

REPORT
Regular Council Meeting
1988 December 12

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DOG CONTROL

HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR
AND ALDERMEN:

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DOG CONTROL

Recommendations:

1. "THAT the S.P.C.A. brochure regarding humane education and responsible pet ownership be REFERRED to staff, and that staff pursue the introduction of these materials into Burnaby schools with Burnaby School District No. 41.
2. THAT the F.I.D.O. School Education Program material regarding responsible pet ownership also be REFERRED to staff for presentation to Burnaby School District No. 41.
3. THAT Dr. Forsyth of Rosedale Veterinary Services be requested to pursue the preparation of a poster depicting responsible pet ownership with B.C. Veterinary Medical Association, F.I.D.O. and the S.P.C.A. for display throughout the municipality.
4. THAT articles on responsible pet ownership be included from time to time in Information Burnaby.
5. THAT the S.P.C.A. be requested to include information on responsible pet ownership and municipal bylaws relating to animal control and licencing in their biweekly community Cable 4 program.
6. THAT the Ad Hoc Committee on Dog Control encourage the Parks and Recreation Commission to be receptive to applications from various dog organizations and groups of owners who request permission to hold special dog events in a Burnaby park.
7. THAT Council be advised that the Ad Hoc Committee on Dog Control has reviewed its Terms of Reference and feels that it has completed its work and addressed the issues referred by Council on 1987 June 01; the Committee would be prepared to assist Council with any other issues relating to responsible pet ownership, should Council so desire.

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION:

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REPORT

A. BACKGROUND

Arising out of Council's consideration of off-leash areas for dogs and their decision "That the municipality proceed no further toward the creation of off-leash areas for dogs in Burnaby", Council on 1987 May 25 approved a motion to form the Ad Hoc Committee on Dog Control to study and report back on the following issues:

- . The problem of vicious dogs.
- . Public education and responsible pet ownership.
- . Recreation needs of responsible pet owners, excluding consideration of off-leash areas for dogs.

Council on 1987 June 01 appointed seven people to the Committee including a representative of Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission, the S.P.C.A., F.I.D.O., the B.C. Veterinary Medical Association, and two citizens. At that time Council also approved the following Terms of Reference for the Committee:

- . To define the degree to which the community needs and wants control of vicious dogs; and to propose a strategy for such control.
- . To outline specific education actions which could be undertaken to inform the public regarding responsible dog ownership and control, and to assign responsibility for such actions.
- . To define the recreational needs of dog owners and how those needs may be met within the general context of prevailing bylaws and legislation.

The Committee met seven times between 1987 July and 1988 November. The Committee reviewed the municipal report on animal control and licencing in Burnaby, which was referred to the Committee by Council on 1988 March 07.

The remainder of this report outlines how the Committee addressed each of the issues in the Terms of Reference.

B. CONTROL OF VICIOUS DOGS

The Committee discussed this issue at length, surveyed the regulations of a number of communities across North America, and concluded that Burnaby should introduce more control of vicious dogs.

The Committee then reviewed the vicious dog regulations prepared by staff and referred to the Committee by Council, as part of the municipal review on animal control. With the Committee's input, the staff report was revised to reflect the work of the Committee.

The Committee reported this to Council on 1988 October 17, when Council received and adopted the report entitled Review of Animal Control and Licencing in Burnaby.

C. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

The Committee discussed a wide variety of ways to educate people with regard to responsible pet ownership. This included consideration of information brochures, school programs, articles in local newspapers and Information Burnaby, television programs, mall displays and posters. The Committee concluded that a range of activities would be required and that the responsibility for these activities should be shared among organizations such as the S.P.C.A. and F.I.D.O., the B.C. Veterinary Medical Association, local dog breeders and clubs, the municipality and the Burnaby School District. At the Committee meeting on 1988 November 24, the Committee adopted motions to carry out the following actions:

1. THAT the S.P.C.A. brochure regarding humane education and responsible pet ownership be REFERRED to staff, and that staff pursue the introduction of these materials into Burnaby schools with Burnaby School District No. 41.
2. THAT the F.I.D.O. School Education Program material regarding responsible pet ownership also be REFERRED to staff for presentation to Burnaby School District No. 41.
3. THAT Dr. Forsyth of Rosedale Veterinary Services be requested to pursue the preparation of a poster depicting responsible pet ownership with B.C. Veterinary Medical Association, F.I.D.O. and the S.P.C.A. for display throughout the municipality.
4. THAT articles on responsible pet ownership be included from time to time in Information Burnaby.
5. THAT the S.P.C.A. be requested to include information on responsible pet ownership and municipal bylaws relating to animal control and licencing in their biweekly community Cable 4 program.

D. RECREATIONAL NEEDS OF RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERS

The Committee discussed this issue and agreed that the recreational needs of dogs and dog owners are important and that Burnaby should try to accommodate these needs within the context of prevailing bylaws and legislation.

The Committee felt that activities such as special show events, training classes and "dog hobby" activities which encourage the human animal bond should be encouraged.

The Committee acknowledged that it is currently possible to obtain permission from the Parks and Recreation Department to hold "special dog events". At the same time, it was felt that more ways of accommodating these activities should be explored.

The Committee concluded that this issue could best be handled by the Parks and Recreation Department under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission. As a result, the Committee on 1988 November 24 adopted the following motion:

6. THAT the Ad Hoc Committee on Dog Control encourage the Parks and Recreation Commission to be receptive to applications from various dog organizations and groups of owners who request permission to hold special dog events in a Burnaby park.

E. FINAL COMMENT

With the submission of this report, the Committee feels that it has completed its work and addressed the issues referred by Council in the original Terms of Reference. The Committee would be prepared to assist Council with any other issues relating to responsible pet ownership, should Council so desire.

The Committee on 1988 November 24 adopted the following motion:

- 7. THAT Council be advised that the Ad Hoc Committee on Dog Control has reviewed its Terms of Reference and feels that it has completed its work and addressed the issues referred from Council on 1987 June 01; the Committee would be prepared to assist Council with any other issues relating to responsible pet ownership, should Council so desire.

This report has been circulated to all Committee members for their review and approval prior to its submission to Council. It reflects the consensus of the Committee.

Respectfully submitted ✓

Alderman J. Young
CHAIRMAN

Doreen Lawson
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REP.

Garry Smith
S.P.C.A.

Frances Clarke
F.I.D.O.

Dr. Allen Forsyth
ROSEDALE VETERINARY SERVICES

Christine Crosato
CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE

Celeste Redman
CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVE