

11TH REPORT OF THE
ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting held on November 22, 2011, commencing at 4:10 p.m.

PRESENT: E. Gerrow (Chair), M. Blosch, D. Fortney, D. Harris, L. Jackson, J. Lalonde, W. L. MacKay, A. Pappmehl, S. C. Rans, M. Shepherd, V. Van Linden, M. Warder and J. Martin, Committee Secretary.

ALSO PRESENT: D. Clarke, R. Oke and J. Stanford.

REGRETS: B. Warder.

I YOUR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Dog Parks Sub-committee | 1. (A) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee reviewed and received the <u>attached</u> report, dated November 22, 2011, from J. Lalonde, Chair, Dog Parks Sub-committee, and heard a verbal update with respect to the following:

(a) maintenance and safety issues at dog parks; and,

(b) animal welfare issues at the dog parks; it being noted that J. Lalonde has visited all the City dog parks. |
| Breeders Sub-committee | 2. (B) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee heard a verbal update from the Director of Environmental Programs and Solid Waste, and held a general discussion with respect to banning the sale of animals in storefronts. |
| Wildlife Sub-committee | 3. (C) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee held a general discussion with respect to the handling of nuisance beavers and requested its Committee Secretary invite B. Bergsma, Ecologist Planner, to its January meeting to discuss this matter. |
| Expanding the Scope of Animal Welfare Initiatives | 4. (5) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee reviewed and received a Municipal Council resolution, adopted from its meeting held October 24, 2011, and heard a verbal update from the Director of Environmental Programs and Solid Waste, with respect to expanding the scope of animal welfare initiatives. |
| Maintenance and Safety Issues at Dog Parks | 5. (6) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) reviewed and received a communication from J. Lalonde and a communication dated October 13, 2011 and a verbal update from D. Clarke, Manager of Parks Operations with respect to the safety and maintenance issues at dog parks; it being noted the AWAC held a general discussion with respect to this matter. |
| Adoptions Options Conference 2012 | 6. (8) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) reviewed and received the <u>attached</u> communication dated November 22, 2011, and heard a verbal update from V. VanLinden, with respect to the Adoptions Options Conference 2012. |
| Community Cat Shelters | 7. (9) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) held a general discussion with respect to community cat shelters. |
| No More Homeless Pets Conference | 8. (10) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee approved the expenditure of \$275.00 for D. Fortney to attend the No More Homeless Pets Conference; it being noted that there are sufficient funds to cover this expense within the AWAC's 2011 budget. D. Fortney will provide a presentation to the AWAC at its December meeting. |
| Elephant Summit April 2011 | 9. (11) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) approved the expenditure of \$130.00 for V. VanLinden to attend the Elephant Summit; it being noted that there is sufficient funds to cover this expense within the AWAC's 2011 budget. V. VanLinden will provide a presentation to the AWAC at a future meeting. |

10. (13) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee was updated by the Committee Secretary, with respect to the status of the request to ban the sale of shark fin products in London.
- London Animal Welfare Association 11. (14) That the London Animal Welfare Association communication was withdrawn from the agenda.
- Future Agenda Items 12. (Add) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee asked its Committee Secretary to place the following matters on its December agenda:
- (a) the No Kill Conference; and,
 - (b) the No More Homeless Pets Conference.
13. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee received and noted the following:
- 9th and 10th Reports of the AWAC (a) (1) the 9th and 10th Reports of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee from its meetings held on September 27, 2011 and October 19, 2011, respectively;
- Terms of Reference (b) (2) a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on September 19, 2011 with respect amending the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Terms of Reference;
- Greenway Off-Leash Dog Park Hours (c) (3) a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on September 19, 2011 with respect to Greenway off-leash dog park hours.
- Review of Advisory Committees (d) (4) a Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on November 7, 2011 with respect to the Advisory Committee review; and,
- Deer Count and Occurrences (e) (7) a communication dated October 3, 2011, from D. Jones, Land Management Supervisor, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, with respect to the 2010 deer count and occurrences;
- Next Meeting 14. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee will hold its next meeting on December 13, 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

November 22, 2011

1. Incident on Halloween night. Most information gathered has not been completely confirmed however a phone call was made to the LDOA at approximately 3pm on Halloween night. A woman was walking her Beagle when she was approached on Blanchard St. by two children ages approximately 9 and 11 and asked if they could walk her dog. She said no but then they proceeded to tell her they had had a dog/dogs (unclear if there was one or two), however the previous Saturday Oct. 29th, their parents bound the dogs mouth and head with tape and put the dogs in a box and hid the box in the evening at one of the dog parks. The children were dressed poorly for that day in shorts and t-shirts although it was cool outside

I proceeded to get in touch with people and we started looking for a box in the dog parks. Later a call was placed to LACC and it was confirmed a box was found in a park near Blanchard St. by LHS. A call was placed to LHS who indicated that a box was found but would not give out any other details.

2. Email regarding a dog napper in Stoney Creek Park. (I just received it this afternoon)

On Thursday, November 17 in the early afternoon I was at the Adelaide/Windermere dog park with my two dogs. One is a one year old Labradoodle named Cocoa and the other is a 3 year old Shephard/Retriever mix named Nicole. I was down on the path on the far side from Adelaide just standing there with Cocoa while Nicole sniffed around in the tall grass. She was a fair distance from me but I could see her. A man appeared in the grassy area and stood about four or five feet from Nicole. He looked around a few times, saw me with the doodle, and I presume he decided that Nicole was probably not my dog. At this point Nicole was just standing there looking at him. The man reached to his clothes and produced a leash. He approached Nicole, bending down with his left arm outstretched to grab her collar and the right arm coming towards her with the leash in hand. Before I could even yell Nicole lunged at him with a very ferocious growl, hair raised, and then stood in what looked like an attack stanch. She continued to growl. The man took off. She stayed where she was standing until I called her. Let me briefly mention that Nicole is a totally complacent, gentle and non-aggressive dog. She is friendly with all dogs, people, kids and anyone she meets. She clearly felt a real threat and held her ground. I am happy about that for her. I am upset, disturbed and worried for other people and their pets to think that someone is prowling the dog park to steal an animal.

The man was Caucasian, probably about 5'9". Black hair. Around late thirties, heavier build about 290lbs. Dark jacket, blue jeans.

It started and ended quickly so I only had a minute or two to observe his appearance. I don't know where he went as I did not see him in the park after the incident.

I have started to warn people as I speak with them in the park.

(person left her contact info, if you need it I will get it for you..)

3. **Re: Noise at Greenway** – I am continuing to monitor Greenway Park. I have been there at least 3 times a week and have heard very little noise and when a dog does bark it is usually very quick and doesn't last long at all. I have been there as early as 8 am and as late as 7pm. I also have been to the other dog parks and I must say that Greenway is the quietest of all three during the times I am there.
4. **Saftey issues in the Parks** are now being addressed and fixed in a more timely manner since I discussed this issue with AWAC. I am pleased with the much improved correspondence.

Martin, Jackie

From: VICKI VAN LINDEN
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:47 AM
To: Martin, Jackie
Subject:

Re: Adoptions Options conferences for 2012 / through Petfinder.com

Adoption Options Conferences are held in various location in the USA, through petfinder.com

As of yet there are no conference dates posted for 2012, and I have not received an email yet in response to my request for these dates.

I will continue to pursue getting dates for 2012 and have sent another email request for this information.

Below is info from the petfinder.com website.

Adoption Options:

Adoption Options will have you thinking about behavior, placement and promotion of your pets in a whole new light! We are excited to bring nationally known speakers right to you to discuss some of the newest and most innovative ideas in animal adoptions.

Thanks to the sponsorship of the PETCO Foundation you and your colleagues can attend one of our popular seminars for only **\$10 per person** (\$20 for non Petfinder members).

Don't miss this opportunity to network with others in your field and get refreshed and recharged to continue your life-saving work.

Presentation topics include:

- Shelter medicine (feline URI, disease transmission, controlling ringworm)
- Dog behavior (how to keep your adoptable dogs behaviorally and emotionally healthy while they wait for their new homes)
- Cat behavior (what is Fluffy really trying to tell you and how will this help get her a new home?)
- Creative adoption and fund raising programs that have worked for others—learn the dos and don'ts
- And more!