



MINUTES
LGBTQ Advisory Committee
Tuesday, March 16, 2021
6:00 PM - 8:45 PM
Webex

Present: James Diemert, Autumn Getty, Lisa-Marie Johnston, Cameron Kroetsch (Chair), Jake Maurice, Violetta Nikolskaya (Vice Chair), Kyle Weitz, Councillor Maureen Wilson (City Council Appointee)

Regrets: None

Absent: Freja Gray, Terri Wallis

Staff: Pauline Kajiura (Staff Liaison)

Guests: Mikhaila Bernales (BSW Placement Student, City of Hamilton), Deputy Chief Frank Bergen (Hamilton Police Service), Craig Burley, Community Relations Coordinator Jasbir Dhillon (Hamilton Police Service), Chief Administrative Officer Anna Filice (Hamilton Police Service), EDI Specialist Paola Jani (Hamilton Police Service), Lyla Miklos, LGBTQ Liaison Officer Rebecca Moran (Hamilton Police Service)

1. Welcome and Introductions

C. Kroetsch took roll call.

2. Land Acknowledgement

V. Nikolskaya provided a Land Acknowledgement.

3. Approval of the Agenda

(K. Weitz / J. Diemert)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee approve the Agenda for today's meeting as distributed and that the Agenda be amended to move Delegations above Regular Business and allow the delegates approved at Items 7.1 and 7.2 to present before the delegates at Items 8.2 and 8.1 respectively.

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Interest

None

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

(J. Diemert / L. Johnston)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee approve the minutes from its February 16, 2021 meeting as distributed.

CARRIED

6. Communications

None

7. Delegation Requests

7.1 Craig Burley regarding the Pride flag raising and issues related to the Committee's interactions with the Hamilton

Police Service, and to speak to the same matters requested by the HPS, as outlined in their request, for today's meeting

(J. Diemert / V. Nikolskaya)

That the delegation request be approved for today's meeting of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee, that it be added as Item 8.2, and that the delegate be permitted to speak beyond the 5 minute time limit.

CARRIED

- 7.2 Lyla Miklos regarding the historic and current relationship with Hamilton's Two Spirit & LGBTQIA+ communities and the Hamilton Police Service, as outlined in their request, for today's meeting**

(K. Weitz / V. Nikolskaya)

That the delegation request be approved for today's meeting of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee, that it be added as Item 8.1, and that the delegate be permitted to speak beyond the 5 minute time limit.

CARRIED

8. Delegations

- 8.1 Lyla Miklos regarding the historic and current relationship with Hamilton's Two Spirit & LGBTQIA+ communities and the Hamilton Police Service, as outlined in their request (Item 7.2) (see attached written delegation submitted by the delegate)**

See the attached written delegation provided by the delegate regarding the content of their delegation.

(K. Weitz / V. Nikolskaya)

That the delegation be received.

CARRIED

8.2 Craig Burley regarding the Pride flag raising and issues related to the Committee's interactions with the Hamilton Police Service, and to speak to the same matters requested by the HPS, as outlined in their request (Item 7.1)

The delegate identified themselves as a queer Hamiltonian and gave an outline of their observations of the Hamilton Police Service's (HPS) open support of the Proud Boys at local events including a protest and rally outside the Maxime Bernier political fundraiser event at Mohawk College on September 29, 2019, Pride 2019, and at several incidents in the City Hall forecourt.

The delegate discussed the recent announcement from the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness that added the Proud Boys, and others, to the Criminal Code list of terrorist entities on February 3, 2021.

The delegate highlighted the preoccupation of police with supporting or protecting groups like the Proud Boys in comparison to their targeting of members of Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ communities. The delegate asked that the HPS be transparent and forthcoming with respect to the actions they have taken to support these groups and disclose any information they have about this to the public immediately.

(J. Diemert / V. Nikolskaya)

That the delegation be received.

CARRIED

- 8.3 Deputy Chief Frank Bergen, Chief Administrative Officer Anna Filice, LGBTQ Liaison Officer Rebecca Moran, EDI Specialist Paola Jani, and Community Relations Coordinator Jasbir Dhillon from the Hamilton Police Service, as outlined in their request (see attached written delegation submitted by the delegates)**

See the attached written delegation provided by the delegate regarding the content of their delegation.

(J. Diemert / V. Nikolskaya)

That the delegation be received.

CARRIED

- 8.4 Norm Schleeahn, Director, Economic Development City of Hamilton and Graeme Brown, Business Analyst, Business Development, City of Hamilton with respect to the Economic Development Action Plan, as outlined in their request**

The delegates presented the following points -

- Every five years for the last 20 years, the City of Hamilton has brought forward an Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP) to help guide its actions and to help move the city's economy forward. Ideally the 2021-2025 action plan should already be in place, however, due to COVID-19, it has been delayed and they hope to have it completed by the end of Q2 2021. Key differences with the action plan is that it will incorporate climate change, and equity, diversity and inclusion.

- In the current 2021-2025 EDAP, they started working on this document in 2019 and again before the end of 2020. The EDAP is looking at past engagement with the business community but also with the residents of Hamilton. However, due to COVID they were not able to engage fully and so relied primarily on online surveys.
- The focus of the EDAP is to identify large strategic initiatives that are above and beyond the regular workplan that's happening with economic development and tourism and culture.

(A. Getty / L. Johnston)

That the delegation be received.

CARRIED

9. Regular Business

9.1 Motion to Approve a new Land Acknowledgement for use by the LGBTQ Advisory Committee (J. Maurice) (Item 8.1)

(J. Maurice / K. Weitz)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee approve a new land acknowledgement for use by the LGBTQ Advisory Committee (see the attachment to Item 8.1)

CARRIED

Discussion - Committee members thanked J. Maurice for their work on this and will be happy to use the new land acknowledgement at the next meeting of the Committee.

9.2 Motion to Approve Advertising Costs from the 2021 Budget (C. Kroetsch) (Item 8.2)

(C. Kroetsch / J. Maurice)

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee approve the allocation of advertising costs in the amount of \$1,500 from its 2021 budget.

CARRIED

Discussion - The mover stated that the costs fall on the committee to pay as directed by the office of the City Clerk. Staff stated that the specific expense that would fall upon the Committee would be the graphic artwork to pay the graphic artist.

10. Discussion Items

10.1 Updates from Working Groups (C. Kroetsch, V. Nikolskaya) (Item 11.1)

No discussion

10.2 Update on recruitment process (P. Kajiura) (Item 11.2)

P. Kajiura stated that the Interview Sub-Committee to the Audit, Finance & Administration Committee is meeting to go over the applications. There are 31 applicants. The Sub-Committee will begin meeting on March 17, 2021 to go over the applications. Councillor Wilson stated that she was chairing the Sub-Committee.

10.3 Update on previously submitted Citizen Committee Reports (C. Kroetsch) (Item 11.3)

C.Kroetsch provided updates to the Committee on its

outstanding Citizen Committee Reports, specifically that the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee did not approve its recommendations regarding Focus and Committee Involvement in Selection Processes and that the Citizen Committee Report regarding Accessible Captioning for Meetings of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee required additional work by staff and that we should hopefully have an update by the next meeting about when this will come back to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee for discussion.

10.4 Pride 2021 event and flag raising (from Outstanding Business List) (Item 11.4)

Committee members discussed that the previous goal set by the Committee was to talk to the community about what they wanted. This could be through putting a survey out, and using the Engage Hamilton platform to ask the community what they would like to see then taking those results and making a decision and recommendations for the Pride event and the flag raising.

A Committee member asked for the history and other members responded with information.

Committee members agreed that it is important to reach out to the community and ask what they want. The Chair, Vice Chair, and anyone else interested will work on a plan to present at the next meeting.

10.5 Delegating on Citizen Committee Reports (C. Kroetsch) (Item 11.5)

C. Kroetsch stated that, after a lengthy correspondence with the office of the City Clerk, there does not appear to be a way for the Committee to delegate when it submits a Citizen Committee Report to the Audit, Finance and Administration

Committee. The Committee would like to be able to both make a recommendation and to speak freely to that recommendation without the need for additional permissions. C. Kroetsch will bring a draft recommendation forward at the next meeting for discussion and approval.

**10.6 Public Access to Advisory Committees (C. Kroetsch)
(Item 11.6)**

C. Kroetsch stated that it had not been possible for members of the public to select an Advisory Committee from the Request to Speak to Committee of Council Form but that, just this week, that had been updated at his request and he believed the issue had been rectified and that no further action was required.

11. Adjournment

(A. Getty / L. Johnston)

That, there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 PM.

CARRIED