Present: Holly Thompson, Brian Mehlenbacher, Jane Vanderhout, Rachel Gardner, Jen Fazzari, Justin Wan, Krystena Wan, Matt Jackson, Nicola Jackson, Kristin Eccles

Regrets: Chelsey Crevar, Nicola Goldberg

Staff Liaison: Shari Farrell
Observer: Brad Walker

Welcome: Matt Jackson welcomed all in attendance. It was noted that attendee, Brad Walker is a Program Assistant at the Ancaster Rotary. (Brad was attending today’s meeting to learn more about the role of the Ancaster Youth Activity Council.)

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held March 7, 2006
The Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday, March 7, 2006 were accepted as presented.

AYAC Update of the Ancaster Community Council Meeting
Jane Vanderhout attended the meeting and presented an update on the Ancaster Youth Activity Council.

Update on Vaughan Mills Shopping Excursion & Coffee House Event
Shari Farrell requested feedback from the Ancaster Youth Activity Council in regards to their thoughts as to the reason for insufficient registrations for the Vaughan Mill Shopping Excursion. Many members of the Council felt that the timing for registrations was less than ideal due to March Break happenings upon us. As well, since such a shopping excursion for youth had not taken place in the past, the time required to develop an “Informed Consent Form with the City’s Risk Management Division was somewhat lengthy. Shari questioned whether the AYAC felt the trip should be reconsidered for the future. Members noted that because the “ground work” in regards to the trip’s development has taken place, it should definitely be considered as a possible future outing again. Further discussion are planned to take place at a later date.

It was confirmed that Ancaster High would be hosting their Prom Night on Thursday, May 18, 2006. Therefore, the Coffee House could not be hosted successfully at this time. An earlier date for the Coffee House is not feasible. Later in June would be difficult with the completion of the school year, exams, etc.

As a whole, it was felt that the AYAC’s energy would be best spent on developing a plan of action in regards to hosting a successful Ancaster Heritage Days event.
Update on Heritage Days
A few members of the AYAC noted that they had not heard that a Heritage Day Planning Meeting had taken place as of yet.

Shari Farrell will contact Tony Anderson (Heritage Days Coordinator) as to the happenings of the Ancaster Heritage Days Event Planning Meetings. She will also inquire as to possible access to the parking lot adjacent to Theatre Ancaster for the June 10th event. Should the space not be available for the “Battles of the Bands” event, another option will need to be considered.

Members of the AYAC confirmed that they would like to participate in the Heritage Day parade as well this year as per usual.

Buddy-Up to Clean-Up Ancaster Event
Shari noted that Kathy Bishop from Councillor Ferguson’s office had contacted her in regards to the Saturday, April 29, 2006 “Buddy-Up to Clean-Up Ancaster” event. Councillor Ferguson’s office is appealing for AYAC’s assistance at the event. Several members of the Ancaster Youth Council confirmed their interest in participating again this year and plan to attend. AYAC members are encouraged to wear their AYAC shirts (weather permitting) on this day.

Term of Office Completions, Recruitment, Applications & Appointments of New AYAC Members for the 2006/2007
Shari noted that the AYAC needs to start the process of looking to attract new membership to the AYAC for the upcoming 2006/2007 season. It was decided that the application forms would be printed immediately with distribution as soon as possible in order to provide enough time for awareness. Shari will send informational packages to the area schools but will also require the assistance of the AYAC members to promote and educate peers in regards to the youth council, its role, and the membership process.

It was noted that approximately half of the current AYAC members will be completing their term of office this June. Members completing their roles on Council will be asked to assist with the interview and appointment process of new members in early June. A tentative date of June 6th was suggested for the interview of new applicants. Shari Farrell to confirm.

Ancaster Youth Activity Council – Terms of Reference
Shari Farrell noted that she believed the Ancaster Youth Activity Council’s Terms of Reference has not been reviewed since April 2001. Shari distributed copies to all
members of the AYAC and asked them to review the Terms of Reference and provide their written input as to whether they felt there might be any areas which need to be reviewed in the future.

Other Business:
Shari Farrell announced that the Ancaster Rotary Centre would be hosting its annual Community Easter Hunt on Friday, April 14, 2006. (Good Friday) Approximately 500 children between the ages of 2 and 8 years of age are registered to participate. An appeal was made by Shari for assistance with the event. Approximately five members from the Council confirmed that they would be able to assist. Shari will assign responsibilities for those assisting.

Date of Next Meeting:
The next Ancaster Youth Activity Council Meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, May 9th, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. in the Ancaster Rotary Centre – Teen Centre.
Chairperson: Holly Thompson