MINUTES
Aboriginal Advisory Committee
Thursday, November 2, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.
City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 264

Present: Marilyn Wright, Connie Bellamy, Allan Loft, Scott Cruickshank, Deborah Elmes
Regrets: Patty Lawlor, Khitanya Petgrave
Absent: Sheryl Green
Also Present: Jodi Koch & Betsy Pocop – Human Rights, Diversity & Inclusion (staff)
Shylo Elmayan - Urban Indigenous Strategy; Community and Emergency Services

Chairperson: Marilyn Wright

Opening
• D. Elmes did an opening

Welcome and Introductions
• All were welcomed

1. Changes to the Agenda
• Addition of Item 6.5 – Aboriginal Literature Display Update

Motion #1
C. Bellamy/A. Loft
That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee accepts the Agenda of November 2, 2017, as amended.

CARRIED

2. Declaration of Interest
• There were no declarations of interest

3. Approval of Previous Minutes
• Change to Item 5 – That the minutes reflect the feedback for the Equity Toolkit on how to deal with conflicting agendas for example scent free and smudging is missing, was provided by K. Petgrave
MOTION #2
C. Bellamy/A. Loft
That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee’s minutes of October 5, 2017 be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

4. Consent Items
- J. Koch provided an explanation of what consent items are and the implementation of a standardized agenda format moving forward for all VACs
- There were no consent items

5. Presentations
- There were no presentations

6. Discussion Items
6.1 Budget
- J. Koch/ B. Pocop provided copies of 2017 Budget, YTD Actuals, and template for 2018 Budget
- Committee members discussed:
  - 2018 Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) conference to be held in Hamilton; possibility of partnering or collaborating on this initiative, looking specifically at Aboriginal homelessness issue; no further details available yet
  - HPS also planning Point in Time Count with Social Planning and Research Council in April; Amanda DiFalco (City staff) is the contact person; the Committee discussed if it would be possible to accommodate members to participate
  - Committee events for 2018 to include: National Aboriginal Day, Homelessness conference, TRC projects, and the municipal election
  - The Housing First Model and its effectiveness
  - Committee members discussed that the Committee aligns itself with all corporate goals outlined in the budget proposal
- Committee members were in agreement to request 1.5% increase for the 2018 budget
- Committee asked for clarification to access reserve funds:
  - Staff clarified that reserve funds can be accessed by making a request to Council for the funds to be distributed and the Committee would need to advise what the funds are to be used for
- Committee members discussed reducing incidental costs to $1000 and allocating the remaining funds to projects and events for 2018
- A. Loft opposed the motion
Motion #3
D. Elmes/C. Bellamy
That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee allocates $1000.00 for incidental costs and allocates the remaining funds including the request for 1.5% budget increase to project and event costs.

CARRIED

6.2 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action
- S. Elmayan provided an update
- There will be a community consult on December 13, 2017 from 10am-1pm at the Regional Indian Centre with Indigenous community members only; discussion will be about the community strategy and what reconciliation means to community members in attendance; S. Elmayan will send invitation to J. Koch to circulate once prepared; once invitation has been circulated AAC can go on record to say it supports the initiative and the Urban Indigenous Strategy
- Committee discussed showing support for the consult through member participation for those who are able to attend

6.3 Urban Indigenous Strategy Update
- S. Elmayan is working on Indigenous medicine policy
- Work is being done to hire someone to work with S. Elmayan
- There was recently a partnership circle and additional calls to action for municipalities were identified, an updated list will be shared with the Committee

6.4 Feedback on Equity Lens Toolkit
- Consultation is ongoing
- Committee members advised guests from McMaster University who attended the October meeting took a copy of the Toolkit document with them and they may have feedback; feedback provided by the guests is separate from the Committee’s feedback

6.5 Aboriginal Literature Display
- J. Koch/ B. Pocop provided copy of memo from P. Lawlor
- Committee members provided positive feedback for the Literature display
- Committee requested the Literature display remain for one more month if possible; this request is contingent on book availability from HPL and Goodminds.com
- Committee discussed having photographs taken of the display with the possibility of sending them to Aboriginal organizations in the community or to put on a website
- J. Koch/B. Pocop tasked with contacting the City’s Communications Department to see if photographs can be taken of the book display
- Copy of the complete book list is still outstanding but will be uploaded to the HPL site once completed, as well as, distributed to the Committee
• Discussion regarding P. Lawlor’s proposed motion to draft and send letters of thanks to those involved in putting together the literature display- Committee discussed that a motion is not needed as it would be considered common courtesy to send letters thanking those involved
• The Committee discussed reimbursement for P. Lawlor’s expenses associated with organizing the literature display
• Staff informed the Committee of the City’s travel expense procedure for mileage reimbursement

Motion #4
C. Bellamy/ D. Elmes
That the Committee reimburse P. Lawlor for her expenses associated with organizing the book display.

CARRIED

7. Other Business
7.1 Correspondence from Native Women’s Centre
• Staff distributed letters from the Native Women’s Centre to each Committee member
• Correspondence requested a financial contribution
• Committee members discussed providing individual donations or supporting the Native Women’s Centre Gala by purchasing a ticket and making the ticket available for a community member to attend

Motion #5
D. Elmes/C. Bellamy
That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee purchases a ticket to the Native Women’s Centre’s gala and donate the ticket for a community member to attend.

CARRIED

7.2 Next Meeting
• Next meeting scheduled for December 7, 2017
• Committee members decided to have a seasonally appropriate potluck at the next meeting
• An email will be sent to coordinate what members will each be bringing
• J. Koch/B. Pocop will arrange for beverages – coffee and tea

7.3 Sharing Email Addresses
• Members present at the meeting who were not present at the October meeting consented to sharing their email addresses with the group for correspondence

Closing
• A. Loft did a closing
8. **Adjournment**
   The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.