

**8TH REPORT OF THE  
ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting held on July 28, 2009, commencing at 4:04 p.m.

PRESENT: B. Sayler (Chair), M. Fischer, D. Fortney, E. Gerrow, Dr. J. Hopper, D. Jack, L. Jackson, W. MacKay, A. Papmehl, S. Rans, M. Shepherd and J. Symons and L. Fisher (Acting Secretary).

ALSO PRESENT: Controller G. Barber, B. Bergsma, D. Clarke, A. Macpherson, R. Oke, J. Stanford and M. Yost.

REGRETS: M. Blosch, J. Foster and V. Van Linden.

**I YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:**

AWAC Terms of Reference 1. (4) That the Terms of Reference for the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) **BE AMENDED** to include two non-voting resource positions to be filled by Secondary school students; it being noted the AWAC believes that youth involvement in animal welfare concerns will bring a useful perspective to the Committee and provides an educational opportunity for youth in the City.

Deer Crossing Signage 2. That the Civic Administration **BE REQUESTED** to review the installation of improved signage relating to deer crossings in the City of London in order to provide motorists with a more visible warning that there could be deer in the area.

**II YOUR COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Draft Terms of Reference for the Management of White-Tailed Deer in the City of London 3. (6) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) received a delegation from A. Macpherson, Manager, Parks Planning and Design and B. Bergsma, Ecologist Planner with respect to the draft Terms of Reference for the management of white-tailed deer in the City of London; noting that the consultant to be recruited will be a wildlife biologist and that it is hoped work can commence in September 2009. The AWAC indicated it needed further time to consider and review the draft Terms of Reference in greater detail and referred the report to its Deer Sub-Committee for review and to report back at the August 25, 2009 meeting of the AWAC with recommendations for the approval of the full Committee, and also asked B. Bergsma to forward a previous report she had prepared dated March 2009 with respect to matter to the Sub-Committee for its review.

Breeders Sub-Committee 4. (B) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) heard a verbal report from L. Jackson on behalf of the Breeders Sub-Committee noting the Sub-Committee will not be meeting again until the fall due to busy schedules, and heard a verbal report from J. Hopper noting that she found information relating to a Bill being presented to the U.S. Senate by the Texas Veterinary Medical Association to assist with the prevention of puppy mills in that state, and will report back with further information at the next meeting of the AWAC. M. Sheppard reported that she is making arrangements for a presentation at the September AWAC meeting with respect to the existence of puppy mills in the London area.

Wildlife Sub-Committee 5. (C,7) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) heard a verbal report from E. Gerrow on behalf of the Wildlife Sub-Committee noting that there is concern that should wild species be injured in the City of London, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) is obliged to yield to existing municipal by-laws, that being the City of London's Animal Control By-law PH-3, which prohibits the keeping of a Class 7 animal within the City limits, and could impede efforts to rehabilitate such animals. The AWAC asked the Sub-Committee to review proposed amendments to the By-law, and to review the current guidelines utilized by the MNR with respect to the issuance of wildlife rehabilitation licences, and to report back at the August 2009 meeting of the AWAC.

- Education Sub-Committee 6. (D) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee heard a verbal report from B. Saylor noting she had found an informative brochure for the public in a veterinarian's office publicizing that June was Adopt-A-Cat month.
- Deer Sub-Committee 7. (E,2) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) noted the Deer Sub-Committee will be meeting to discuss the draft Terms of Reference for the management of white-tailed deer in the City and also noted that J. Symons will be joining the Sub-Committee. The AWAC heard a verbal report from M. Shepherd indicating she is pursuing the matter of the placement of deer signage at the Oxford Street West bridge as a result of the recent incident involving deer and motorists at that location. It was noted there has been legislation enacted in Ottawa to help mitigate negative incidents involving traffic and wildlife which could be reviewed to determine if it would be of assistance to London. The AWAC also held a general discussion with respect to Members of AWAC being identified as such by the media when speaking out in public, or when attending a public event, such as the recent event held at the Oxford Street West bridge following the above noted incident.
- Animal Cruelty Education 8. (3) That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) heard a verbal report and received a written communication from S. Rans with respect to a presentation relating to animal cruelty provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources to an elementary school in London. The AWAC noted that future presentations would now be given by the London Humane Society and would help encourage an empathic response by the children.
- Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides – Victoria Park 9. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) heard a verbal report from staff and Controller G. Barber with respect to actions taken by the Environment and Transportation Committee and subsequently Municipal Council, related to the request by D. Hume to provide horse-drawn carriage rides around Victoria Park. The AWAC noted that while the City did not need to grant permission to Mr. Hume to provide this service, there were still a number of questions the AWAC had with respect to the service and the associated impact on the horses, and asked that Mr. Hume be invited to a future meeting of the AWAC to provide additional information for its Members.
- Second-Hand Smoking Dangers 10. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee received the ~~attached~~ posters from M. Yost, Middlesex-London Health Unit that have been developed and circulated to educate the public with respect to the dangers to pets from second-hand smoke.
- ETC – Agendas, Reports and Attendance by AWAC 11. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) deferred a discussion with respect to attendance by AWAC members at the Environment and Transportation Committee (ETC) meetings, as well as the distribution of ETC Reports and Agendas, to its August meeting.
12. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC) noted and filed the following:
- 7th Report of the AWAC (a) (1) the 7th Report of the AWAC from its meeting held on June 23, 2009; and
- The No Kill Advocate (b) (5) Issue #3 of The No Kill Advocate; it being noted the AWAC has received permission to reprint these newsletters in their agendas.
- Next Meeting 13. That the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee will hold its next meeting on August 25, 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.