- MINUTES -
COMMITTEE AGAINST RACISM
Tuesday, March 25, 2008 – 6:30 p.m. – Room 207
Convention Centre, Summers Lane,

Present: Leslie Longman, Eddie Lee, Samer Salman, Rabe Makwarela, Andrea Rado, Tyrone Childs, Mohammed Dar

Regrets: Marwan Masri, Gay Walton, Roger Cameron

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Declaration of Interest
None declared.

3. Review of Agenda

(Makwarela/Salman)
That the Committee Against Racism agenda for March 25, 2008 be accepted. CARRIED.

4. Approval of Minutes

(Childs/Makwarela)
That the January 22, 2008 minutes of the Committee Against Racism be approved as circulated. CARRIED.

(Childs/Makwarela)
That the notes of February 26, 2008 be received for information to be part of the discussion for March 25, 2008 meeting. CARRIED.

5. Matters Arising From Minutes

January 22, 2008
Item 5.1 Letter to Ken Roberts, Hamilton Public Library
Maxine & Joe to meet to craft the letter.

Item 5.3 Selection of Subcommittee Members
The subcommittees report back will be placed on the agenda as a regular item un Business.
Members not on a subcommittee will self-select and join the subcommittee that they feel they can contribute the most to.

6. **Business Items**

6.1 **Anti-Racism Symposium Report Update**
Pauline Kajuria will be providing a draft document for the Committee to review. Maxine to contact Pauline to confirm date that this will happen.

6.2 **Supporting Agencies – increasing awareness and understanding of the grants processes of funding bodies**
Subcommittees I & II took the responsibility of planning a forum to achieve this initiative. The Committee will work to develop a more comprehensive plan that will include a series of forums on different topics.

Once the forums are completed, the subcommittee will write a report that will make recommendations to Council.

Samir Salman will email the notes from the subcommittee I & II meetings to Maxine to be included with the March 25, 2008 minutes.

6.3 **Taxi Concerns – Public Forum**
Subcommittee I & II will include this public forum into the series that they are developing.
The taxi forum will bring various stakeholders together to hear the issues of racism affecting drivers.

(Makwerela/Childs)
That the Committee Against Racism host a forum for taxi drivers to discuss issues of racism and discrimination in the job. **CARRIED.**
1 – Opposed

6.4 **Grants Subcommittee and Funding for Anti-Racism Work**
The committee will review the granting process and the list of awardees over the years. Maxine will gather this information for committee and get it to them as soon as possible.

6.4.1 **Membership on Taxi Advisory Committee**
Development of a taxi driver

7. **New Business**

7.1 **Invitation to Mayor to attend the committee meetings**
Joe Rhodes has sent an invitation to Mayor Eisenberger to attend. He is waiting for a response.
Maxine will let the committee know which Councillor will be attending the monthly meetings.
(Lee/Childs)
That the Chair of the Committee Against Racism invite Councillors S. Merulla, B. McHattie and C. Collins to attend the Committee Against Racism meetings.

CARIED.

7.2 Committee members who are absent due to illness

8. Information Sharing

8.1 Racial Profiling focus group to be hosted by CCAR at 510 Main St. East, Hamilton on Thursday, April 24, 2008 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

8.2 Hope in the Cities Meeting to be held at SISO on Sunday, March 30, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

8.3 Captain Cornelius Park – Roger Cameron is on leave from the committee for a few months. This item will be tabled until he returns.

8.4 Attack on Muslim girl at Hess School – members were informed that the police made a public statement that the issue is closed. There were apparently no racism or hate activity involved.

9. Adjournment