Present: Leslie Longman, Tyrone Childs, Joe Rhodes, Gurpreet Dipak, Bill Torrens

Regrets: Cindy Sue McCormack

Also Present: Maxine Carter – Customer Service, Access & Equity Division, Corporate Services

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None declared.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA
Approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 28, 2006

(Longman/Rhodes)
That the minutes of the November 28, 2006 meeting of the Committee Against Racism be approved as circulated. CARRIED

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Maxine to include a copy of the recommendations to Chief Brian Mullan from the Black Community Meeting in the CAR minutes.

It was requested that staff invite Det. Chris Kiriakopoulos of the Hamilton Police Services’ Hate Crime Unit to the May meeting.

It was requested that staff invite Denise Brooks, on behalf of the Black Community Response Committee to the May meeting to update CAR.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

5.1 Anti-Racism Symposium – Report Back to Community – Selection of Report Writer
Leslie Longman reported that Klyde Brooks was approached to write the report coming out of the March 21, 2006 Anti-Racism Symposium.
Joe Rhodes and Leslie Longman will confirm that Klyde Brooks has agreed to write up the report. Leslie & Joe to meet with Klyde. They will provide a letter of agreement outlining the roles, responsibilities & timelines for Klyde Brooks and the Committee Against Racism.

5.2 Harassment & discrimination Complaints Concerning Taxi Cab Companies
Tyrone Childs to contact Dar Mohammad to get an update with respect to this issue.

The Committee will request a meeting with Mayor Eisenberger to update and brief him with respect to the committee’s activities, including this item.

5.3 Truth Commission Follow-up
No update.

5.4 Workplan Update
Committee members to email Maxine with their update.

5.5 Follow-up Report to Council on Symposium Recommendations
Tabled until the May or June meeting.

Maxine to bring copies of the literature review of best practice models of resource centres as identified by CAR recommendations.

5.6 Mediation as a Role for the Incoming Committee
MOTION:
(Rhodes/Dipak)
That the incoming members of the new committee take on the role and responsibility of mediation and that this be placed in the Committee Against Racism’s Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

5.7 Grants Committees for the City
A copy of the following documents was requested by Joe Rhodes & Leslie Longman:
- terms of reference for Grants Subcommittee
- subcommittee composition
- how are grants allocated?
- who received grants last year & in the past?
- is funding allocated in an equitable manner?
- list of all advisory committees & composition.

MOTION
(Longman/Rhodes)
That the Committee Against Racism recommend to Council for the City of Hamilton that a member of the Committee Against Racism be appointed as a voting member to the Grants Sub-committee.

CARRIED
Staff will draft a report to the Audit & Administration Committee outlining the rationale for this motion.

5.8 Report – Media Advisory (JRhodes)
The Media Advisory Committee is looking for new members. Almost all media sits on this committee. Major focus is to deal with issues of racism in the media.

5.9 Report – Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion (TChilds)
Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion (HCCI) is to present to CAR in June 2007.

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. INFORMATION SHARING

7.1 Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board Report
Bill Torrens advised that the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board will be hosting a workshops and educational sessions for teachers entitled Black History In The Curriculum. A Black History Package was prepared for teachers as a resource.

Bill Torrens reported that Lincoln Alexander Day was held on February 5, 2007. Lincoln Alexander Day will be held each year on the first Monday in February.

The HWDSB is nearing completion of a draft of the Sexual Orientation component of the Equity Policy. They will be conducting consultation / community validation in the near future (spring 2007). The Committee Against Racism will be a stakeholder in the validation process.

7.2 Gaulks International Event & Fundraising will be held in July 2007. Contact Leslie Longman.

7.4 200th Anniversary of the UK Legislation to End Slave Trade (trafficking of humans) is March 25, 2007.

7.5 HCCI Launch to be held March 20, 2007, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce.

8. ADJOURNMENT
On motion, the meeting adjourned.