

**5TH REPORT OF THE**  
**ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting held on April 7, 2016, commencing at 5:09 PM, in Committee Room #4, Second Floor, London City Hall.

**PRESENT:** W. Brown (Chair), V. Lightfoot, K. MacIntosh, M. Puzanov, J. Sukahdeo and M. Toplack and J. Martin (Secretary).

**ABSENT:** K. Ashe, M. Gelinias, P. Newbould, C. Perquin and D. Simpson.

**ALSO PRESENT:** J. MacKay and F. Sekercioglu.

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

**II. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

None.

**III. CONSENT ITEMS**

2. 4th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 4th Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC), from its meeting held on March 3, 2016, was received; it being noted that the AWAC deferred discussion to the next meeting of the AWAC, with respect to a request to receive information from the London Transit Commission regarding companion animals on London Transit.

3. Municipal Council Resolution - Update on Parks for Londoners with Dogs

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held March 1, 2016, with respect to an update on parks for Londoners with dogs, was received.

**IV. SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS**

4. Wild-life Sub-Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) received a verbal update from W. Brown, on behalf of the AWAC Wildlife Sub-Committee.

5. Companion Animals Sub-Committee

None.

**V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

6. 2016 Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Work Plan

That the attached 2016 Work Plan for the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee BE FORWARDED to the Municipal Council for consideration.

7. Tea Cup Pigs

That it BE NOTED that the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) formed a working group consisting of M. Puzanov, J. Sukahdeo and K. MacIntosh to review and report back at the next meeting of the AWAC with respect to a request to the Municipal Council to have "teacup pigs" classified as pets: it being noted that the following communications with respect to this matter were

received:

- a) the Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held on April 6, 2016;
- b) a communication dated March 2, 2016, from H. Beuerman, 580 Ross Street;
- c) the attached communication dated April 7, 2016, from F. Morrison, Animal Outreach; and,
- d) the attached communication dated April 7, 2016, from S. Poole, Cedar Row Farm Sanctuary.

#### 8. Tethering and Chaining of Animals

That the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to consider consulting and working with the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee in the development of any educational initiatives taken with respect to companion animal matters, including the humane treatment of animals; it being noted that the Municipal Council resolution from its meeting held on April 5, 2016 with respect to the tethering and chaining of animals, was received.

### VI. DEFERRED MATTERS/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

9. (ADDED) Municipal Council Resolution - 3rd and 4th Reports of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held April 6, 2016 with respect to the 3rd and 4th Reports of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, was received: it being noted that the date of April 14, 2016, for the presentation from Coyote Watch Canada as approved in the 3rd Report of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee will be rescheduled.

10. (ADDED) Proposed Changes to the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

That Municipal Council BE REQUESTED to consider amending the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Terms of Reference as follows:

- a) the Urban League of London position be eliminated and an Animal Rescue Group be added in its place;
- b) the London Veterinarian Association position be eliminated and a Member-at-Large be added in its place; and,
- c) the London Humane Society position be eliminated and a Wildlife Rehabilitator/Naturalist be added in its place;

it being noted that several attempts to recruit members under the existing definitions in a), b) and c) above, have been unsuccessful and these positions have consistently been vacant throughout the entire history of the AWAC; it being further noted that these amendments will provide much needed support for the AWAC.

### VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: May 5, 2016**

**Animal Welfare Advisory Committee Work Plan – 2016**

Date, April 2016

Activity	Background	Responsibility	Timeline	Proposed Budget	Strategic Plan Alignment
Coyote Education Seminar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with Coyote Canada - host an educational seminar to provide information to stakeholders and the community about how to coexist with wildlife (coyotes) and meet the challenges that occur in the community in the urban setting.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Note this was originally scheduled for April 14, 2016 but will be rescheduled date to be confirmed.</li> </ul>	Wildlife Sub-Committee	Spring 2016		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe, 3.E, 5.F</li> </ul>
Municipal Coyote Resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>	Wildlife Sub-Committee	Spring 2016		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe, 3.E, 5.F</li> </ul>

<p>Exemption to the current by-law limit for Class 4 Companion Animals for Rescue Groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research the feasibility of an exemption to the current by-law limit for Class 4 Companion Animals in authorized rescue groups. This consideration would allow authorized rescue groups to handle a larger number of class 4 companion animals for adoption rather than euthanize, noting that this will support the no kill policy.</li> </ul>	<p>Companion Sub-Committee</p>	<p>2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Communities, Caring and Compassionate Services, 3.E</li> </ul>
<p>Tethering and outdoor living conditions for animals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The AWAC will work with Civic Administration to develop recommendations for the consideration of CPSC in order to communicate with the province (Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services) with respect to potential amendments to provincial legislation to strengthen protection of animals, tethering and outdoor living conditions.</li> </ul>	<p>Companion Sub-Committee</p>	<p>2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Communities, Caring and Compassionate Services, 3.E</li> </ul>
<p>Animal Care Services - Potential Service Improvements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<p>Companion Sub-Committee</p>	<p>2016 to 2018</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Communities, Caring and Compassionate Services, 3.E</li> <li>• Healthy, Safe, 5.F</li> </ul>
<p>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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• As well this would alleviate the pressure on rescue organizations and animal services.</li> <li>• Additionally these actions could improve the welfare of many animals.</li> <li>• Work with Civic Administration to develop a positive list of animals allowed in the City.</li> </ul>	<p>Companion Sub-Committee</p>	<p>2016</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Communities, Caring and Compassionate Services, 3.E</li> </ul>

Living With Wildlife – Resources for the Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research best practices to promote peaceful co-existence with wildlife and in accordance with the Humane Urban Wildlife Conflict Policy.</li> <li>• Develop educational materials to provide the community.</li> </ul>	Wildlife Sub-Committee	2016 to 2017		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe 3.E, 5.F</li> <li>• Building Sustainable City Strong Healthy Environment 3.C</li> </ul>
Wildlife Control Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	Wildlife Sub-Committee			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe 3.E</li> </ul>
Tree Trimming Protocols to Protect Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The AWAC to continue working with the Civic Administration to develop protocols to further protect wildlife when tree trimming in accordance with the City of London’s Humane Urban Wildlife Conflict Policy.</li> </ul>	Wildlife Sub-Committee			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe 3.E</li> <li>• Building a Sustainable City Strong and Healthy Environment 3.C, 3.E</li> </ul>
FLAP Program Fatal Light Awareness Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with EEPAC and ACE to create recommendations for the development of a policy with respect to design and construction guidelines to reduce bird strikes.</li> <li>• Provide research of current practices in other municipalities with respect to window treatments and lighting and dark skies initiatives</li> <li>• This will assist in reducing bird strikes and bird mortality and prevent disruption of migration.</li> </ul>	Wildlife Sub-Committee			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Communities, Health, Safe 3.E 5.F</li> <li>• Building Sustainable City Strong Healthy Environment 3.C</li> <li>• Growing our Economy 2. Urban Regeneration, C</li> <li>• Building a Sustainable City, 4.C</li> </ul>
Pigs as Pets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the request of Municipal Council the AWAC will review and the request to have pigs classified as pets in the City of London and report back.</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
Living With Domestic Animals – Resources for the Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop educational materials (in cooperation with Civic Administration) to provide the community with information about caring for companion animals.</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

**From:** Florine Morrison  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 10:58 AM  
**To:** Martin, Jackie <[JMartin@London.ca](mailto:JMartin@London.ca)>  
**Subject:** AWAC review of pig by-law \*

To: Members of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

From: Florine Morrison  
Animal Outreach  
803 Waterloo St.  
London, Ontario

It has come to my attention that a request to allow "teacup" pigs in London has been referred to your committee for review. As co-founder of an animal protection organization that has been frequently involved in the rescue and re-homing of discarded pet pigs I would like to voice my objection to any by-law change that would permit the keeping of these animals in the City.

Animal Outreach is a registered charity that provides shelter and care for abandoned, neglected, unwanted, injured and abused domesticated animals. Our focus on farm animals puts us into frequent contact with people who have purchased "mini" pigs, only to find that these animals are simply young pot belly pigs; animals that can grow to between 120 to 150 pounds, and in some cases more than 200 pounds.

Too often, especially in urban areas, those who have purchased these animals find that the pigs can no longer be accommodated in their home, often before the pigs are even one year old. Hooves damage floors and make far more noise than paws. Pigs squeal loudly, and their natural vocalizations can be far more disturbing to neighbours than any barking dog. It is the natural behaviour of all pigs, including Pot belly pigs, to root quite vigorously. This means that yards can become completely dug up by even a smaller pig, and a house-bound pig can do significant damage to the home.

Many breeders fail to provide sufficient instructions on care for these animals, and often suggest restrictive feeding guidelines intended to keep the pigs from growing to their natural size, leading to malnourished and sickly animals. I urge you to visit the following site for more information: <http://www.petpigeeducation.com/the-teacup-myth.html>

The so-called "tea cup" pigs are just the latest fad and a new attempt by breeders to sell pigs and add to the already overwhelming number of these animals who outgrow their homes and end up the responsibility of our far too few sanctuaries; organizations that are faced with the physical and financial burden of expensive veterinary services, finding suitable new homes and solving problems that we had no hand in creating.

In our experience, there is a definite correlation between municipalities that prohibit the keeping of these pigs and a decrease in the number of those animals who come into our care.

I strongly urge you to recommend that Council uphold our existing by-law banning all pigs from London.

Sincerely,  
Florine Morrison

**From:** Siobhan Poole  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 07, 2016 5:08 PM  
**To:** Martin, Jackie <[JMartin@London.ca](mailto:JMartin@London.ca)>  
**Subject:** Potbellied Pig Amendment

To Chair and Members of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee:

During the past 17 years, Cedar Row Farm Sanctuary has rescued hundreds of neglected and abandoned farm animals, many of whom have been the so-called mini, teacup and potbellied pigs that breeders promote as ideal house pets. Often within the first year owners discover that these animals can grow to between 60 and 200 pounds. They can be noisy, root constantly, damage property and do all the things that come naturally to pigs which is why so many owners choose to thrust responsibility for their care on donation and volunteer driven sanctuaries.

These discarded pigs are often not spayed or neutered and malnourished in an attempt to keep them small. Expensive veterinary care adds to the financial burden of caring for these animals.

Last year Cedar Row Farm Sanctuary took in 18 unwanted potbellied pigs.

A pig named Floyd was purchased for \$2,500. and kept for only 4 months before his owner left him at Cedar Row. He now weighs about 200 lbs. Floyd's previous experiences in the buyers' home has left him a bad-tempered animal, far less friendly than the actual farm-type pigs that live at Cedar Row. When cleaning Floyd's pen, his care-givers take care to avoid being bitten. Floyd would never be a suitable companion in a home, and is fortunate to have found a sanctuary home capable of providing for him.

Penelope lived in a carrier for 10 hours a day in her original home, before space became available for her to find refuge at Cedar Row Farm Sanctuary.

Wilbert came to Cedar Row extremely underweight because the breeder instructed the owner to only feed him 1/4 cup of food twice a day to keep him small.

This week, Cedar Row took the latest unwanted potbellied pig from London to be spayed at a cost of about \$350. This unfortunate piglet has been fed only apples and cheerios and at 7 months in very underweight. We expect, that with proper nutrition she will recover.

Exempting any type of pig from London's by-law will further burden area rescues and sanctuaries. These volunteer driven organizations already struggle to keep up with the abandoned animals who are discarded by irresponsible owners. London's Animal Services will face further demand and rising costs, but the brunt of such a bylaw change will be borne by sanctuaries like Cedar Row Farm Sanctuary that are already over-whelmed with requests to take in discarded pigs.

I strongly urge you to support the existing ban on all pigs in London, and to recommend to Council members to maintain the current ban.

Sincerely,  
Siobhan Poole  
Co-Founder of Cedar Row Farm Sanctuary