



Hamilton

**Minutes**

**Status of Women Advisory Committee**

**Thursday, March 25, 2021**

**6:00pm-8:00pm**

**Due to the COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall All electronic meetings can be viewed at: City's YouTube Channel:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/user/InsideCityofHamilton>**

**Virtual Meeting**

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**Present:** Autumn Getty, Stephanie Bertolo, Yulena Wan, Deanna Allain, Jan Lukas

**Regrets:** Anna Davey, Doreen Ssenabulya, Stephanie Frisina

**Also Present:** Betsy Pocop (Staff Liaison) Diversity & Inclusion Office

Taline Morris (Admin Assistant) Diversity & Inclusion Office

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**1. Welcome/Introductions**

A round of introductions and welcoming of members.

**2. Ceremonial Activities (Item 1)**

S. Bertolo provided the Land Acknowledgement

**3. Approval of the Agenda (Item 2)**

**i. March 25, 2021**

**(D. Allain/J. Lukas)**

That the Status of Women Committee approves the agenda of March 25, 2021 as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. Approval of Minutes (Item 4)**

**i. February 25, 2021**

**(D. Allain/J. Lukas)**

That the Status of Women Committee approves the minutes of February 25, 2021 as presented.

## **5. Discussion Items**

### **i. Business Arising from Previous Minutes (Item 10.1)**

- **Women of Distinction Awards:** Y. Wan reported that 1000 people tuned in from across North America. \$61,000 was raised the night of the event, for a grand total of over \$230,000. The Courage of COVID was the theme and women received recognition in 7 different categories. Committee members that attended the event expressed that they had a great time at a very well planned and executed event.
- **All Advisory Committee Event.** S.Bertolo inquired if there were updates regarding this event. Staff advised no significant updates at this time. Feedback will be compiled into a report by Clerk's office then sent to standing committee.
- **Menstrual Products Pilot Project:** S.Bertolo reported that a citizen committee report is required prior to making a statement to the media. Committee Members agreed that S. Bertolo will draft and submit the citizen committee report on behalf of the status of women committee.

### **ii. Gender Based Budgeting (Item 10.2)**

Committee members further discussed inviting a staff member from the City, to attend a meeting to discuss the budgeting practices at the City of Hamilton, including if a gender equity lens is used. As requested, Y. Wan summarized information contained in articles such as The Equity and Economic impacts of 2017 Operating Budget, that was emailed to committee members ahead of today's meeting. B.Pocop to forward the above documents and committee questions to the finance department in preparation for the presentation at a future committee meeting.

**iii. Terms of Reference (Item 10.3)**

Committee members discussed changing the name of the Status of Women Committee. The following names were suggested as options:

- Status of Women Committee Plus
- The Women and Gender Equity Committee.

J. Lukas advised she is not in not in favour of changing the name of the committee and Y. Wan suggested keeping alignment with the federal chapter of the Status Women Committee. The committee will present both name options to council for consideration by way of a citizen committee report.

**(S. Bertolo/D. Allain)**

That the status of women committee put forward to council, a change in the terms of reference, to change the name of the Status of Women Committee, to the Status of Women Plus or the Women and Gender Equity Committee.

**In Favour:** S. Bertolo, A. Getty, Y. Wan, D. Allain

**Opposed:** J. Lukas

**CARRIED**

**iv. Equity Toolkit (Item 10.4)**

B. Pocop advised the purpose of this agenda item is to provide feedback to the Author and to the City regarding the contents of the handbook/toolkit. The following feedback was provided by committee members:

- More exploration needed on intersectionality of gender and race
- The word Black should be capitalised when referring to Black women

Committee members to send remaining edits to Staff by next meeting.

**v. Workplan – Working Group (Item 10.5)**

Committee members discussed connecting with the LGBTQ Advisory Committee and their staff liaison to obtain more information about the recruitment process they recently

underwent. J. Lukas shared that diversity should also consider diversity in age and asked that the Seniors Advisory Committee also be contacted.

## **6. General Information/ Other Business (Item 13)**

J. Lukas shared that Tampon Tuesday, through United Way is launching on March 30, 2021 and the menstrual product pilot project, through the City of Hamilton is set to begin April 1, 2021. Selected facilities will begin to distribute free menstrual products to all who are in need.

Committee members discussed the 2021 goals for the committee and identified possible causes to support in the community. S. Bertolo to compile workplan ideas for next meeting.

Committee members inquired about updates regarding the donations of funds from the committees 2020 budget to community organizations. Staff advised that there are no updates available at this time.

## **7. Adjournment (Item 15)**

### **(A. Getty/ J. Lukas)**

That the Status of Women Committee meeting be adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for April 22, 2021.