

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Report

The 2nd Meeting of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
January 9, 2020
Committee Room #4

Attendance PRESENT: W. Brown (Chair), M. Blosh, A. Hames, A. Hayes, M. Szabo and D. Turner (Committee Clerk)

NOT PRESENT: P. Lystar and M. Toplak

ALSO PRESENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 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 1st Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 1st Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on December 5, 2019, was received.

3.2 Municipal Council Resolution - 10th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution, from its meeting held on December 10, 2019, with respect to the 10th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

4.1 AWAC Sub-Committee - 2020 Work Plan

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to the 2020 work plan, including timeline for completion and the incorporation of various initiatives.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 Harmful Wildlife Feeding Practices - Ducks and Bread - J. Kogelheide

That it BE NOTED that the committee supports, in principle, the recommendations put forward in the letter from J. Kogelheide, and that the issue of ethical, safe bird feeding will be explored further via the committee's 2020 work plan; it being further noted that the aforementioned letter, as appended to the agenda, was received.

5.2 Mobile Zoos in London

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to mobile zoos in London and the current status of governing by-laws; it being further noted that this issue will be incorporated in the committee's 2020 work plan.

5.3 Go Wild, Grow Wild

That the following actions be taken with respect to the Spring 2020 Go Wild, Grow Wild (GWGW) event:

a) the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee BE PERMITTED to attend the 2020 GWGW event in order to promote public education/awareness of animal welfare related issues in London; and,

b) the expenditure of up to \$295.00 + tax from the 2020 AWAC budget BE APPROVED to pay for entry and booth space at the event;

it being noted that the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee and the Environmental and Ecological Planning Advisory Committee may seek to share the above-noted booth space and associated cost.

5.4 Feeding of Water Fowl

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to the feeding of water fowl in London, the current status of governing by-laws, and potential plans to combat unsafe/nuisance feeding; it being further noted that this issue will be incorporated in the committee's 2020 work plan.

5.5 Migratory Birds and Bird Friendly Development

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to upcoming meeting dates for the Bird Friendly Development working group.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:56 PM.

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Report

The 1st Meeting of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
December 5, 2019
Committee Room #4

Attendance PRESENT: P. Lystar (Chair), M. Blosh, W. Brown, A. Hames, A. Hayes, M. Toplak and D. Turner (Committee Clerk)

NOT PRESENT: M. Szabo

ALSO PRESENT: R. Oke and T. Satchell

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.

1.2 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the term ending November 30, 2020

That it BE NOTED that the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee elected W. Brown and P. Lystar as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively, for the term ending November 30, 2020.

2. Scheduled Items

2.1 Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) Trends, Monitoring and Next Steps

That it BE NOTED that the attached presentation from T. Satchell, Shelter Veterinarian and R. Oke, Animal Control and Welfare Coordinator, with respect to Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) trends in London, TNR best practices and early plans for a City-run TNR program, was received.

3. Consent

3.1 10th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 10th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on November 7, 2019, was received.

3.2 Municipal Council Resolution - Bird Friendly Guidelines

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution, from its meeting held on November 26, 2019, with respect to the amended *Site Plan Control Area By-law*, was received.

3.3 Notice of Resignation - S. James

That it BE NOTED that the notice of resignation from S. James, dated October 10, 2019, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

None.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 2020 AWAC Work Plan

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to the 2020 work plan, indicating that a sub-committee with sufficient composition already exists to begin drafting this document.

5.2 Pets in Hot Cars

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to the issue of pets being left in hot cars during summer months, including potential ideas for education/awareness campaigns to combat this problem.

5.3 Business Licensing By-law - Pet Shops and Permitted Animals

That the agenda item 'Business Licensing By-law - Pet Shops and Permitted Animals' BE DEFERRED to a future meeting of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.

5.4 Go Wild Grow Wild - Promotional Materials

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to the printing and distribution of animal welfare related educational materials at future community events, such as 'Go Wild, Grow Wild 2020'; it being further noted that the committee made revisions to a draft version of the *Living with Urban Wildlife* infosheet.

5.5 Education and Awareness - Communications Strategy

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to a communications strategy for upcoming education/awareness campaigns.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.



P.O. Box 5035
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON
N6A 4L9

London
CANADA

December 11, 2019

Chair and Members
Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its meeting held on December 10, 2019 resolved:

That the following actions be taken with respect to the 10th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on November 7, 2019:

- a) the expenditure of up to \$500.00 from the 2019 AWAC budget BE APPROVED for the printing of animal welfare related educational materials, including the Coexisting with Wildlife brochure, the Keeping Coyotes Away brochure, the You, Your Dog & Nature in London brochure, and the Is Your Cat Safe Outdoors? brochure, for distribution at future community events, such as the 2020 Go Wild, Grow Wild event; it being noted that the AWAC has sufficient funds in its 2019 budget to cover this expense; and,
- b) clauses 1.1, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1 and 5.3 to 5.5, BE RECEIVED. (2.2/1/CPSC)

C. Saunders
City Clerk
/ap

cc: D. Turner, Committee Clerk, City Clerk's Office

Attention: Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Topic - Educating the public about the harms of feeding bread to ducks

History - Time and again, I see people enjoying their afternoon in our parks, feeding ducks! Most of these people are feeding them bread and although this 'tradition' has been going on for decades - it doesn't mean that it's right or healthy for the birds!!!

Here is a great article about this subject from a British website

<https://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/blogs/why-you-shouldnt-feed-ducks-bread>

Two years ago, I sent similar information to all the City Councillors and I only received one reply... and the reply wasn't of any help. It simply informed me that London has a by-law about overfeeding ducks. I'm not sure why this was sent to me and I can't imagine a By-law officer sitting around counting the number of bread crumbs that someone fed to a duck!

Anyway.... nothing was done about this issue and so, the problem remains!

Discussion - I would love AWAC members to discuss this issue for the purpose of recommending that solutions be found so that all London ducks can enjoy a healthier lifestyle and cleaner environment while in our city.

I would suggest that one solution be the creation of signs that are installed in parks where duck feeding is common, to educate the public about the harms of feeding ducks.... especially feeding them bread!

Another solution could be an outreach program where local media gets involved to share this story with the public.

Please let me know if any motions are made on this matter and please keep me informed if these motions are successful and solutions are realized!

Thanks

Jim Kogelheide