Minutes
Status of Women Advisory Committee
Thursday, June 27, 2019
City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Room 192

Present: Doreen Ssenabulya, Marie Robbins, Autumn Getty, Stephanie Frisina, Deanna Allain, Anna Davey, Erin O’Neil, Stephanie Bertolo, Katie Hood

Regrets: Jan Lukas, Yulena Wan

Also Present: Betsy Pocop (staff liaison), Diversity and Inclusion Office
Councillor Nann
Daniela Giulietti, Councillor Nann’s Office

Welcome/Introductions
A round of introductions and welcoming of members and guests.

1. Changes to the Agenda
Addition of items:
Item 5.7.1 – Councillor Nann’s motion
Item 5.9 – Committee Composition

(A.Davey/M. Robbins)
That the Committee accepts the agenda of June 27, 2019, as amended. CARRIED

2. Declaration of Interest
• None

3. Approval of Minutes
March 28, 2019
• Spelling correction for an item
(D. Ssenabulya/K. Hood)
That the minutes of March 29, 2018 be accepted as amended.  
CARRIED

4. Presentations
   • None

5. Business/ Discussion Items
   5.1 Election of Chair and Vice – Chair
   • Stephania Frisina elected Chair and Autumn Getty elected Vice-Chair by show of hands
   5.2 Committee Meeting Schedule
   • The Committee will meet again in September
   • The committee’s meeting space and time will be held for working groups for July and August

(A. Getty/ D. Allain)
That the Committee keep the same schedule for meetings with flexibility to change in the future.
CARRIED

5.3 Review of Committee Mandate
   • B. Pocop advised the committee of their mandate

5.4 Review of Terms of Reference
   • B. Pocop advised the committee they will need to review their terms of reference
   • Standing item on the agenda for further discussion and action as recommendations for amendments were made
   • S. Frisina proposed a meeting during the summer months to review Terms of Reference and Mandate
   • The Committee would like to procure a facilitator for the next meeting to assist with Terms of Reference, Mandate and Workplan
   • Councillor Nann suggested the mandate be updated based on a gender equity lens

5.5 Review of Committee Budget
   • Funds were allocated for the Women of Distinction Award
   • B. Pocop to provide updated balance and reserve balance for next meeting

5.6 Equity Toolkit
   • B. Pocop advised the Committee that a request has been made to review the Toolkit
   • B. Pocop to distribute the Toolkit for review prior to the next committee meeting
5.7 2019 Workplan
- Item 5.1 of the March 2019 minutes reflect priorities put forth by previous committee
- M. Robbins to send B. Pocop copy of goals for distribution prior to the committee’s next meeting
- Childcare and youth representation on the committee were identified as two priorities

5.7.1 Councillor Nann’s Motion
- Councillor Nann to present motion at July 8th GIC meeting regarding the recruitment and selection process for Volunteer Advisory Committees, Boards and Agencies with the purpose of addressing incongruencies in the selection processes
- Members requested clarification for recruitment process
- Members were in agreement to support Councillor Nann’s motion and draft a letter supporting the motion

(S. Bertolo/E. O’Neil)
That the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Status of Women Advisory Committee write a letter stating the Committee recommends to Council the approval of Councillor Nann’s motion to include an equity and diversity lens in committee selection and put forward arguments for why it advances gender and equity outcomes in the City of Hamilton, and send out the draft for input by July 2 to committee members and the committee will provide input by end of day July 3rd.

CARRIED

5.8 Message from Committee Member
- E. O’Neil requested the item be removed based on the discussion of the previous item

5.9 Committee Composition
- D. Allain presented a resolution for the creation of a working group with respect to insufficient representation of intersecting identities on the committee

(D. Allain/A. Davey)
WHEREAS, concerns have been raised respecting the insufficient representation of intersecting identities on the Status of Women Committee;
AND WHEREAS, the LGBTQ Advisory Committee has demonstrated extensive leadership in addressing concerns of their own committee’s composition;
AND WHEREAS, there are presently 9 vacant citizen seats to be filled on the Status of Women Committee;
AND WHEREAS, members of the Status of Women Committee do not know how many applications were received for seats on this committee; AND WHEREAS, no interviews were conducted with any applicants to the Status of Women Committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:  
That the Hamilton Status of Women Committee establish a task group for the purpose of composing a citizen’s report respecting the current composition of this committee of the remaining vacant citizen seats.  

CARRIED

- Names of participants for the working group to be provided to B. Pocop and their meeting schedule for appropriate arrangements to be made
- S. Frisina encouraged members to be mindful of the discussion and assumptions made from a harm reduction perspective

6. Announcements and Information Sharing

Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 5:30pm