

6.2 Survey Update

Michelle Poirier reported that she has been granted permission to have two Social Work, or Gender Studies McMaster students to assist the committee with the collating of the data from the surveys and to help write the report for the committee.

Michelle Poirier is not certain that the students will start before the summer. She will update at the next meeting.

Uzma Qureshi noted that she will draft a short description about the survey and will have the link to the survey posted on Cable 14.

6.3 Focus Outreach & Communications Update

No update as Denise Doyle, Chair of this committee is absent.

Maxine Carter sent out the shorter link to all members including the committee's new email address.

6.4 Letter to Members of Council Regarding Budget Deliberations

Cathie Pead edited the letter at the request of members to the Mayor and Council regarding the budget deliberations and process.

Other suggestions from members included:

- Suggestions to have stats on women such as homeless women – although it was felt that the stats will come at a later stage.
- Invite the Mayor and Council to a workshop in early fall to learn more about what a gender lens is and how to use it when reviewing the budget submissions.
- Members felt that they need to know more about the budget process and how it is put together before venturing too far along.
- Patty McNaney will try to find out who the speakers were that presented at a budget workshop in the past.

(Catherine Hughes/Catherine Pead)

That staff invite the City Manager, Chris Murray, and Corporate Services General Manager in charge of budgets, Robert Rossini, to the June or July meeting of the Status of Women Committee to deliver a presentation regarding how the yearly budget is developed and to provide an overview of the new strategic plan including how the two are linked.

CARRIED.

(Catherine Pead / Uzma Queshi)

That the letter regarding the Budget Deliberations Process addressed to the Mayor and Council be forwarded to them as soon as possible once it is signed by the Chair or a designate.

CARRIED.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 No new business this month.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 Citizen Appointments to Volunteer Advisory Committees

M. Carter informed the committee that the Clerks Division has sent out recruitment information to the public advising of the vacancies on a number of committees that City Council wishes to fill. The appointments will be for the balance of the 4 year term which will come to an end at the end of 2014.

8.2 Summer Meetings

Committee will make this decision at the June 2012 meeting after we receive a response from the City Managers Office regarding the budget deliberation presentation.

8.3 Walk a Mile in Her Shoes

The Hamilton YWCA will be hosting this event which brings together concerned men, women and families who will step into red high heels to show support for and bring attention to the issues of violence and poverty that affect the lives of women.

8.4 Free Dinner at The Downstairs Kitchen

There will be a dinner held at St. Giles Church at the Downstairs Kitchen 85 Holton St. South at Main Street on Wednesday May 30, 2012 at 6 p.m. The dinner is held the last Wednesday of each month. All are welcome.

8.5 Jason Kenney's Cuts to the Interim Federal Health Program

Katherine Kalinowski wanted members to be aware that this slashing will take effect July 1, 2012. "This represents a clear and present danger to the health and well-being of refugees living with HIV and viral Hepatitis...they can only access health care if they pose as public health risks..."

9. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 28, 2012
5:30 p.m. – Room 193, City Hall