



Hamilton

AGENDA
IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 11, 2018
City Hall 71 Main St. W.
Room 192/193, 6:30pm

Present: Eman Ismail-Elmasri, Marie Robbins, Beau Daniels, Yohana Otite, Dena Honig, Leo Johnson, Suad Badri, Leo Johnson (Chair)

NB: Chair stuck in traffic in Oakville at 6:15 – otherwise all present by 6:30 pm -Quorum established at 7:25 pm

Also Present: Nadia Olivieri, Human

Regrets: Holly McKean, Mané Arratia, Mir Islam

Absent: Sam Abraham

Chair: Leo Johnson

Welcome and Introductions (6:40 pm)

1. Approval of the Agenda

(D. Hoing/S. Badri)

Approve the October 11, 2018 Agenda as presented

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest -non

3. Approval of Minutes

(E. Elmarsi/ B. Daniels)

Immigrant and Refugee Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2018 approved as presented.

CARRIED

4. Presentations – n/a

5. Business / Discussion Items

5.1 Election of interim vice chair
MOTION: **(D. Hoing/E. Elmarsri)**
That Suad Badri be elected as the interim vice chair
CARRIED

5.2 Attendance/Membership Status
MOTION: **(Y. Otite / E. Ekmasri)** Carried
That the medical leave of absence of Zenaida Roque-Cruz be accepted.
CARRIED

5.3 Open House follow up/ feedback (See 6.2 Debrief)

5.4 Housing Working Group Update
-Zenaida, Leo are only remaining members – Zenaida on LOA
- Leo to secure draft presentation to AF&A and bring to meeting to review
-Need to re-establish the Housing working group especially since there is going to several housing related events in Hamilton

5.5 Employment Working Group Update
- The group agrees that they should bring forward the details for the Employer Recognition Award and look for partner interested in promoting the award
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MOTION: **(M. Robbins/S. Badri)**
That \$2000.00 from Immigration & Refugee reserve be set aside to fund the new award.
CARRIED

Member M. Robbins works with @ Chambers of Commerce – they may/could support a partnership with this award
Hamilton Community Foundation could also be considered as a resource partner for this award

5.6 Education Working Group Update –defer to next meeting

6. Other Business

6.1 2019 Budget
MOTION: **(D. Hoing/ M. Robbins)**
That the I & R Budget for 2019 to remain the same as 2018 with the inclusion of a request 2000.00 from I & R reserve to initiate new Employer award.
CARRIED

Quorum lost at 7:40 pm with Marie's exist.
Meeting continued with the discussion listed under Item 6.

6.2 Debrief: July 2018 Newcomer Day

- The Committee thanked Beau for his dedication on the Newcomer Day event
- Members were upset that HIPC did not recognize the existing history of similar event run by I & R
- Members felt that there was not enough acknowledgements to I&R contribution to the day
- Members agreed that as the Committee is an extension of the City of Hamilton, recognition to the COH extends to the Committee as well.
- The Committee agreed that they need to make better use of the opportunity to work in a more collaborate manner with HIPC
- For next year, in advance of full on involvement, the committee should have an outline of exactly what they will commit to doing
- Work shops arranged for the day were a total failure – everyone was outside doing the fun activities organized by HIPC
- May consider having the workshops as a stand alone activity (no other activities competing with the time slots) and somehow coordinated with the delivery of food for the event
- Observed that a few community/ cultural organization were not well representative
- Contact list need to be updated on a regular way
- Having the event on a regular business day at City Hall made it difficult to set up tables
- Second Floor was not well visited
- Some Volunteers didn't seem to know what they were assigned to do
- Members suggested to invite HIPC to a I&R meeting (Sarah) to review the above with HIPC
- Maybe there is something more meaningful that I&R could do to be part of Newcomer Day

Beau provided some feed directly to Layla to

6.2.1.1 Survey Monkey reviewed

Additional information provided by Chair

The Chair attended a Hate Crime presentation Hamilton Police

- Hamilton has the highest level of hate crimes and only 5% get into the courts (tracking is inconsistent across various municipalities)
- bar set to establish the existence of a hate crime is near impossible to achieve: first time incident doesn't constitute a hate crime
- Statistics on reported hate crimes are misleading
- Hamilton Police have agreed to continue to engage in dialogue around this issue – the Chair will keep committee informed and Committee can considering have an official I&R member
- HIPC is a major stake holder

7. Adjournment – formal meeting ended when quorum lost at 7:40 pm
Remaining discussion ended at 8:30 pm

Next Meeting: November 8, 2018