

Committee Room "E"
City Hall, Saskatoon, SK
Thursday, October 24, 2013
at 11:50 a.m.

MINUTES

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL CONTROL

Ms. Diane Bentley, Chair
Ms. Shirley Ross
Ms. Maggie Sim, Vice Chair
Dr. Duncan Hockley
Dr. Michael Powell
Ms. Andrea Ziegler
Councillor Z. Jeffries
Dr. Edward Hudson
Ms. Eva Alexandrovici, President, Saskatoon Animal Control
Agency
Ms. Tiffany Koback, Shelter Manager, Saskatoon S.P.C.A.
Staff Sergeant Brett Maki, Saskatoon Police Service
Open Space Consultant, Leisure Services Branch, Community
Services Department Campbell
Solicitor Kowalski
Committee Secretary O'Brien

1. Minutes

RESOLVED: that the minutes of September 26, 2013, be approved.

2. Report of Chair
(File No. CK. 151-8)

The Chair noted that she had visited all off-leash parks recently.

RESOLVED: that the information be received.

3. Report of Open Space Consultant
(File No. CK. 151-18)

Mr. Mark Campbell indicated that the fencing was now complete in the South West Off-Leash Recreation Area

RESOLVED: that the information be received.

4. Signage at Off-Leash Recreation Areas
(File CK. 4205-1)

The Secretary reported that, at the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Animal Control held on September 26, 2013, it was resolved that the matter of signage regulations as far as visibility, size and amount of signs be brought forward for discussion at the meeting to be held on October 24, 2013.

The Open Space Consultant indicated that signage at off-leash parks would be subject to a review to be completed in 2014. He welcomed feedback with respect to this matter. Discussion ensued about appropriate signage, over-load of information contained on signs and the possibility of incorporating warnings of vehicular thefts at the parks.

RESOLVED: that the information be received.

5. Communications to Council
From: Rosika Butcher
Date: September 6, 2013
Subject: Chained Dogs in Back Yards
(File No. CK. 152-1)

The above-noted letter had been referred to the Committee for further handling by City Council at its meeting held on September 23, 2013.

Ms. Butcher addressed the Committee outlining her concerns about the situation addressed in her letter as well as dogs being left chained in general.

Discussion followed, including the following:

- Nothing in City bylaws specific to situation
- Provincial legislation exists on animal cruelty, but is vague
- To successfully prosecute an offender, the crime must be able to be proved in court
 - This involves recording of repeated offence(s) over time to establish a pattern
- Animal Control Officers may be designated as Animal Protection Officers
- City Bylaws can be more specific and/or overlap provincial legislation but must not contradict
- Animal on a chain or rope not necessarily in distress
 - Difficult to pinpoint distress
- Open Space Consultant presently researching issue at the request of a member of City Council.

RESOLVED: that the Administration, in consultation with appropriate agencies, be requested to provide more information regarding the issue at the next meeting of the Committee.

6. Rabies Vaccination
(File No. CK. 151-17)

A request was made to defer this matter to the next meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED: that this item be considered at the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Animal Control to be held on November 28, 2013.

7. Court Reports -Animal Control Bylaw Prosecutions
June, July and August 2013
(File No. CK. 435-17)

The above reports were brought forward from the meeting of September 26, 2013.

Solicitor Kowalski gave a brief overview of the reports and answered questions from the Committee.

RESOLVED: that the information be received.

Councillor Jeffries excused himself at 1:00 p.m. during discussion of this matter.

8. Animal Bite Awareness
(File No. 152-4.)

Report of the Secretary:

“At its meeting held on September 26, 2013, the Advisory Committee on Animal Control resolved that the Committee review the 2013 budget to ascertain what funding may be available in 2014 to be used toward education for animal bite awareness.

Attached is a copy of the Committee’s expenditures for the year thus far.”

The Committee discussed its budget and expenditures. Discussion ensued regarding an animal bite awareness initiative for 2014.

RESOLVED: that the information be received.

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Ms. Diane Bentley, Chair