

Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee

Report

The 2nd Meeting of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee
January 5, 2023

Attendance PRESENT: W. Brown (Chair), M. Blosch, K. Coulter, A. Hames,
G. Leckie; K. Mason (Committee Clerk)

ABSENT: H. Duhamel, M. Toplack

ALSO PRESENT: W. Jeffery, M. McBride, B. Westlake-Power

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 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 Community Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 1st Report of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on December 1, 2022, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

4.1 Future Meeting Dates and Times

That it BE NOTED that the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee held a general discussion with respect to future meeting dates and times of the Sub-Committee.

4.2 (ADDED) Sub-Committee Recommendation

That, based on the attached Sub-Committee report, the following actions be taken with respect to Budget Amendment Case #P-14 - Neighbourhood Strategic Initiatives & Funding - Humane Society of London & Middlesex Animal Campus, from the London and Middlesex Humane Society:

a) the Municipal Council BE ADVISED that the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee supports Budget Amendment Case #P-14 - Neighbourhood Strategic Initiatives & Funding - Humane Society of London & Middlesex Animal Campus, and the associated approval of the above-noted Business Case; and,

b) this recommendation BE FORWARDED to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee for consideration in the 2023 Budget deliberations.

5. Items for Discussion

5.1 Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committees Recommendation Regarding Private Zoos and Mobile Live Animal Programs

That it BE NOTED that the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee will submit a communication to the Community and Protective Services Committee regarding the proposed amendment to the Animal Control By-law.

5.2 Window Collision Tape Update

That it BE NOTED that the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee held a general discussion regarding an update on Window Collision Tape.

5.3 2023 Planning for Budget Expenditures

That considerations for the 2023 Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee Budget BE DEFFERED to the next Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee meeting.

5.4 Rethink Zoning

That the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to attend the next Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee Meeting to provide information regarding Rethink Zoning.

5.5 (ADDED) Fireworks By-law Update

That it BE NOTED that the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee heard a verbal update from W. Jeffery, Manager, Municipal Compliance and Animal Welfare Services, with respect to the Fireworks By-law; it being noted that the Sub-Committee will be drafting a formal recommendation with respect to this matter.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 PM.

To: Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee Meeting January 5, 2023

From: Subcommittee

Recommendation

The Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee recommends that the City of London grant the London and Middlesex Humane Society's request for \$3 million to help fund the construction of an animal "campus" at 1414 Dundas Street.

Reasons for recommendation

The London and Middlesex Humane Society has provided an important service to the City of London for over 120 years without funding from the City. The Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee recognizes that now is the time for the City to give back. A new, modern facility will be more than something nicer and more functional for the animals. It will reflect London's growth as a compassionate and thriving city.

Part of the Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee's mandate is to promote public education and awareness programs. We support the Humane Society's plans to provide space for educating the public about animal care and accommodate visits from school groups and summer camps to learn about caring for animals.

From our animal welfare perspective, the Humane Society's shelter and adoption centre on Clarke Road is woefully outdated and inadequate. London's population has grown over the years, and the number of animals entering the Humane Society's door has increased proportionally. The site is too small for the number of animals cared for, the cat and dog areas are too close together, and the building itself is in constant need of basic repairs.

The new facility will be able to shelter twice the number of animals currently being housed. Most significantly, the new facility will also have a vet clinic. This means that instead of waiting for an appointment and then being driven to an outside clinic, animals will receive medical care immediately, and be ready for adoption sooner. The Humane Society plans to have the clinic offer low-cost veterinary care to the public, which will complement the city's low-income spay/neuter program.