



Hamilton

MINUTES: **Status of Women Committee**
Thursday, February 23, 2012 – 5:30 p.m.
Room 193, Hamilton City Hall

PRESENT: Adele Alfano, Denise Doyle, Amirah Hassan, Catherine Hughes, Myra James, Heather Judson, Katherine Kalinowski, Patti McNaney, Michelle Poirier

REGRETS: Uzma Qureshi, Denise Spoelstra, Baldeep Virk
Councillor Brenda Johnson

ALSO PRESENT: Maxine Carter, City of Hamilton
Ashley Pleasant, McMaster University Gender Studies

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Committee members were welcomed.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

3. ADDITION TO AGENDA

Item 6.5 Judges for Women of Distinction Awards was added to the agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 26, 2012

(Mover/Secunder)

That the minutes of the January 26, 2012 meeting of the Status of Women Committee be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

6.1 Workforce Census

Denise Doyle will draft a few questions to perhaps go to Council as recommendations for the next meeting that focus on the need for gender based data coming out of the Workforce Census, i.e. number, position, location, management/staff level. Anyone interested in helping can contact Denise D. Maxine will send the link to the survey question to Denise D.

By-law person will review previous Leadership Roundtable projects to see if there is any relevant information regarding women in the organization (jobs specific, position, promotion, etc.)

6.2 Survey Update

Patti McNaney and Ashley Pleasant shared a draft of the survey questions and asked for the committee to provide feedback on each question. The objective of the survey is “What are the important municipal issues to women in Hamilton?”

Members were asked to take the next week to review and provide feedback to Patti, Ashley and Sandra by February 29, 2012. Patti to send an email to confirm the date & task at hand.

6.3 Focus Outreach & Communications Update

Denise Doyle met briefly with Tyler from FactorE to get an update. He will be working on developing the website, web presence and brochure. Maxine to follow up, connect with Tyler and an Information Services contact person.

6.4 Request for Support and Participation at IWD Event

An invitation was sent to the Status of Women Committee regarding the 101st anniversary of International Women’s Day and to request a partnership between the Status of Women Committee and the International Women’s Day Committee.

(Mover/Seconder)

That the Status of Women Committee partner with the International Women’s Day Committee for the 101st Anniversary Event and contribute \$500 towards lunch on that day. **CARRIED**

6.5 Judges for Women of Distinction

Denise Doyle provided an overview of the YWCA’s Women of Distinction Awards Event and asked for volunteers from the Status of Women Committee to help with the judging.

Michelle Poirier, Myra James and Heather Judson volunteered to be judges for the Women of Distinction Awards.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 An invitation is to be extended to the Afghan Women’s Association to attend the March Status of Women Committee meeting.

7.2 Concern was expressed that Canada is still lagging behind in terms of women in government. Canadian governments (all levels) still have only 20% women.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 City of Hamilton's Committee Against Racism is hosting an event for Black History Month at City Hall on Friday, February 24, 2012 from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm and on Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm.

8.2 Catherine Hughes advised of a free community dinner hosted by the Down Stairs Kitchen to be held on Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 6:00 pm at St. Giles Church, 85 Holton Street South (near Sherman Avenue).

8.3 Myra James advised that she will be leaving for Abu Dhabi to attend a Women in Policing Conference. This conference is the first of its kind in Asia. One thousand women are expected to attend. She will then be travelling to Bangladesh for the International Women's Day celebration. Myra is Vice President of the International Association of Women Police.

8.4 McMaster University is hosting a presentation on "Women with DisAbilities – Experiences of Violence and its Prevention on University and College Campuses" on Thursday, March 15, 2012 from noon to 1:30 pm in Room 201, Institute of Applied Health Sciences.

8.5 The YWCA is hosting a Women and Leadership Panel on March 6, 2012 re Totally Awesome Women. Denise D. will send out the flyer.

9. ADJOURNMENT

On motion **(C. Hughes/H. Judson)**, the committee adjourned at 6:40 p.m.