



Hamilton

Status of Women Committee
Thursday, June 22, 2017 5:30 p.m.
City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 193

Present: Denise Christopherson, Janice Lukas, Katie Hood, Laura Cattari, Micaela Corcoran, Donna Skelly, Miracle Chukwu, Zenaida Roque Cruz

Regrets: Doreen Ssenabulya, Yulena Wan.

Absent: Alexandra MacLean, Funmi Akiode, Katherine Kalinowski, Matthew Green, Marie Robbins, Aidan Johnson

Also Present: Nadia Olivieri, Human Rights, Diversity and Inclusion

Guests: Evelyn Myrie, Consultant Empower Strategy Group

Daniela Giulietti, Advocacy and Engagement Coordinator for YMCA

Co-Chairs: Laura Cattari and Micaela Corcoran

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairs welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None Declared

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Z. Roque Cruz /Miracle Chukwu)

That the Status of Women Committee agenda of June 22, 2017 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1. May 25, 2017

(J. Lukas /D. Christopherson)

That the minutes of the May 25, 2017 meeting of the Status of Women Committee be accepted as amended. (Event name corrected)

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5.1. Follow up consult with Evelyn Myrie

What added value is the tool kit?

The tool kit is an operationalization mechanism to reinforce policies and procedures already in place. It is required because proceeding with the most equitable and inclusive process is usually “personally” driven by the individual in charge of the process.

FEEDBACK PROVIDED TO EM

- Documentation as presented is too long and daunting, checklists are helpful but difficult to navigate, policy info should not be repeated, each checklist should be separated into specific tasks and the lens associated to the task identified.
- How do you get people to follow or use the kit? (Members agreed that people who think about equity and inclusivity don’t need the tool kit.)

As per EM: A designer will streamline the text portion of the present document to make it user friendly.

Also noted by some members of the committee:

- Vulnerable groups stats included in the document are seen as reinforcing stereotypes – better to change the framework to how to better service the vulnerable. For example, good guidance for evaluating accessibility would be a “visual inspection” of ramps, bathroom access, lighting, etc.
- Part of inclusion is a good feedback mechanism.
- Training is required; must be engaging; need to self-reflect as part of the training.
- There is a concern that the tool kit may end up being another layer of bureaucracy that really makes no difference. At the present length, it is going to get stalemated.
- The tool can’t be tokenism.

5.2. Parking privileges on meeting nights

- Meetings must occur in place accessible to the public
- Provide notice to Staff for accessible parking pass for behind City Hall at least 5 working days in advance. Pre-purchased Parking pass to City Hall parking cannot be refunded if unused.

5.3. Feedback on “Women in the City” event (D. Christopherson)

Hosted by Useful Knowledge Society

- The event was about women’s perspective on the City – e.g. indigenous perspective on such things as environmental issues, child care, housing etc. There was a theme that women’s perspective are of value to how cities are built – good lighting, enough parks.

Status of Women Committee

- Women are restricted because of the way they move around the City. How can we accomplish “aging in place” for women?
- The Useful Knowledge Society is also working on series events for the fall –elder women speaking about their experience in the City of Hamilton as they aged. The series will be set up as a panel.
- Consider bringing a SWC banner to the event. Staff to provide committee with a photo of available banners.

5.4. Women Win Toronto

- A program created to assist women who want to run for City of Toronto Council and volunteers who want to support a candidate.
- Olivia Chow was key note speaker –discussed her mayoral loss.
- The program consists of monthly meetings that work on building campaigns and other issues related to getting women into council.
- This is a good idea to look at starting with school age children.
- Our guest from YMCA in her role as Advocacy and Engagement Coordinator is connected to Hamilton’s high school and university female students who are clearly interested in politics.
- Committee is interested in starting an event that will focus on organizing the “Elect More Women Conference”.
- From a timing perspective, organizing something for this fall is good. A possible time for this event 21st or 28th of October.

To organize a fall event, the following tasks need to be managed:

- Venue with break out rooms – Hamilton Public Library? David Braley?(staff liaise assigned this task)
- Past speakers to be identified
- Develop a draft budget for the event
- Most expensive part of the day is lunch – set a small fee
- Provide child care and transportation as required

The following committee members volunteered to form a sub-committee to organize this event:

Miracle Chukwu, Katie Hood, Laura Cattari, Denise Christopherson (or Daniela as her representative), Jan Lukas

6. PRESENTATIONS

NONE

7. BUSINESS ITEMS / DISCUSSION

7.1. Work Plan Discussion 7.1.1.1. Child Care Policy

This item is in reference to providing child care for all attending committee meetings. Committee member (D. Christopherson) provided proposal to the committee. This September on receipt of meeting notice, members are to advise Staff if they need child care needs for the September meeting.

7.1.1.2. Gender Equity Budget Conference

NB: this event will be pushed out to 2018 and replaced with the October "Elect More Women Conference"

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION SHARING

- 9.1.** Human Rights, Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan (N. Olivieri)
E-mail staff liaison, with any questions or concerns.
- 9.2.** SWC buttons bookmarks, etc. Staff to bring to next meeting
- 9.3.** Committee member announcements:
 - Zenaida to send e-mail to Staff about the Multicultural Fair to distribute to SWC members.
 - Miracle running an event "Hamilton Stands with its Daughters": 21st August 2017 – looking for women speaker – Miracle to send flyer to Staff to distribute to SWC members.
 - Other events around town that may be of interest to members were discussed.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Time: 7:34pm

(L. Cattari / K. Hood)

That the Status of Women Committee meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 28th, 2017
5:30 p.m. – Room 193, City Hall