



**MINUTES:           Status of Women Committee**  
**Wednesday, March 25, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Room 193, Hamilton City Hall**

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**PRESENT:**       Myra James, Baldeep Virk, Denise Spoelstra, Basharat Tayyab,  
Denise Doyle, Katherine Kalinowski,

**REGRETS:**       Patti McNaney, Jeannie Howe, Catherine Hughes, Adele Alfano  
(leave of absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:**   Maxine Carter, City of Hamilton

**1.    WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS.**

All were welcomed.

**2.    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

None declared.

**3.    APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

The agenda was reviewed

Under New Business item 7.4 Resignation of Amirah Hassan and Item 7.5  
Up for Debate discussion

**(M. James/B. Virk)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee approves the  
agenda, of the March 25, 2015 meeting, as amended.

**CARRIED.**

**4.    APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

**4.1   Minutes of November 27, 2014.**

Item 7.4 Baldeep Birk – Business Achievement Award needs to be  
corrected to Baldeep Virk – Business Achievement Award.

Item 7.5 Myra James – Museum of Human Rights, in Winnipeg.  
Correct sentence should state, “Myra James attended a conference  
entitled, “International Association of Women Police” in Winnipeg,  
Manitoba. Remove Museum of Human Rights from the title. Replace with  
“Myra visited the museum of Human Rights.”

**(B. Virk/D. Spoelstra)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee minutes of November 27, 2014 meeting, be approved as amended.

**CARRIED.**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES.**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

**6. BUSINESS/DISCUSSION.**

**6.1 2014 Work Plan.**

This item tabled to the April 2015 meeting.

**6.2 Child Minding for Members**

This item tabled to the April 2015 meeting.

**6.3 Re-establishment of Volunteer Advisory Committees next steps.**

J. Pilon, Deputy Clerk will attend the April 23, 2015 meeting for consultation with the committee.

**7. NEW BUSINESS.**

**7.1 2015 Business Plan Budget Submission.**

The Committee reviewed the 2015 Business Plan Budget submission document.

**(M. James/B. Tayyab)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee approves the 2015 Business Plan Budget Submission, in the amount of \$3,500, as presented.

**CARRIED.**

**7.2 International Women's Day Invoice.**

Committee members discussed the International Women's Day event that occurred on March 8<sup>th</sup> at City Hall. The committee supports this event each year. An invoice for their contribution towards the event was tabled.

**(D. Doyle/B. Virk)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee approve \$500 for the International Women's Day celebration, that was held at City Hall, on March 8, 2015, to go towards the cost of food for the event.

**CARRIED.**

**7.3 Annual Women of Distinction Awards Dinner.**

A letter of request for partnering with the YWCA Hamilton Women of Distinction Awards dinner was tabled for consideration. D. Doyle declared a conflict of interest and left the room.

**(B. Tayyab/M. James)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee partner with the YWCA Hamilton Annual Women of Distinction Awards dinner that will be held on April 16, 2015, by purchasing an ad in the amount of \$500.00.

**CARRIED.**

**(B. Virk/B. Tayyab)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee approve the purchase of up to 10 tickets, for committee members to attend the annual Women of Distinction Awards dinner, scheduled to be held on April 16, 2015.

**CARRIED.**

The members who wish to attend the Women of Distinction Awards dinner are to confirm their participation with M. Carter.

**7.4 Resignation of Amirah Hassan.**

Amirah Hassan tendered her resignation from the Hamilton Status of Women Committee by email. She noted that her schedule had changed and made it difficult for her to attend meetings regularly.

**(K. Kalinowski/B. Tayyab)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee accepts the resignation of Amirah Hassan, and thank her for her work and support of the Hamilton Status of Women Committee, throughout the term.

**CARRIED.**

**7.5 Up For Debate.**

- D. Doyle provided an overview of the "Up for Debate" program. Communities are holding up for debate events across the Province.
- Status of Women Committee is interested in hosting one such event on May 27/15.
- The event will include activists from women's organizations.
- The committee can partner with women's organizations
- One idea is to host a Conversation Café and have facilitators manage the discussions, such as the facilitators from the IWC – Women of Action Program.
- We can focus the discussion around the issues that are relevant to us, as the Status of Women Committee
- Budget, would be approximately \$2,500 for this event.
- The event can be held at the Public Library, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor.
- One idea put forward is to use a visual narrator.

- Relevant issues to be discussed: Living Wage, Equal Pay for Equal Work, Child Care.
- The City of Hamilton already has the neighbourhood initiatives in place – perhaps we can use these defined areas
- SPRC has their Leadership Institute where we can find grassroots women who may be interested in participating in the Conversation Cafés.
- Include grassroots women to help with planning

**(B. Virk/M. James)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee approve \$2,500.00, for the Up For Debate event, to be held on May 27, 2015.

**CARRIED.**

**(D. Doyle/M. James)**

That the Hamilton Status of Women Advisory Committee request \$2,800.00 from our reserve account, to cover costs for the Up For Debate event, to be held on May 27, 2015.

**CARRIED.**

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION SHARING.**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

**NEXT MEETING**  
**Wednesday, April 23, 2015**  
**5:30 p.m. – Room 193, City Hall**