



Hamilton

**- MINUTES -**  
**LGBTQ Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, January 20, 2011 – 5:30 pm**  
**Room 171, City Hall**

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**PRESENT:** Jae Adams, D. Dixon, Simon Lebrun (Chair), Debbie Woolridge

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jane Lee (City of Hamilton)  
Jamilla (The Well)

**REGRETS:** Lyla Miklos, Deirdre Pike

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order.

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 4.2 Queer Voices Update
- 4.3 Hate Crime/Anti-Violence Initiatives
- 4.4 Are You Queer Campaign

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The December 2010 LGBTQ Advisory Committee minutes were discussed and corrected.

**(Woolridge/Dixon)**

That the December 9, 2010 minutes of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee be approved as amended. **CARRIED**

**4. DISCUSSION**

**4.1 Thoughts / Directions for New Committee**

**4.2 Queer Voices, Straight Up**

Jae provided an update on the Needs Assessment community forum (Queer Voices, Straight Up) as requested by Deirdre Pike as a follow-up to the discussion at the Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative. It appears that the deadline for completion of the project may be more fluid than originally thought.

Facilitators had some negative feedback from participants, as participants didn't have a good idea of what was happening in the consultation. In addition, it was felt that the evening session was particularly short, with an abbreviated exercise. There will be further discussion at the Community Advisory Committee for the project in terms of moving forward on the project. They received evaluations from 40% of the participants, with 60-70 participants. The committee noted that the goal needs to be defined more clearly for the project.

#### **4.3 Hate Crimes / Anti-Violence Initiatives**

Committee members noted that the Police LGBTQ Liaison Committee is defunct at the present time. The Well, in conjunction with members of the LGBTQ community, will be developing a community discussion with a topic of hate crimes/violence in the community to talk about incidents, the ongoing relationship with Police Services, and whether or not a community liaison committee is considered a good idea. This dialogue follows from the Hate Crimes plan drafted by the Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative. The event is to be held in late February or early March, in advance of the annual Hate Crimes police report which is usually released annually in March or April. Committee members support the ongoing dialogue, and agreed to co-host the event by holding it at City Hall.

#### **(Dixon / Woolridge)**

That the LGBTQ Advisory Committee co-sponsor with The Well a community meeting about hate crimes and anti-violence initiatives by providing space for the community meeting at City Hall to be held in February or March, 2011.

**CARRIED**

#### **4.4 Are You Queer.ca Campaign**

Members of the committee discussed their partnership with the Well on the May social marketing campaign. The Well will develop the communications plan and provide the banner; committee members will brief City officials and the incoming committee. Further discussions to take place.

#### **4.5 Suicide Prevention Presentation**

Members discussed the concern of suicides in the LGBTQ community, particularly youth. They noted the locally developed Hamilton Suicide Prevention Strategy, developed by the Suicide Prevention Community Council of Hamilton. It is believed that the Council will be requesting endorsement of the City of the Declaration of Support for the Strategy. Members expressed the hope that the incoming committee would observe the strategy and ensure that the unique needs of the LGBTQ community are addressed.

### **5. BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **Key Items for the New Committee**

The members of the committee requested the opportunity to meet informally with members of the new committee, once they are appointed to review the status of ongoing initiatives, and to discuss areas of interest and action of the previous committee.

**6. INFORMATION SHARING**

Debbie noted that she had been involved in Trans Access workshops for the 519 in Toronto, and had delivered training there.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.