



Hamilton

MINUTES

Aboriginal Advisory Committee Thursday, May 3, 2018 – 5:30 P.M. City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 264

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

Chairperson: Marilyn Wright

Opening

- A. Loft did an opening

Welcome and Introductions

- All were welcomed and introduced

1. Changes to the Agenda

- Correct typo in Title of Presentation, “Getaway” to “Gateway”
- Item 5.1 to be discussed after Item 5.2
- Item 5.4 deferred to June meeting
- Addition of Item: 5.5 - Cabinet Display

A. Loft / D. Elmes

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee accepts the May 2018 agenda, as amended.

CARRIED

2. Declaration of Interest

- There were no declarations of interest

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

D. Elmes / S. Cruickshank

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee accepts the minutes of April 5, 2018, as presented.

CARRIED**4. Presentations****4.1 Hamilton Indigenous Mothers Gateway Program (HIMGP)**

- Presented by H. Stoodley
- H. Stoodley is currently the only staff member for the program
- The program is designed for single mothers and has been developed in four phases; each phase works out to one year; making this a 4 year program
- In Toronto there has been a success rate of 80% with sustained wages and earnings
- HIMGP – working under Friendship Centres, not be confused with Homeward Bound program through the Aboriginal Health Centre
- There is flexibility of who can come into the program and the target group includes mothers at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness
- Currently the program in Hamilton is in the development phase; it will launch beginning of June with community engagement sessions
- The program will start in the fall with 5 women and their children
- Self-identification program (do not need status), however must be 18 years of age or older and have a child in their care who is 17 years old or younger
- An applicant needs to be eligible for OW, ODSP, EI to be eligible for living allowance
- Connection with homelessness; impacts are more than just physical
- The program is not a Housing First model
- Request for support from the Committee – referral to other committees, groups, or industry partners who will support the program
- Committee members provided the following ideas- potential funding options from individual bands or reserves; potentially contacting unions, rotary clubs or church groups, government and CAS for support
- H. Stoodley to send event poster to B. Pocop for distribution to the Committee
- Program launch on June 5th at 10:00 am; details to be shared when they are available

5. Discussion Items**5.1 Budget and Activity Planning for 2018**

- Item discussed after Item 5.2

5.2 Bringing the City to the Community – Information Fair

- S. Elmayan provided an update and draft copy of budget to Committee members

- N. Jones is connecting with youth centres and high schools for the Information Fair
- There will be a youth area available at the Fair
- S. Elmayan asked for volunteers to assist at the Fair
- P. Lawlor to possibly provide door prizes of adult and youth books by Indigenous authors
- S. Elmayan to send B. Pocop survey for distribution
- Upcoming event - June 22: story telling event at Bayfront in the afternoon

D. Elmes/P. Lawlor

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee supports the Information Fair for up to \$750.00 through the rental of chairs and tables.

CARRIED

5.3 Urban Indigenous Strategy Update

- Flag raising ceremony at City Hall in June
 - Details to be shared once available
- June 13 - Council Meeting will open with a smudging ceremony; Committee members requested to have name tags for the Council meeting to identify themselves as Committee members.

5.4 Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

- Deferred to June meeting

5.5 Cabinet Display

- P. Lawlor to meet with N. Jones to discuss possible displays
- Consideration to be made for the Committee's cabinet to display books also; and to periodically change items on display and provide brief descriptions of the items to enhance learning
- A. Loft to provide the descriptions to B. Pocop for the items in the display case
- There will be a display in the City Hall foyer for the month of June
 - Ideas discussed for the display: Y. Maracle to possibly provide Pow Wow pictures; demonstrating achievements of local Indigenous community and people of distinction
- Possibility to hold Full Moon Ceremony to kick off Indigenous History Month
 - M. Wright to contact S. Elmayan to make arrangements

6. Other Business

6.1 Committee Banner Display

- B. Pocop provided update
- Awaiting confirmation if banner can be hung on balcony of Council Chambers

Next Meeting

- Next meeting scheduled for June 7, 2018

Closing

- S. Cruickshank did a closing

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.