



# Hamilton

## **MINUTES**

Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

5:00 p.m.

Room CH264, 2nd Floor

City Hall

71 Main Street West, Hamilton

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**Present:** Chair: (To be determined)  
Vice-Chair: (To be determined)  
Members: Alex Fiorello, Alexander Ramirez, Lauren Hansen,  
Michael Pratas

**Absent with Regrets:**

René Reid, Councillor Jackson, Fan Yang, Michelle Leach, Julie Ling Ma, Mikayla Zolis, Zil Nasir, Mohammad Nasir, Meg Chalmers, Don Mahleka, Fabian Ahmed, Natascha Del Prete, Jessika Del Prete, David Boruch

**Also Present:** Mark Weingartner, Samantha M.

**1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

The order of items 5.5 and 5.6 was changed so that item 5.5 became the last item.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were made

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes from previous meetings were not approved as quorum was not achieved.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

4.1 Introductions were made.

- 4.2 Ice breaker consisted of each person updating the group as to what they did during the summer and what school/year they were in as of Sept.

**5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 5.1 Volunteer Committee Procedures and Handbook/Robert's Rules – the abbreviated Robert's Rules were reviewed however without quorum the item was deferred. There were not outstanding questions.

The "Acknowledgement" sent by the City's Clerks Div. was distributed and discussed. HYAC members present at the meeting signed the form and returned it to Mark.

- 5.2 Item 5.2, HYAC terms of reference, committee member roles and election of Co-chairs, was deferred.

- 5.3 Youth in Motion Tour feedback provided by Lauren and Mark. More formal feedback from the survey/evaluation will be provided by René at the next meeting.

- 5.4 Unfiltered Facts Summit will take place on November 8 at Mohawk College and there is an opportunity for up to 10 HYAC members to attend. Most members at the meeting were interested. Additional information from Public Health will be provided to HYAC members once it has been received.

- 5.5 A discussion took place around HYAC sponsoring/hosting National Youth Week in Hamilton – May 1 – 7, 2012. The group was very interested and discussed some possible activities, some of the logistics around inviting youth and youth serving organizations in Hamilton to participate and hold events, the need to develop a timeline, a communication strategy, etc. The group agreed to look at National Youth Week in other communities and bring ideas back to the Oct. HYAC meeting for further discussion. Mark will send out a PDF of Thunder Bay's 2011 Youth Week flyer for the group to view as an example of what others have done. The group also agreed that it was important to start work on this as soon as possible.

- 5.6 Mark facilitated a discussion and asked a few questions regarding the group's thoughts on youth engagement and consultation. A summary of the group's discussion/feedback is included in an appendix to the minutes.

**6 GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS**

- 6.1 Meeting Evaluation and Feedback was not completed as several members had to leave to catch busses home.

- 6.2 Bus tickets were distributed to those members that required them.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Appendix  
Youth Engagement / Consultation

Question: How do you want to be engaged / consulted?

- I want someone to listen
- It should be more than asking “What do you want?” It should be “What do you think the solutions should be?”
  - Instead of just getting info from youth, you need to provide them with opportunities to act on those solutions
- Respectfully
- Youth leading youth in consultation
- Youth involved in developing something from the start not just asking them about it after the fact
- Youth learning and then mentoring other youth
- Being part of the planning process
  - Youth led
- An environment that’s inclusive, comfortable& friendly
  - Can’t be intimidating
  - Have food
  - Avoid figures of authority – its intimidating
  - More of a peer to peer situation
  - A relaxed atmosphere – not all formal and serious, some jokes
- Encouraging people to contribute, facilitating the conversations, asking for clarification, finding ways for those who normally don’t contribute to contribute.
- People express themselves differently. A variety of methods for engagement / consultation – small groups, individually, multimedia, art, etc.