



Hamilton

## **MINUTES**

Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee

Tuesday May 21, 2013.

**5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Lister Block Building, 28 James Street North, Basement Meeting Room.**

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<b>Present:</b>	Co-Chairs: Nashwa Khan
	Members: Marten Kaas, Jackson Virgin-Holland, Fan Yang, Ahmad Ahmad, Alex Fiorello, Camilo Sanchez Galindo, Daniel Sanchez Galindo, Nicole Lachapelle, Lauren Hansen
<b>Absent with Regrets:</b>	Councillor Jackson, Alexandra da Silva, Fiorella Villanueva-Heldmaier, Michael Pratas, Mikayla Zolis, Don Mahleka, Becky Schmor, Joselin Marccio, Lauren Hicks
<b>Also Present:</b>	René Reid, Mark Weingartner, Kathleen Drennan-Scace

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**COMMITTEE SECRETARY/MINUTE TAKER & TIMEKEEPER/MANAGER – Ahmad**

- 1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA** – Addition of Pathways to Education Year End Celebration. All other agenda items moved down accordingly.
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** – Deferred. Quorum was not maintained.
- 4. PRESENTATIONS**
  - 4.1** Kathleen Drennan-Scace, Youth Librarian, Hamilton Public Library
    - Kat explained that the library is 'more than just books' and the HPL offers a wealth of resources, multimedia, online resources, computers, wi-fi, programs & stuff to do, opportunities to obtain volunteer hours, a teen advisory group, expertise in info and technologies etc.
    - Kat also provided a brief tour of the HPL website and highlighted several areas of interest to the group such as the tab for teens

- Kat asked the members of HYAC to consult about several specific questions to which HYAC members provided their feedback:

**Why don't you use the library?**

- Not enough space (to do homework, to just read, work on projects with other people)
- Too many little kids running around
- Too much time scheduled at computers (other people playing online games and logging on by another person's name when their time expires)
- No programs at smaller branches
- Better promotion of all the new or cool stuff going on at the HPL and on website

**I wish the library....**

- Had extended hours, open late into the evening, holidays etc.
- Had less scary librarians, better customer service
- Comfortable seating, recliners
- More and varied furniture
- Furniture with a more cleanable surface
- Charging stations for electronics
- More integration between school boards @ high school level
- Meet the author and book signings
- Training on what the library has and how to get it

**I'm glad the library...**

- Has Wi-Fi
- Variety

- Kat left information/applications about the Teen Advisory Group and library happenings
- Kat can be contacted at [kdrennan@hpl.ca](mailto:kdrennan@hpl.ca) for more information or further comment

**5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**5.1 Community Event:** René shared with the committee an invitation from Pathways to Education (P2E), an opportunity to participate in the P2E Year End Celebration taking place June 13, 5-7pm at the North Hamilton Community Health Centre @ 438 Hughson St. North. This event is an opportunity to network and share info about HYAC and youth in the community. Free BBQ. Nashwa also mentioned an invite to the Supercrawl in September. René tossed around some ideas for members to consider for an 'activity' at the HYAC booth @ P2E. Nothing confirmed at this point.

**5.2 Youth Week Hamilton Debrief**

- **Highlights:** Collaborations was cited consistently as a highlight of youth week. Additionally, having both an 'Opening' and a 'Closing', the socially conscience aspects of the week (having Wes Prankard of Northern Starfish speak at the opening, having C3 hire 3 street-involved youth to learn how to print our Youth Week Hamilton T-shirts), the amazing Hammer and Poetry Slam
- **Learning opportunities & key considerations for next year:**
  - More collaboration!
  - Weekend vs. Weekday –seems like weekday more popular choice
  - More posters in schools/need to have the school boards as partners
  - Need more people power for specific tasks usually done by individuals
  - T-shirts- need to distinguish ourselves from the rest of the public (HYAC should be a different colour than that of the public)
  - Media training
  - Better & consistent communication strategy by members for members
  - Rethink our opening/launch
  - Have stage rehearsals or run-throughs for speakers
  - No last minute changes to the agenda the day of the event
  - D.J. must visit site to ensure they have the necessary equipment
- **Youth Week Hamilton Survey Results:** Youth who attended the launch, as well as, youth from the Living Rock, Notre Dame House and a local arts group were asked to complete this voluntary and anonymous survey. Please refer to appendix for complete results.
- **Youth Week Hamilton 2014:** All agreed on taking into consideration the key learning opportunities from this year and seeking additional support. In depth discussion deferred.

#### **5.3 Subcommittee Updates:**

- **Youth Friendly Spaces Report sub-committee update:** Deferred
- **Youth Transit sub-committee Report update and survey:** Deferred

### **6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS**

- Those needing bus tickets, please see René

### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

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