



Hamilton

MINUTES: **Status of Women Committee**
Thursday, October 27, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.
Room 222, Hamilton City Hall

PRESENT: Adele Alfano, Denise Doyle, Amirah Hassan, Catherine Hughes,
Myra James, Heather Judson, Patti McNaney, Catherine Pead,
Michelle Poirier, Uzma Qureshi, Denise Spoelstra,
Basharat Tayyab, Baldeep Virk

REGRETS: Councillor Brenda Johnson

ALSO PRESENT: Maxine Carter, City of Hamilton

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Committee members were welcomed.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

3. DELEGATION

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(A. Alfano/M. James)

That the minutes from the September 22, 2011 meeting of the Status of Women Committee be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

6.1 Persons Day Breakfast - Update

Amirah provided an update on the Persons Day Breakfast. Approximately 170 people were in attendance with a good representation by the Status of Women Committee members (one full table). Myra commented that the play was very well done and the breakfast was a good opportunity to engage young women. Adele's books were picked up and the City for all Women document was well received.

6.2 Draft Guidelines for Absenteeism

Uzma distributed a draft guideline for absenteeism for discussion.

(U. Qureshi/M. James)

That the Guideline for Absenteeism developed for the Status of Women Committee be accepted as written.

CARRIED

6.3 SWC Workplan

Committee members discussed the draft workplan which included funding allocated to each of the priorities for 2011. The members agreed to form 2 subcommittees to tackle workplan priorities.

Group 1 – Focus Outreach and Communications

Ideas discussed included the following:

- Wordpress can be used for Status of Women Committee website
- development of a Facebook page, revised brochure, update website
- Maxine offered the use of her web student who is in 2 days per week

Group agreed that they would meet prior to the next scheduled meeting to develop a plan.

The volunteers for Group 1 are Adele Alfano, Denise Doyle, Heather Judson, Uzma Qureshi, Catherine Pead and Baldeep Virk.

Group 2 – Survey

Ideas discussed included the following:

- discussion on types of questions and issues that should be focussed on
- Patti agreed to review previous survey conducted and share questions and responses with the group
- survey should be made available to as many women as possible.
Accessibility is very important to ensure greater participation.

The volunteers for Group 2 are Denise Spoelstra, Myra James, Patti McNaney, Michelle Poirier, Amirah Hassan, Basharat Tayyab and Catherine Hughes.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Resignations

The resignations of Liliana Cardona and Shirley Molinaro were received by the committee.

7.2 Muslim Women's Association Holiday Event

Basharat presented her proposal for SWC to partner with the Muslim Women's Association of Hamilton Event to celebrate Holidays on December 9, 2011, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Church, 701 Main Street East.

(C. Pead/M. James)

That the Status of Women Committee partner with the Muslim Women's Association of Hamilton in the amount of \$500.00. Members of the Status of Women Committee will attend the event to do outreach. **CARRIED**

Basharat advised that the contribution from the Status of Women Committee will be used for refreshments and will submit her receipts as she did last year.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 Maxine will email the flyer for the November 26, 2011 Immigrant & Refugee Advisory Committee Open House for Newcomers event.

8.2 Women of Distinction Awards evening will be held on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at Liuna Station.

9. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the committee adjourned.