

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

Minutes of the **COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE** Meeting  
Monday, April 28, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.  
Central Saanich Municipal Council Chamber

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**PRESENT:** Councillor Zeb King, Chair  
Mayor Jack Mar, Councillors Bryson, Garrison, Mason, and Thompson  
Gary C. Nason, Administrator  
Sara C. Ribeiro, Municipal Clerk  
Hope V. Burns, Director of Planning & Building Services

**ABSENT:** Councillor Graham

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The Municipal Clerk, Sara C. Ribeiro, noted the addition of the following changes to the Agenda:

- Correspondence Pertaining to the Matter of Pet Spaying & Neutering to be included as New Item Nos. 1(a)iii) and 1(a)iv) respectively:
  - Editorial from the April 27, 2008, edition of the *Times Colonist* submitted by Ms. Val Boswell of 8120 West Saanich Road
  - E-mail from the Municipal Clerk outlining the District of North Saanich's recent action with respect to this matter

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

501.08            MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GARRISON  
                     NO SECONDER  
                     *That the Agenda for the Community & Protective Services Committee Meeting held on April 28, 2008, be approved as amended.*  
                     CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***Due to a potential conflict of interest, Councillor Bryson excused himself from the Council Chamber at 7:01 p.m. He stated that he is a practicing veterinarian whose caseload primarily involves the spaying and neutering of dogs and cats.***

**1. Correspondence received April 22, 2008, from the Spay / Neuter Action Committee  
Re: Pet Spaying & Neutering**

- a) Correspondence pertaining to the issue of Pet Spaying & Neutering previously received at the December 3, 2007, Regular Council Meeting:
  - i) D Thomas, 7237 Brentview Drive, November 24, 2007
  - ii) J&F Kennedy, 6372 West Saanich Road, November 28, 2007Correspondence pertaining to the issue of Pet Spaying & Neutering not previously received by Council:
  - iii) Editorial from the April 27, 2008, edition of the *Times Colonist* submitted by Ms. Val Boswell of 8120 West Saanich Road
  - iv) E-mail from the Municipal Clerk outlining the District of North Saanich's recent action with respect to this matter
- b) Correspondence dated March 11, 2008, from the Capital Regional District Bylaw Services Re: Spay / Neuter Action Committee

The Administrator, Gary C. Nason, introduced this item, noting letters had been previously received by Council and the receipt of recent correspondence from the Spay / Neuter Action Committee.

Ms. Val Boswell, 8120 West Saanich Road, overviewed the function of the Spay / Neuter Action Committee and the purpose of the proposed cat spay / neuter regulations. She overviewed local statistics of cat attacks on birds and the abandonment of cats as a crisis in Victoria. She noted any potential bylaw should exclude registered cat breeders. She referred to North Saanich's recent decision and initiative and provided a synopsis of which municipalities have received their presentation.

Ms. Daleen Thomas, 7237 Brentview Drive, spoke to her correspondence. She advised programs available to the public are not easily accessible to the public for cat spaying / neutering. She overviewed potential options, including a warning followed by a fine, and a possible feral cat program. She urges more creative thinking on this issue.

Ms. Aileen Thompson, 1319 Bond Street, spoke as a member of the Spay / Neuter Action Committee. She spoke to the need for responsible owners; however, the aim is to reduce the number of domestic cats becoming feral. She noted this action is not to eliminate cats.

Ms. John Creviston, 866 Verdier Avenue, spoke as the Administrator of Wild Arc. He overviewed his experience working with animals, noting the increase in cat abandonment, the number of unwanted cats, and responsible owners. He spoke in support of a bylaw to mandate spaying / neutering of cats.

A brief discussion occurred between the Committee.

502.08            MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON  
                      NO SECONDER  
                      *That it be recommended to Council:*

*That the presentation materials from the Spay / Neuter Action Committee pertaining to a proposal for a Spay / Neuter Bylaw for Greater Victoria be received, and:*

- 1. The District of Central Saanich initiate a public awareness program regarding the benefits of spaying and neutering cats;*
- 2. A letter be sent to the Capital Regional District (CRD) in support of the CRD's petition to the Province for additional power for authority to control cats;*
- 3. The District of Central Saanich implement mandatory spay and neuter regulations for cats only; and,*
- 4. The correspondence, background materials, and Council Resolution pertaining to this matter be forwarded to the Tsawout and Tsartlip First Nations, and to the Districts of North Saanich and Saanich for information and further consideration.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*On motion, the Community & Protective Services Committee Meeting held on April 28, 2008, adjourned at 7:30 p.m.*

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Councillor Zeb King  
Chair

Recorded By: Sara C. Ribeiro  
Municipal Clerk