

PUBLIC MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL CONTROL

February 23, 2017, 11:30 a.m. Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall

- PRESENT: Ms. A. Ziegler, Chair Dr. K. Sheehan, Vice-Chair Ms. B. Ashwin Dr. E. Hudson Dr. T. Shury Ms. J. Thomson
- ABSENT: Councillor Z. Jeffries Dr. D. Hockley Ms. K. Shymko
- ALSO PRESENT: Ms. E. Alexandrovici, Saskatoon Animal Control Agency Ms. P. Cameron, Executive Director, Saskatoon SPCA Open Space Consultant C. Schafer Open Space Programming & Development Section Manager B. Babyak Committee Assistant J. Fast

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

1.1 Committee Process [CK. 225-9]

It was noted that Deputy City Clerk Bryant was unable to be in attendance.

Moved By: E. Hudson

That the presentation by Deputy City Clerk Bryant be deferred to the March 23, 2017 meeting.

CARRIED

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved By: E. Hudson

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That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved By: T. Shury

That the minutes of regular meeting of the Advisory Committee on Animal Control held on January 26, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. REPORT OF THE CHAIR [CK. 225-9]

The Chair reminded Committee members that the deadline for submission of agenda items to the City Clerk's Office is Tuesday noon the week prior to the meeting.

Moved By: B. Ashwin

That the information be received.

CARRIED

6. COMMUNICATIONS

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Chief Whitecap Park [CK. 4205-38]

Mr. Brad Babyak, Section Manager of Open Space Programming and Development, was in attendance to provide an update regarding Chief Whitecap Park.

Mr. Babyak advised that although owned by the City, Chief Whitecap Park is located in the Rural Municipality (RM) of Corman Park. When the City purchased the Park from the Federal Government one condition was that the land be used as a public park. To continue to permit the activity currently occurring at Chief Whitecap Park, the City is required to obtain discretionary use approval from the RM of Corman Park. The property is currently zoned as D-Conservation zoning district. The discretionary use application has been presented and the RM of Corman Park has provided conditions that need to be met.

Discussion followed regarding the enforcement strategy. Mr. Babyak advised that in order for the City to enforce its Animal Control Bylaw within an off-leash dog park in the RM, the RM needs to amend its Dogs Running at Large Bylaw. It was also noted that the City can't enforce the Dangerous Animal Bylaw in the RM of Corman Park because dangerous animals in the RM falls under provincial legislation. Work is continuing with the RM Administration to ensure the appropriate legislation is in place.

Mr. Babyak advised that in partnership with the MVA, once discretionary use approval is given, work can begin to formalize some of the trails and finalize the detailed design.

Moved By: J. Thomson

That the information be received.

CARRIED

7.2 Report of Open Space Consultant [CK. 151-18]

Open Space Consultant Schafer was in attendance and updated the Committee on the following:

- Plans for the Cat Café and Cat Show are ongoing.
- Cold weather caused the counters at the parks to malfunction. They have all been removed to be fixed and, going forward, will be used May to September only.
- The tender has been awarded for Paul Mostoway Park with development beginning in Spring 2017 with an anticipated opening in Fall 2017.
- Issues with the culvert at Hyde Park have been identified and remediation will be completed March 2017.
- Requests to open the pond at Avalon Dog Park in Spring 2017 have been received, however, it likely will remain closed for this year due to nesting birds. The park will also be closed in May for an enhancement and upgrade.
- Update to the Chameleon database system is scheduled for Spring 2017.

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• Distribution of "Good Dogs Bite Too" pamphlet to all branches of the public library and vendors that sell licenses has been completed. A copy was provided to Committee members.

Moved By: E. Hudson

That the information be received.

CARRIED

7.3 Court Report - Animal Control Bylaw Prosecutions [CK. 435-17]

The Committee Assistant submitted the 2016 Annual Court Report along with the January 2017 Court Report for the Committee's information.

It was noted that Solicitor Manastyrski was not in attendance.

Moved By: E. Hudson

That the 2016 Annual Court Report and the January 2017 Court Report be deferred to the March 23, 2017 meeting.

CARRIED

8. ANIMAL IMPOUNDING SERVICES - STATISTICS [CK. 435-6]

The Committee Assistant submitted the January 2017 statistics for the Committee's information.

Ms. Patricia Cameron, Executive Director, Saskatoon SPCA reviewed the statistics and answered questions of the Committee. It was noted there was a significant increase from January 2016 intake to January 2017 intake.

Discussion followed regarding an upcoming court case and perhaps having a further conversation at a future meeting with respect to licensed facilities.

Moved By: T. Shury

That the information be received.

CARRIED

9. STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES [CK. 1704-5]

The Committee Assistant submitted the current Statement of Expenditures.

Open Space Consultant Schafer undertook to confirm for the next meeting how much money has been committed for the Pet Wellness Brochure along with the cost of pet scoop bags from last year.

The Committee discussed how to best invest money to achieve the goal of respectful pet ownership, and the Committee was in favor of having a report from the Dog Bite Subcommittee at the next meeting to discuss any future initiatives to bring forward, along with any other suggestions for a project.

The following suggestions were noted for further discussion:

- When people go into emergency care, pet safe keeping is an issue. Perhaps there could be an arrangement with the shelters whereby a kennel and dog/cat supplies could be provided for 24 hours until arrangements can be made for the animal.
- Provide support to St. John Ambulance therapy dog program.
- Determine what the barriers to responsible pet ownership are and how they can be removed, and communities identified where help is most needed.
- Focus on the cat population. Statistics show it is out of control.
- Look for partnerships with organizations that are in contact with people who need these services.
- Strike a subcommittee to work together to bring actions to focus and present as a set of goals and actions so the Committee is able to decide what actions can be fulfilled with the funds available.

Moved By: K. Sheehan

That the information be received.

CARRIED

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Ms. A. Ziegler, Chair

Ms. J. Fast, Committee Assistant