PRESENT: Simon Lebrun, Deirdre Dixon, Lyla Miklos, Deirdre Pike
Debbie Woolridge, Councillor Bratina

ALSO PRESENT: Al Fletcher, Manager-Strategic Services & Special Projects
and Vince Ormond, Coordinator-Parking & Bylaw Services
Planning & Economic Development Department
Jane Lee – City of Hamilton

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST
None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Amend September 17, 2009 minutes by adding Karel's last name.

(D.Dixon/D.Pike)
That the September 17, 2009 minutes of the GLBT Advisory Committee be approved as amended. CARRIED.

4. DELEGATION

The Committee welcomed Al Fletcher, Manager of Strategic Services & Special Projects and Vince Ormond, Coordinator of Parking & Bylaw Services, Planning & Economic Development Department.

Al Fletcher
Al noted that the Hamilton zoning by-law is quite old, having been developed in the 1950s. It includes old terminology such as Public Bath. There was a public process, including notice in paper about changes prior to the changes being made. There was also a public meeting, and a public presentation at Planning & Economic Development Committee. Al noted that he had a conversation with Karel prior to the meeting, and that Karel had been licensed previously. Al noted that by changing the zoning, it does not mean the use discontinues, if it was a legal use before the bylaw; that zoning runs with the land & the building, not with the owner of the business. He noted that it is probably a
private club now, and that private clubs allowed in most commercial zones throughout City.

Vince Ormond

Vince explained that the Licensing Code limits the number of licenses to 2 adult entertainment parlours and 2 body rub parlours. The requirement for a bath house license was repealed together with the changes in the zoning by-law. In the review of the Licensing Code to maintain consistency with the zoning changes, they reviewed the Bath House License category – and the only requirement for bath house was a license; there were no inspections required. He noted the intent of the licensing code was for protection of the public with respect to health & safety, insurance, fire, police, and nuisances. It was deemed that there was no need to have a license for a public bath. Vince noted that at the time, there were 3 bath houses; once the zoning and Licensing Code was changed, there was no need to renew the license, as the business is allowed without the license. If the bath house was operating as a body rub parlour, a license would be required.

In response to question, staff provided information about the definitions in both zoning and Licensing of what a public bath was, a body rub parlour and a private club.

Both Vince and Al agreed to meet with Karel to assist in providing clarity to Karel about his current situation. Al noted that he would send a follow-up memo to the committee following meeting regarding the resolution of this matter.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

5.1 Final Confirmation of Report re Revised Terms of Reference and 2010 Budget

A few changes were proposed to finalize the budget.

The committee agreed to the revised Terms of Reference and draft report. They discussed holding an open forum, in partnership with the Well & Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative (HPSC) to discuss community needs and input. It will probably held around Pink Triangle Day. They would like to bring forward the report to the Audit and Administration Committee for approval following that meeting.

(D.Dixon/D.Woolridge)

That the Terms of Reference for the LGBTQ Advisory Committee be deferred until after community consultation takes place in February 2010.

CARRIED.

5.2 Strategic Plan – Workplan Development

The committee agreed to defer this discussion to the November meeting.
5.3 Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative

(L.Miklos/D.Dixon)
That Debbie Woolridge be appointed as the LGBTQ Advisory Committee’s representative on the Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative.

CARRIED.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Police Task Force
A discussion took place about the Terms of Reference and who should be members of the Police Task Force. Committee members also felt that better recruitment is required, and the task force needs to focus on issues related to the LGBTQ community. They also noted that there are no agendas until the meeting, no minutes, and that the meetings are irregular.

(D.Pike/D.Woolridge)
That the Chair and a representative of the City’s LGBTQ Advisory Committee and the Chair of the Hamilton Positive Space Collaborative meet with the new Chief of Hamilton Police Services to discuss the mandate, role and operation of the Police LGBT Task Force and how the effectiveness of the LGBT Task Force might be improved.

CARRIED.

6.2 Homelessness Initiative
This matter is complete and can be removed from the agenda.

6.3 LGBTQ Community Listings in Pride Pages 2009/10

Consideration was given to making the community listings available on a website. Committee members wanted to discuss this at the next meeting, and would like information about how much the committee contributed to the community listings in 2008.

The Well would consider developing and maintaining a listing, and will bring in a presentation at the next meeting.

6.4 Review of Chair Position
Simon expressed concern about his capacity to continue as the chair. Members expressed a desire for him to continue. The addition of a Co-chair would be helpful.

(L.Miklos/J.Adams)
That Debbie Woolridge be appointed as the Co-chair of the Committee.

CARRIED.
6.5 Community Centre Update

The Committee noted that one of the follow-up items from the LGBTQ Community Needs Assessment (PRIDE/SPRC) was a direction from Council to the Community Services Department to investigate the community centre concept. They noted they have not heard anything about the status of this, nor have they had an opportunity to discuss the matter with staff.

(L.Miklos/D.Dixon)
That Community Services staff be invited to attend either the December or January GLBT Advisory Committee meeting to provide an update on the GLBT Community Centre as a follow-up to the presentation of the GLBT Needs Assessment in May, 2008, and to discuss input from the GLBT Advisory Committee. CARRIED.

6.6 Accessible Recreation for Transgender Individuals

The Well has been working with a transgender youth and HWDSB in a special program – involving participating in recreation centre programs. Committee members questioned what support exists for individuals; including washrooms, change rooms, pools, etc. The committee questioned if there was an asset mapping of family washrooms, and whether there are any trans swims or recreational programming. They wondered what’s in place & what might be done; they noted that they are referring people to the YWCA.

(D.Dixon/D.Woolridge)
That Recreation staff be invited to attend either the December or January GLBT Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the supports in place for LGBTQ youth in recreation centres and programs in Hamilton. CARRIED.

6.7 Hamilton Pride
Deferred to next meeting.

6.8 Trans Day of Remembrance
Thursday November 19, 2009
Well is taking the lead on this. Venue will be central and accessible.

(B.Bratina/D.Woolridge)
That the GLBT Advisory Committee sponsor the Trans Day of Remembrance in the amount of $150.00. CARRIED.

7. INFORMATION SHARING

7.1 Lyla
Lyla noted that she has attended several Equity Training/Workshops at HWDSB, and that there are more being offered including, Trans 101 and Sexual Orientation.
7.2 Equity & Inclusion Policy

Jane noted that there will be follow-up meetings to share the draft policy with the advisory committees who had participated in feedback sessions earlier in the year.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.