

**THE THIRD MEETING OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE FOR ANIMAL WELFARE  
MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE ROOM 304  
CITY HALL**

**1:00 P.M.**

**MARCH 21, 2019**

1:00 p.m. The meeting convened.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Members**

L. Jackson, Chair, All Breed Canine Rescue  
Councillor Joan Rymal  
G. Gratton, Animal Aide  
J. Spencer, Dog Owners Association  
C. Burns, Another Chance Wildlife Rehabilitation

**Officials**

M. Konefal, City Clerk  
M. Vriens, Supervisor, Roads and  
Transportation

**Absent**

K. Peters, Pets Friends for Life

**Others**

Councillor Jim Herbert (Alternate)  
Deb Harris  
Anne Vanderkuyl  
Kathy Knott  
Shelley Aitken-Frijia

**DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Nil.

**MINUTES**

Motion by G. Gratton - C. Burns:

THAT: The minutes of the meeting held on February 21, 2019 be confirmed.

Carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Group Updates - Appendix "A"**

Ms. Burns provided a handout regarding wildlife which had been taken in by Another Chance Wildlife Rehabilitation in 2018.

Ms. Gratton advised that all cats had been adopted and that applicable forms had been submitted to the Animal Shelter.

**January 2019 Shelter Statistics - Appendix "B"**

The Supervisor, Roads and Transportation provided information regarding statistics at the Animal Shelter for January 2019.

**Animal Shelter Process - Appendix "C"**

The members reviewed a one-page overview of what happens when an animal is received at the Animal Shelter.

**Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals - Investigations**

The members discussed a recent newspaper article pertaining to the decision of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to cease investigation of complaints and enforcement of animal cruelty laws.

Councillor Herbert advised that he would inquire whether St. Thomas Police Services investigates animal cruelty.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

CONFIRMED \_\_\_\_\_ CHAIRMAN

the 3rd meeting of the Select Committee on Animal Welfare - 2

Draft Terms of Reference

The members discussed minor changes to the Draft Terms of Reference and requested that a copy be provided for final review at the next Committee meeting.

Animal Welfare Groups - Payments

The members discussed the original agreement with the City pertaining to removal of dogs and cats from the Animal Shelter by three animal welfare groups.

The members were advised that any changes to the agreement would require administration input and Council approval.

The Supervisor, Roads and Transportation confirmed that there is \$23,000 available in the budget relating to the agreement.

Animal Shelter Renovation - Appendix "D"

The members reviewed a draft report and agreed that the report be forwarded for the next meeting of Council.

Facebook Page

The Supervisor, Roads and Transportation advised that administration is looking into the potential to create a Facebook page for the Animal Shelter.

Upcoming Open House

The members discussed the fact that as considerable effort is needed to prepare for an Open House, considerable advertisement and promotion is needed.

**NEXT MEETING**

April 25, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in Committee Room #304.

**ADJOURNMENT**

2:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned.

Appendix "A"

**2018 Another Chance Wildlife Rehabilitation**

**\*Location Where Animals Came From\***

175 London  
 160 St. Thomas  
 82 Elgin County  
 58 Other Counties  
1 Unknown Locale  
 476

Elgin County		Other Counties		Unknown Locale
27	Port Stanley	22	Middlesex	1 Unknown area
8	Fingal	12	Oxford	
7	Rodney	7	Chatham-Kent	
6	Dutton	7	Perth	
6	Springfield	5	Lambton	
5	Aylmer	3	Huron	
5	Talbotville	2	Norfolk	
4	Belmont			
3	Central Elgin			
3	Sparta			
3	West Lorne			
2	Wallacetown			
1	Iona			
1	Pt. Bruce			
1	Sheddon			
<b>82</b>		<b>58</b>		<b>1</b>

6 animals came directly from St. Thomas Animal Control. Indirectly we received animals from people who were told by Animal Control to contact us. We did not separate or keep track of these. We will from now on.

Also indirectly we received animals from people who were told by St. Thomas Police, St. Thomas Fire Department and OPP to contact us. We did not separate or keep track of these. We will from now on.

Prepared and submitted by:  
 Colleen Burns  
 Another Chance Wildlife Rehabilitation

Appendix "B"

Monthly Total	Stray/Lost	Dogs Entered				Dogs Out		
		Drop-Off	Owner Surrender	Police	Owner	Adopted	ABCR	Euthanized
Feb 1 - 28	10	0	4	0	7	7	2	0
St. Thomas								
Southwold	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Malahide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central Elgin	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Aylmer	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	16	0	4	0	12	7	2	0
Total Dogs IN	20							
Total Dogs OUT	21							

Monthly Total	Stray/Lost	Cats Entered				Cats Out				
		Drop-Off	Owner Surrender	Owner	Adopted	Animal Aide	Pets Friends	ABCR	Euthanized	Other
Feb 1 - 28	11	0	2	0	7	3	0	0	0	5
St. Thomas										
Total Cats IN	13									
Total Cats OUT	16									

As of Feb 28/19 12 cats in shelter

Other Cats	
Meow or never	3
Barn Cat Program	1
All Paws	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>



Year to Date	
Total Dogs IN	27
Total Dogs OUT	27

Total Cats IN	30
Total Cats OUT	36

## Appendix "C"

### Animal Shelter Process

- 1) -We don't accept puppies under 6 months, they go directly to ABCR  
-We don't accept kittens under 2 months, they go to Animal Aide  
-Wildlife is not accepted at the shelter. The city only picks up wildlife on city property.  
-Animals could be found by a citizen, brought in by staff, by police or OSPCA  
-Need to check if the animal is from outside of St. Thomas, as the animal may need to be taken to that Municipality
- 2) -Medical attention is given to animals that come in if they are in immediate distress as required under the pounds act. However if an owner comes forward to claim their animal and we have treated, the owner is responsible to pay all cost incurred by the pound for anything vet recommends, according to the pounds act.  
-If tagged – the owner is called  
-If untagged – the animal is kept at the shelter  
-The shelter checks media outlets to see if animals have been posted as missing and will contact owner. The shelter has a lost report list as well that is kept up to date and if an animal comes into the pound the list is always referred to.  
-Animals surrendered or past the stray period are placed up for adoption on Petfinders.
- 3) -During the 4 day stray period nothing medical is done to the animals unless in immediate distress. Flea treatment and worming treatment is given to all cats that come in, but dogs wait until after stray period to have anything for fleas and worming.  
-Lost animals are not posted. Owners must contact the shelter to inquire if their animal is there and provide a description and photo.
- 4) -Rescue groups are contacted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day if that animal needs to be rescued from the shelter. There is a wait list of people looking for dogs or cats, if the animal matches what someone is looking for we contact them, give them an opportunity to come and meet the animal before reaching out to a rescue group. Finding a healthy animal an appropriate home is our shared goal. If we do not need to take up space in the rescue and can get the animals into a home we try that avenue first.
- 5) -The shelter does have a list of potential adopters as well as prefilled out application for people who would like to do so.
- 6) -The adoption fee includes the animal being fixed(spayed or neutered) flea treatment and worming as well as a license.
- 7) -All dogs are checked for tags as well as cats if brought into the shelter.  
Notice are send out at the annual and a reminder is also sent out if they haven't picked up a tag yet.  
-Bylaw officers do check for tags on all animal bylaw calls.

	<b>COMMITTEE</b> <b>Select Committee for Animal Welfare</b>	<b>Report No.</b> AWC-01-19
<b>Directed to:</b> Mayor Joe Preston and Members of City Council		<b>Date Authored:</b> March 22, 2019  <b>Meeting Date:</b> April 1, 2019
<b>Prepared By:</b> Lois Jackson, Chair		
<b>Subject:</b> Animal Shelter		
<p><b><u>Recommendation:</u></b></p>		
<p>THAT: The Select Committee for Animal Welfare recommends that capital funding of \$400,000 set aside for Animal Shelter renovation be used towards the building of a new animal shelter.</p>		
<p><b><u>Background:</u></b></p>		
<p>The Select Committee for Animal Welfare appreciates Council recognition of concerns relating to the existing Animal Shelter facility on Burwell Road.</p>		
<p>Due to its age, design, and location, the Select Committee feels that money would be better spent on a new building, rather than to renovate the existing building.</p>		
<p>Some of the concerns the Committee has discussed include:</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to the location and onsite accessibility</li> <li>• Limitations on parking and outdoor space for animals</li> <li>• Size of indoor spaces and cages</li> <li>• Lack of quarantine area and place for showing animals to prospective adopters</li> </ul>		
<p>We would be pleased to have further discussion with Council and administration on a proposal to erect a new building in the future that is specifically designed to accommodate an animal shelter.</p>		
<p><b><u>Financial Impact:</u></b></p>		
<p>Additional funds would be required for construction of a new building and could include fundraising efforts.</p>		
<p>Respectfully,</p>		
		
<p>Lois Jackson, Chair, AWF</p>		
<p><b>Reviewed By:</b> _____</p>		