



Hamilton

- MINUTES -
COMMITTEE AGAINST RACISM
Tuesday, March 24, 2015, 6:30 p.m.
City Hall, 71 Main Street West, Room 192

Present: Jovaune Rhodes, Roger Cameron, Baldeep Virk, Taimur Qasim, Marlene Dei-Amoah, Jessica Brennan, Tyrone Childs, Winston Morrison, Zafar Siddiqui

Also Present: Maxine Carter, Cindy Mercanti, May-Marie Duwai-Sowa, and Jennifer Mak - City of Hamilton's Access & Equity Office

Regrets: Yim Chung, Maher Nachwati, Amirah Hassan, Ashok Kumar, Nerene Virgin

Absent:

Chair: Jovaune Rhodes

1. Welcome and Introductions.

- All were welcomed.

2. Declaration of Interest.

None declared.

3. Review and Approval of Agenda.

W. Morrison/T. Childs

That the Committee Against Racism's agenda, for March 24, 2015, be accepted, as presented

CARRIED.

4. Presentations.

- 4.1** Discussion re: Review of City Volunteer Advisory Committees - Janet Pilon, Manager, Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk; Mark Weingartner, Senior Policy Analyst, Neighbourhood and Community Initiatives.
- M. Carter provided a background to the presentation, informing the Committee that Janet Pilon and Mark Weingartner were conducting consultations, as per Council's directions (September 2014 report, regarding the re-establishment of volunteer advisory committees.)
 - Janet and Mark provided the committee with an overview of the consultation process, indicating that they will be meeting with all relevant volunteer advisory committees and staff, to conduct a review of best practices and prepare a report with recommendations, which will be presented to Council, in June of this year.

- The team expressed a commitment to try and bring the report back to the committee for feedback, but due to the stringent timeframe, this may not be possible. They will try to come up with a solution whereby the committee will get some information back regarding what input was given. The report will be available on the city's website on the Thursday or Friday, prior to the General Issues Committee meeting, in June and committee members can review the report at that time.
- The Committee thanked Janet and Mark for their time and efforts in conducting the consultation and preparing recommendations and a report.

5. Approval of Minutes.

5.1 January 27, 2015.

- Corrections to the minutes were made. For Item 6.3 Sub-Committee II, revise the ordering of sub-committee member names, so that it is consistent with Sub-Committee I.

Z. Siddiqui /M. Dei-Amoah

That the Committee Against Racism minutes of January 27, 2015 be approved, as amended.

CARRIED.

5.2. Business Arising from Minutes.

5.2.1. Audre Lorde Scholarship for Black LGBTQ Youth.

- J. Brennan presented the draft joint letter between the Committee Against Racism and the LGBTQ Advisory Committee, in support of the Audre Lorde Scholarship for Black LGBTQ Youth, to be sent to the John C. Holland Awards Committee.
- J. Brennan will forward the letter to M. Carter and the chair, R. Cameron will sign the letter and send it off to the John C. Holland Awards Committee.

6. Business Items:

Work Plan Reports.

6.1 Chair's Report.

- R. Cameron reported that he is planning on following up with the Chairs of the other equity-seeking volunteer advisory committees to discuss report recommendations on the re-establishment of volunteer advisory committees.
- R. Cameron is also working with Sub-committee I, to organize the Black History month event.

W. Morrison/T. Childs

That Committee Against Racism Chair's report, be approved, as presented by R. Cameron.

CARRIED.

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

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

6.2.1 Black History Month Event

- Sub-committee I met to plan the Black History Month event, at City Hall, on Friday, March 27, 2015. The event will be attended by students from downtown and area schools. The event will include two sessions; 10-11 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. There will be 3 presenters at both sessions - J. Rhodes, T. Childs and author Kayla Perrin.
- J. Rhodes will speak about his family background, T. Childs will talk about the civil rights struggles and Kayla Perrin will discuss her career achievements.
- Each session will include 3 questions, moderated by W. Morrison, with prizes for each correct answer, awarded to the students.
- All committee members were asked to attend the event.

6.2.2 Anti-Racism Resource Centre.

- R. Cameron will be following-up with J. Brennan, J. Rhodes and Professor Amil Joseph to discuss the next steps for the Anti-Racism Resource Centre. The committee members also indicated that they would like to meet with some Councillors, to provide additional information they may require about the Resource Centre.

6.2.3 Grants Review Update.

- This item was tabled to a future meeting.

W. Morrison/B. Virk

That Committee Against Racism's Sub-Committee I report be approved, as presented.

CARRIED.

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

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

- The Committee has not met since the last meeting.
- J. Brennan to follow-up with members, regarding pending tasks and the committee mandate.

W. Morrison/T. Childs

That Sub-Committee I report be approved, as presented.

CARRIED.

6.4 Hamilton Media Advisory Council.

- Tabled.

6.5 Hamilton Police Service Hate Crimes Unit

- Tabled.

6.6 Black History Event.

- The Black History Event will be hosted at City Hall on March 27, 2015
- Sub-Committee I provided event details in their report in 6.2

6.7 South Asian Heritage Month.

- The South Asian Heritage Association of Hamilton has confirmed that they will be hosting an event at City Hall in May and will be setting up an exhibit in City Hall.

7. New Business.

7.1 2015 Budget Submission.

- The 2015 Budget Submission was reviewed and discussed by the Committee.
- The Committee inquired about the total balance, in reserve, which was provided by M. Carter.
- J. Brennan requested that the committee consider reviewing the terms of reference prior to the end of term

J. Brennan/M. Dei-Amoah

That the 2015 budget submission, for the Committee Against Racism, in the amount of \$3,890.00, be approved, as presented

CARRIED.

8. Correspondence.

8.1 Pan-Am funding.

Staff reminded the committee that the Pan-Am funding information was e-mailed to committee members but to date she has not received any responses.

8.2 Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre – Community Truth Hearings.

- M. Carter informed the committee that an invitation was received from the Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre, inviting the committee to participate in a Community Truth Hearings, on March 31st (9:30 – 12 noon), April 9th (12 – 5 p.m.) and April 18th (9:30 a.m.).
- J. Rhodes and R. Cameron agreed to attend, on behalf of CAR.

J. Brennan/Z. Siddiqui

That the Chair and Vice Chair represent Committee Against Racism at the Hamilton Urban Core's Community Truth Hearing on March 31st and April 9th.

CARRIED.

9. Information Sharing.

- There was no information.

10. Next Meeting - April 28, 2015.

- The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 28, 2015.

11. Adjournment.

B. Virk/J. Brennan

That the Committee Against Racism meeting, of March 24, 2015, be adjourned, at 8:35 p.m.

CARRIED.