



Hamilton

- MINUTES -
COMMITTEE AGAINST RACISM
Tuesday May 28, 2013, 6:30 p.m.
City Hall, 71 Main Street West - Room 192

Present: Jovaune Rhodes, Winston Morrison, Nerene Virgin, Tyrone Childs, Marlene Dei-Amoah, Maher Nachwati, Amirah Hassan, Ashok Kumar
Also Present: Maxine Carter, Karima Yacoub, Jennifer Mak - City of Hamilton's Access & Equity Office, City Councillor Brian McHattie
Regrets: Yim Chung, Zafar Siddiqui, Taimur Qasim (on leave), Baldeep Virk, Jessica Brennan, Tanja Roglic (HWDSB)
Absent: Roger Cameron
Guest: David Brodati - Housing and Homelessness Action Plan
Chair: Jovaune Rhodes, Vice-Chair

1. Welcome and Introductions.

All were welcomed.

2. Declaration of Interest.

None declared.

3. Review and Approval of Agenda.

A. Kumar/W. Morrison

To accept the agenda, as presented.

CARRIED.

4. Approval of Minutes.

4.1 April 23, 2013

N. Virgin/M. Dei-Amoah

That the minutes of April 23, 2013 be approved, as presented.

CARRIED.

5. Matters Arising From Minutes.

J. Brennan followed-up with Superintendent Stephanian, regarding the HWDSB Black History Committee that had been disbanded. The Superintendent informed M. Carter that the committee had not dissolved and that the committee was on a sabbatical, until a new Chair is found, who will lead the group. Superintendent Stephanian assured M. Carter that she will be striking a new committee, within the next few months and plans to invite some of the past, members, some of whom are also sitting at the CAR table (T. Childs, N. Virgin).

6. Presentations -

6.1 David Brodati – Housing and Homelessness Action Plan.

- o John Felice was not available to attend.

- D. Brodati provided an update on the Ten-year Housing and Homelessness Plan and distributed a report based on the first phase of the plan entitled “What we Heard...Talking to People about Housing and Homelessness in Hamilton”. He discussed how the Committee’s feedback has been incorporated into the strategic component of the plan. D. Brodati explained that the City of Hamilton is addressing housing and homelessness because it is required to do so by the Province of Ontario. There is a need, in the community, for housing and, in order to plan for the long-term, it must be done in a coordinated and effective way.
- There are two phases to the plan:
 - 1) Strategic planning phase (approved by Council in 2012) which includes core values, five outcome areas and 54 strategies and 2) Implementation framework (will go to Council in the fall of 2013).
- Two dozen community roundtable sessions were completed, which included individuals from the Aboriginal, African and South and East Asian communities. The roundtable sessions identified that discrimination is a reality in racialized communities and, as a result, the needs of different groups should be considered in the planning process.

Questions and Answers

Q. How does the project fit into provincial and federal funding mandates?

A. D. Brodati will get back to the Committee with this answer.

Q. How large was the sample size of the survey?

A. There were two types of research methods used: 1) A general public survey that was sent to recreation centres, as well as the Riverdale Community Centre, in which 214 respondents completed the survey and; 2) Twenty-four community roundtable sessions were held, in which 169 individuals participated. The “What we Heard...Talking to People about Housing and Homelessness in Hamilton” report discusses the results of the roundtable sessions and serves as a way to involve community members in the planning process and, as a template for future planning.

There is also an equity section in the plan, which addresses implementation-related issues resulting from race, gender, newcomer status, etc. Moreover, the work plan involves approaching implementation using an equity lens, e.g. anti-racism and anti-oppression. The plan will be presented to Council in the fall; David will notify the Committee of the date.

Q. Is the equity section found in the implementation strategy?

A. This is in the draft.

Q. Is private sector funding included in the plan?

A. Private sector funding was identified as playing an important role in the plan in terms of working together in a partnership.

Q. How are the 54 strategies whittled down into the Critical Strategies?

A. Targets were established, in order to screen the Critical Investment Strategies.

Q. Depending on where you sit on the equity lens, different individuals may have different ideas of what critical means. How does this affect the Critical Investment Strategies?

A. There is an equity-based analysis for each Critical Investment Strategy.

Q. What is the size of your team?

A. There are two of us working on the plan and we are supported by the management team.

T. Childs/W. Morrison

That D. Brodati's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan presentation be accepted, as presented.

CARRIED.

7. Business Items:

Work Plan Reports.

7.1 Report from the Chair.

The Chair did not have a report for the May meeting.

7.2 Sub-committee I – Education, Training, Resource Centre Project.

Members include: J. Rhodes, W. Morrison, T. Childs, A. Hassan, Y. Chung and B. Virk.

Report Back on the Black History Event:

- J. Rhodes commented that the Black History event went really well. However, he would have like to have seen more involvement from Committee members, as only three members participated.
- The Committee needs to evaluate the value of hosting the Black History Event or perhaps hosting another type of event. One option could be for the Committee to continue hosting the Friday portion of the event, with the school students but have another community organization organize the Saturday portion of the event.
- The Sub-committee will discuss these and other ideas at their next meeting.

- K. Yacoub is the Access and Equity intern/co-op student from the University of Toronto, who will be assisting with the completion of the Anti-racism Resource Centre research study and summarizing the various reports. This report will be ready for fall 2013. Sub-committee I will continue to work with K. Yacoub.

T. Childs/W. Morrison

That the report of the Education, Training, and Resource Centre Project Committee be accepted, as presented.

CARRIED.

7.3 Sub-committee II – Awareness Raising, Participatory Democracy, Community Outreach & A/R Policies and Racist Incidents' Report & Follow-up.

Members Include: J. Brennan, Z. Siddiqui, M. Nachwati, A. Kumar, N. Virgin and Marlene Dei-Amoah.

- Sub-committee II has been preparing for the meetings with the mosques. As a starting point, Sub-committee II will meet with the Board Executives of the mosques, to discuss their objectives for the meetings.
- N. Virgin informed the Committee that Robert Junor has dropped the complaint against Constable Jaimi Bannon but is still continuing with his lawsuit against the Hamilton Police Services Board. The Bernie Miller case is on hold for now.

A Hassan/M. Dei-Amoah

That the report of Sub-committee II be accepted, as presented.

CARRIED.

7.4 Follow-up HPS Hate Crimes Report.

M. Carter reported that she has not heard back from Sgt. Nancy Lantz, regarding the invitation for her to attend a CAR meeting, to discuss the 2012 Hate Crimes Report. Councillor McHattie asked M. Carter to include him in the follow-up e-mail to Sgt. Nancy Lantz.

7.5 Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination (CMARD) - City of Hamilton Membership - Next Steps.

Tabled.

8. New Business.

8.1. Matapa Music & Arts Organization.

Matapa Music and Arts Organization is a non-profit organization that aims to build international networks between musicians and artists, to strengthen the local arts infrastructures in Canada and the global South. On June 7 at the Workers Arts and Heritage Centre, Matapa is presenting "A Queer Cabaret", an event celebrating the art work of queer people of colour. Matapa approached the Committee for partnership or sponsorship in support of the event. The Committee agreed to purchase an ad for \$100.00 and has encouraged members to attend the event by

purchasing tickets at \$10.00 each. M. Dei-Amoah and A. Kumar will attend the event.

A. Kumar/M. Dei-Amoah

That the committee purchase an advertisement for the Matapa event that must not exceed \$100.

CARRIED.

A. Kumar suggested that this group apply for Trillium funding before July 1, 2013.

9. Information Sharing.

9.1 Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship

Citizenship and Immigration Canada has an annual award, called the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship. This medal is awarded to citizens who have made exceptional long-term efforts contributing to community life. The nomination deadline is July 17.

9.2 Pride Flag-Raising Event.

The City of Hamilton's LGBTQ Advisory Committee is hosting a Pride Flag-Raising event on June 10, at City Hall. M. Carter will send the Committee members the event flyer.

9.3 National Aboriginal Month

June 10, 2013 at 9:00 am: The Eagle Feather presentation to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee and certificates of appreciation to Aboriginal agencies will be held at the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee meeting.

June 12: Aboriginal Opening scheduled at the Council meeting beginning at 5 p.m.

10. Next Meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2013.

11. Adjournment.

A. Kumar/T. Childs

That the meeting be adjourned, at 8:25 p.m.

CARRIED.