



Hamilton

MINUTES

Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee

Tuesday, June 21, 2011

5:00 p.m.

Room CH264, 2nd Floor

City Hall

71 Main Street West, Hamilton

Present: Chair: (To be determined)
Vice-Chair: (To be determined)
Members: Alex Fiorello, Fan Yang, Meg Chalmers, Alexander Ramirez, Fabian Ahmed, Lauren Hansen, Natascha Del Prete, Jessika Del Prete Julie Ling Ma, Mikayla Zolis

Absent with Regrets: Zil Nasir, Mohammad Nasir, Bryan Padilla, Tina Huynh, Michelle Leach, Karen Trinh, Michael Pratas Jennifer Little, Don Mahleka, David Boruch

Also Present: Councillor Jackson, René Reid, Mark Weingartner, Ahmad Ahmad

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

- (i) Under item 4.1 the topic of bus tickets was added
- (ii) All other agenda items moved down accordingly
- (iii) Item 4.4 Special Guest

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were made

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.1 No revisions to the May minutes were required by those in attendance. Minutes were not approved as there was not quorum.

4. PRESENTATIONS

- 4.1 Bus Tickets - René added a reminder about the availability of bus tickets for those who do not have a bus pass
- 4.2 Ice breaker – Everyone went around the table and

introduced themselves as there were a few new faces. René put the names of those in attendance onto a slip of paper. Names were drawn at random and those called had to give a fun fact about themselves and then were invited to select an example promo item as a prize.

- 4.3 Hamilton Youth Engagement Proposal – Alex Ramirez discussed with the committee some of the logistics of implementing this initiative. Basically, the concept of this initiative is to engage with other youth and to formalize the relationships and networks among youth groups and youth in general in the community. Alex outlined a few ideas to get the ball rolling including direct interaction-based activities such as being out in the community meeting informally with other youth, conducting tours of places such as McMaster. Alex also emphasized the need to empower young people by helping them to hone their leadership and advocacy skills to effectively bring about positive change in their communities. Ultimately, the goal is to collectively draft a formal policy recommendation report to council. Alex sees this venture as being a collaboration between Mac, HYAC and the Jamesville youth group. Several possible meeting dates have been suggested and those interested in working more closely on this project with Alex are encouraged to contact him for further information.
- 4.4 Greetings and welcome to the committee from Councillor Jackson

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 5.1 Review & discussion about issues as identified in the application summary. Committee members identified the need and importance of peer-to-peer communication. Committee members also discussed the need for resources to ensure future success for youth entering into the post secondary years.
- 5.2 Review & discussion about issues and possible future focus: Youth Consultation Policy, Poverty, after school educational/recreational programs, transportation/accessibility & service improvement, Youth Stereotyping, group events/publicity (website launch, raising HYAC's profile), collaborative opportunities (The Globe, other youth groups etc.), (15 minutes) - Discussion touched on a variety of topics with Councillor Jackson offering some great examples from the Seniors Advisory Committee. Committee members agreed on the need to clearly define our resources and to funnel our resources appropriately so they are more effectively utilized once the committee's objectives are identified. What are HYAC's Objectives? Committee members agreed this needs more thought and that this item needs to be the focus of the next meeting. René suggested committee members consider National Youth Week (May 1-7) as a means to encompass a variety of objectives such as collaborations with other youth groups, raising HYAC's profile and the profile of youth in the community. A proclamation of Youth Week could be investigated and would involve the entire community.

- 5.3 HYAC Terms of Reference (5-10 minutes) – Brief discussion; several of the youth identified they liked the new draft. All agreed they would like another month to review it.
- 5.4 HYAC roles (Chair & Vice Chair or Co-Chairs, Webmaster, Visual Media Coordinator etc.) – discussed having a Chair and a Vice Chair vs. Co-Chairs. Fan and Fabian have expressed an interest in the Co-Chair positions. The other positions are still under review and deferred until next month.
- 5.5 HYAC Elections – deferred, did not have quorum
- 5.6 Website (Content, Youth Photos & Bios, Resources etc.) – Everyone was reminded to get their bios and pics into René.
- 5.7 HYAC Gear – deferred, dependant on objectives of committee
- 5.8 HYAC Group Norms – discussion about official name and the creation of a poster

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

- 6.1 Summer Magical Mystery Tours – René shared her idea to look into renting a bus so committee members could tour Hamilton to learn more about what their community has to offer and to assist with future objective planning. Committee members who were present were all very enthusiastic about this idea.
- 6.2 Meeting Evaluation and Feedback

7. ADJOURNMENT

(Reid/Weingartner)

That, there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 7p.m.