



Hamilton

MINUTES

Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Thursday, February 4, 2021 – 5:30 P.M.

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>

Present: Marilyn Wright, Allan Loft, Patty Lawlor (non-voting), Connie Bellamy, Scott Cruickshank

Regrets: Laura Workman, Cat Cayuga

Also Present: Cole Gately –Diversity & Inclusion (staff)
Shelly Hill and Nicole Jones– Urban Indigenous Strategy
Taline Morris- Admin. Assistant., Diversity and Inclusion

1. Ceremonial Activities

A. Loft provided an opening.

2. Approval of Agenda

The following items will be added to the February 4, 2021 agenda:

Item 1: Urban Indigenous strategy update provided by S. Hill and N. Jones

(C. Bellamy/A. Loft)

That the Urban Indigenous Strategy Update as presented by S. Hill and N. Jones be added to the February 4, 2021 agenda as 9.1.

CARRIED

(C. Bellamy/A. Loft)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee approves the agenda of February 4, 2021, as amended.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

P. Lawlor provided typographical edits for the December 3, 2020 draft minutes

(S.Cruickshank/ C.Bellamy)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee approves the December 3, 2020 minutes with the typographical edits from P. Lawlor.

CARRIED

4. Declaration of Interest

No one declared an interest in response to M. Wright's inquiry.

5. Communications

i. Correspondence from the Clerk's Office respecting Citizen Committee Reports (Item 5.1)

Members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee discussed and asked questions to further understand the correspondence.

Staff to confirm the current process for internal delegation requests.

M. Wright inquired to understand who the Designated legislative coordinator is for the Aboriginal Advisory Committee is. Staff to report back with information.

Members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee also questioned the reasoning behind this new correspondence and provided the following feedback as to the potential effects on the committee:

- This new process is creating more paperwork for volunteers and it may be difficult for volunteers to find time to do additional committee work.
- Volunteers may lack the appropriate resources to do this level of work.
- Request is heavy handed and onerous on the volunteer committee
- This is efforts of the city to tighten things up following issues with another committee

Members also inquired about the role of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee as it was initially created to be a stand-alone committee able to make its own decisions. Staff referred committee members to terms of reference for more information on Committee role.

6. Staff Presentation

i. Urban Indigenous Strategy Update (added Item 1)

N. Jones provided the following updates:

- There is now a land acknowledgement toolkit which is available on the Urban Indigenous Strategy website. Also, additional resources on the land acknowledgement can be found at Hamilton.ca/urbanindigenouststrategy
- A toolkit is being developed to provide resources for the Indigenous residents in Hamilton in collaboration with the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, Six Nations, the Mississaugas of the Credit and community organizations.
- The Urban Indigenous Strategy will be meeting with the Hamilton Police Services to explore future opportunities to partner
- The Urban Indigenous Strategy implementation plan, which contained 40 recommendations by the Urban indigenous Strategy, has been endorsed by Council.

S. Hill provided the following updates:

- There are ongoing discussions respecting possibly amalgamating the Aboriginal Advisory Committee and the Coordinated Circle.
- Members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee are invited to attend the next Coordinated Circle meeting on February 24th for further discussions.

○ Committee members discussed and had mixed reactions to amalgamating the two committees. P. Lawlor indicated that there is a list of previously circulated questions raised out of a review of the Terms of Reference for both groups, that would be beneficial if answered prior to a joint meeting.

P. Lawlor to redistribute the list of questions and send a request to S. Hill to answer the questions that accompanied the list.

S. Hill to disseminate a list of the current members of the Coordinating Circle as requested.

7. Discussion Item

i. Election of Chair and Vice- Chair (Item 10.1)

A. Loft nominated M. Wright as Chair of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee. No other nominations were put forth. M. Wright accepted the nomination. M. Wright elected Chair of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee for the 2021 term, uncontested.

A. Loft nominated C. Bellamy as Vice-Chair of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee. No other nominations were put forth. C. Bellamy accepted the nomination.

C. Bellamy elected Vice-Chair of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee for the 2021 term, uncontested.

ii. Equity Toolkit (Item 10.1)

C. Bellamy that toolkit was reviewed and issues for Committee discussion were distributed to members prior to the meeting. Discussion deferred to next meeting.

iii. Banner Display (Item 10.3)

Deferred to next meeting.

8. General Information/ Other Business

Agenda Management (Item 8.1)

A. Loft inquired to understand if committee members can add and subtract items for the agenda. Staff advised that agenda categories are standard. However, members can add and subtract items under each category.

Invitation to Councillor Nann (Item 8.2)

Committee members advised they would like Councilor Nann to attend a meeting as it has been a while since she last attended. P. Lawlor will initiate a list of questions for Councillor Nann and distribute it prior to the next meeting for further Committee input and discussion. Staff to forward invitation to Councilor Nann's office once received.

AAC Communications (Item 8.3)

A. Loft advised he has not been receiving committee correspondence. He will send updated email address to staff.

9. Adjournment

(M. Wright)

That the Aboriginal Advisory Committee Meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 4, 2021