching the London Police Services Board, the OSPCA and the London Humane Society to determine their policies and practices; • Approaching Councillors and rescue agencies with a request to put the information on Facebook and Twitter; and, • Getting the message out that an animal only has minutes if left in a hot car and immediate action is required. • Work with local businesses to allow people to bring pets into the business. 	AWAC Working Group	Ongoing		
Bird Friendly Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow-up with any ongoing work. • Potentially partner with other Advisory Committees. 				
COMPLETED ITEMS:					
Bird Friendly Guidelines as it relates to urban design and development and light pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with EEPAC and ACE to create recommendations for the development of a policy with respect to urban design and development as it relates to glass applications and light pollution for reducing migratory bird deaths. • Provide research of current practices in other municipalities with respect to window treatments and lighting and dark skies initiatives • This will assist in reducing bird strikes and bird mortality and prevent disruption of migration. • Continue to work with EEPAC and ACE to bring recommendations to Civic Administration and City Council. AWAC recommends assisting and supporting city staff and Civic Administration to effectively implement recommendations for urban design and development regarding light 	AWAC Working Group	2018	COMPLETED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe 3.E 5.F • Building Sustainable City Strong Healthy Environment 3.C • Growing our Economy 2. Urban Regeneration, C Building a Sustainable City, 4.C

	pollution and glass applications for reducing migratory bird deaths.				
Springbank Dam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Civic Administration throughout the EA process and beyond to make recommendations to protect Species at Risk, Habitat and Environment. 	AWAC Working Group	Ongoing	COMPLETED	
Municipal Coyote Resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate opportunities for Coyote Watch Canada to work with the Municipality and community stakeholders to develop a resource to support the community to effectively deal with coyote's in the urban community and to support the Humane Wildlife Conflict Policy. Provide the public and media with accurate coyote information, education and safety guidelines to effectively enhance a sustainable approach while minimizing human and wildlife conflict. Highlighting a Wildlife Strategy Framework (WSF). The four cornerstones of the WSF are Investigation, Education, Prevention and Enforcement. A WSF encourages and supports community wildlife resiliency and presents successful, non-lethal alternatives that are available to every community that are long term, cost effective and that promote safety for children, wildlife and family pets. Coexisting with wildlife and meeting the challenges that are occurring in a community warrant a commitment from all stakeholders. 	AWAC Working Group	2018		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe, 3.E, 5.F
Exemption to the current by-law limit for Class 4 Companion Animals, Class 5 Animals, Class 6 Animals and Tortoises for Rescue Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research the feasibility of an exemption to the current by-law limit for Class 4 companion animals, Class 5 and Class 6 animals and tortoises in authorized rescue groups. This consideration would allow authorized rescue groups to handle a larger number of class 4, 5, 6 animals and tortoises for adoption rather than euthanize, noting that this will support the no kill policy. 	AWAC Working Group	Recommendation to CPSC and Council January 2017		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening Communities, Caring and Compassionate Services, 3.E

Dog Influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educating dog owners of the risks of their dogs contracting dog influenza				
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City of London
Humane Urban Wildlife Conflict Policy

Policy:

The City is committed to upholding high standards of animal welfare, including the humane treatment of wildlife. The City will strive to not interfere with wildlife and their natural processes where possible; and will strive to implement proactive and preventative measures in order to promote coexistence, and to prevent potential conflicts where possible.

From time to time, conflict between humans and wild animals arise within the City of London on City owned lands and the City will be compelled to act to protect property, human health and safety. In these circumstances, the City will strive to protect the welfare of wild animals by using humane solutions to resolve conflicts. To achieve this, the City will make all reasonable efforts to avoid displacing, injuring or killing wild animals. Lethal measures will only be used as a last resort and will employ the most humane methods available.

Trapping devices that are known to cause physical injury to animals, such as body or limb gripping traps and snares, will not be used to trap animals.

The City of London has a role in the management of urban wildlife and human/urban wildlife conflicts within the City on City owned lands. The City recognizes that the majority of wildlife management responsibilities and authority rests with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (OMNRF) specifically under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 and the Endangered Species Act, 2007. The responsibility for prevention and resolution of wildlife conflict on private property rests with the property owner under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997. City of London owned lands and actions would be subject to this Act.

Cases of public health and safety involving the London Police Service with a wildlife conflict situation are exempt from this Policy. The London Police Service is governed by its own mechanisms and procedures under the Police Services Act (1990). The primary duty of an officer under the Act is to protect the peace 42(1). The London Police Service is obligated to assess a wildlife conflict situation and take whatever actions are necessary to protect public health and safety.

Where the City cannot resolve the conflict through all reasonable conflict resolution options identified by the City of London, such situations and the outcomes will be reported on a quarterly basis to the Community and Protective Services Committee.

Definitions:

- **“animal”** means a member of the class Aves (birds) and Mammalia (mammals), but does not include a human being; excluding rats and mice
- **“City”** means The Corporation of the City of London
- **“urban”** means within the City of London’s urban growth boundary as delineated on Schedule A of the City of London Official Plan
- **“displace”** means to physically remove an animal from the location where it resides
- **“humane”** means that a practice will not reasonably cause physical injury or undue hardship or suffering to an animal
- **“wild”** means non-domesticated
- **“conflict”** means wildlife causing damage to property or affecting public health and safety



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August 28, 2019

Chair and Members
Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on August 27, 2019 resolved:

That, the following actions be taken with respect to the 8th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on August 8, 2019:

- a) the following actions be taken with respect to the 7th Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee from its meeting held on June 20, 2019:
 - i) the Report of the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee from its meeting held on June 20, 2019 BE RECEIVED; and,
 - ii) the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee BE REQUESTED to review the most recent Draft "You, Your Dog and Environmentally Significant Areas" brochure and provide feedback to the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee; and,
 - iii) the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee BE REQUESTED to provide an update to the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee on the status of the distribution of the "Is Your Cat Safe Outdoors?" brochure; and,
- b) clauses 1.1 and 1.2, 3.2 to 3.5 inclusive, 5.1 and 5.2, BE RECEIVED for information. (2.1/14/PEC)

C. Saunders
City Clerk
/lm

cc. Chair and Members, Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee

You, Your Dog, and Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs)



A guide to help you and your dog enjoy—and protect—nature in London

Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs) are designed to preserve and protect nature by minimizing human and pet disturbance to rare and endangered plants and animals and significant natural features

Dog walking is allowed in ESAs, but for the safety of visitors and your pet:

- Keep your dog on a leash and under control at all times.
- Stay on marked trails to minimize the impacts to our environment.
- please remember to dispose of all pet waste in garbage bins. Help to keep it safe and clean for everyone!
- There are natural risks to your pet from steep drops, encounters with wildlife and being in unfamiliar surroundings with new smells.
- Be aware that there are diseases which naturally affect our native wildlife and can pose a risk to dogs.
- Your dog may be friendly, but not all visitors like dogs and some may be afraid of them. Please be respectful of fellow visitors.

An ESA is not a Dog Park

London has dog parks specially designated for your dog to roam and play off leash. See **More Information** section for locations and by-laws.

Picture of an ESA entrance (with sign)

Wild animals

Some animals can seriously harm or kill your dog, especially when he's off-leash:

- **Coyote**—an off-leash dog is more likely to encounter a coyote. Coyotes are more afraid of people than dogs.
- **Raccoon**—well-armed with teeth and claws and not afraid to use them when cornered by any dog —no matter how large
- **Skunk** —need we mention the smell – and the difficulty of its removal?)

Any animal - no matter its size - can scratch or bite your dog in self-defense. Even minor bites or scratches can transmit serious infections to your dog and lead to a large veterinary bill.

Even if your dog “wins” in an encounter with a wild animal, your dog may injure or kill a bird or animal that the ESA was designed to protect.

The mere presence of your dog can affect the feeding, mating, or nesting of birds and animals.



Coyote (note long bushy tail)

Poisonous Plants

Many wild plants can also harm or kill your dog.

~~Milkweed is found in some natural areas in London, such as ESAs. Milkweed is prized for its role in providing food for the endangered monarch butterfly. Milkweed contains several poisons that can seriously harm or kill your dog.~~



(Picture to be removed)

Many other plants in ESAs can seriously sicken or kill your dog. These include:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Poison oak | Poison ivy |
| Poison sumac | Foxglove |
| Dogbane | Castor bean |
| Giant hogweed | Bloodroot |
| Thorn apple (jimsonweed) | Yew |
| Many mushrooms | |

Even if your dog does not get sick or injured by running, rolling, or digging through plants, rare or endangered plant species may be damaged.

Need More Information?

City of London, City Planning
519-661-4980
www.london.ca

Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA)
519-451-2800 ext. 281
www.thamesriver.on.ca

London Animal Care Centre
519-685-1330
www.accpets.ca

There are 11 ESAs in London, please see:
www.london.ca/ESA

The City of London also operates 5 Off leash dog parks
www.london.ca/residents/Parks/Explore-Parks/Pages/Off-Leash-Dog-Parks.aspx

City logo to go here

Prepared by Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee (EEPAC) of the City of London
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