



PUBLIC MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL CONTROL - SPECIAL MEETING

December 11, 2017, 12:00 p.m.

Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall

PRESENT: Ms. A. Ziegler, Chair
Dr. K. Sheehan, Vice-Chair
Ms. B. Ashwin
Dr. E. Hudson
Councillor Z. Jeffries
Dr. T. Shury
Ms. K. Shymko
Ms. J. Thomson

ABSENT: Dr. B. Couperthwaite

ALSO PRESENT: Open Space Consultant S. Carter
Solicitor J. Manastyrski
Ms. E. Alexandrovici, Saskatoon Animal Control Agency
Ms. P. Cameron, Executive Director, Saskatoon SPCA
Inspector M. Ward
Committee Assistant D. Sackmann

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved By: E. Hudson

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes of meeting held on November 23, 2017 and December 11, 2017 will be approved at the Committee's January 2018 meeting.

5. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

5.1 Governance Review - Advisory Committees - Governance Structure [CK. 225-1]

The Committee Assistant submitted the Advisory Committees Governance Review report considered by the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) on November 14, 2017, and the recommendations of the GPC approved by City Council on November 20, 2017, for comment and review. The report recommends dissolution and disbandment of the Advisory Committee on Animal Control (ACAC) for 2019. The Governance Subcommittee has asked to receive comments by no later than December 31, 2017.

The Committee's comments will be included in a letter submitted by the Chair and shared with GPC at its Regular Public Business Meeting in February, 2018.

A brief background and overview of the Chair's involvement in the Advisory Committees review was provided. The recommendations pertaining to ACAC, its structure, mandate and City Council's ability to create Ad Hoc Committees were highlighted.

Ms. Alexandrovici entered the meeting at 12:08 p.m. and Ms. Cameron at 12:12 p.m.

Solicitor Manastyrski provided clarification regarding the Community Wellness and Safety Advisory Committee explaining that the Street Activity Steering Committee would be absorbed into this new Committee. Discussion followed regarding the proposed robust mandate of the new Committee and the possibility of it including dealing with animal concerns/issues in the community.

Open Space Consultant Carter noted what is best practice with the creation of Animal Services and a stand-alone Advisory Committee. Subcommittees can be created to deal with specific animal issues. Financial support would have to come from City Council in order to help support the work that's been done to date. Also noted was the importance of consistent branding of informational materials for public use.

Further comments were put forth:

- The composition of ad hoc committees and options for types of ad hoc committees was discussed.
- The major concern regarding disbandment is that public input/representation will be lost.
- Having specific goals and strategies enhances a Committee's value and measure its effectiveness.
- Public awareness and education of animal issues is important and shouldn't be lost.
- Stakeholders attending ACAC meetings use the opportunity to network. Partnerships have been formed and are relied on.
- The Saskatoon Animal Control Agency uses the animal pamphlets created by ACAC to educate its officers. The agency would like to see the Bite Prevention and Cat Overpopulation Subcommittees continue their work.
- The Saskatoon SPCA commented that many groups are involved and intertwined in animal issues and keeping these channels open allow for effectiveness in the safety and health of the community.

Councillor Jeffries entered the meeting at 12:43 p.m.

- There's the possibility to establish a working group/subcommittee that would report directly to Administration. Currently, it's not clear how a new entity would be created/populated or constituted.
- Need a group that will serve to meet the needs of pet owners.
- ACAC has an understanding of the Bylaws and the reporting structure of the City. An ad hoc committee won't have the necessary background.

Councillor Jeffries excused himself from the meeting at 12:57 p.m.

- There's merit in reviewing the Committee's mandate to make it more strategic and valuable.
- It would be helpful to have Administration communicate what are some of the issues/problems they would like to have solved. Collaboration is important, this could include sharing of business plans.

Moved By: K. Sheehan

That the Chair draft a letter summarizing the comments from the meeting held on December 11, 2017 and circulate the letter to members for review and final comment prior to being presented to the Governance Subcommittee, Governance and Priorities Committee for consideration.

CARRIED

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Ms. A. Ziegler, Chair

Ms. D. Sackmann, Committee Assistant