Present: Connie Bellamy, Allan Loft, Cindy-Sue Montana-McCormack, Debra Elmes, David Bentley, Yvonne Maracle, Marilyn Wright
Also Present: Maxine Carter, Barb Smoke, Jaffat Hayat - City of Hamilton
Regrets: Absent:
Chairperson: David Bentley

1. Opening.  
   • A. Loft opened the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions.  
   • Everyone was welcomed to the meeting

3. Declaration of Interest.  
   • None declared.

4. Review and approval of Agenda.  
   • The agenda was reviewed
   • Addition of item #10.2, New Memberships
   • Addition of item #10.3, Ontario Congress of Aboriginal Peoples
   • Addition of item #10.4, Social Service Worker Certificate Program for Aboriginal Students

   C. Montana-McCormack and Y. Maracle arrived at the meeting.

**MOTION #1**  
C. Bellamy/A. Loft  
To accept the agenda, as amended.  

   • Y. Maracle took over chairing the meeting  

   CARRIED.
5. **A. Approval of minutes, March 1, 2012.**
   - Review and corrections of the minutes
   
   **MOTION #2**
   **C. Bellamy/A. Loft**
   To accept the minutes of the March 1, 2012 meeting, as amended.
   **CARRIED.**

6. **Business arising from minutes.**
   - Clarification was given regarding the letters of invitation sent to some of the Aboriginal organization inviting their representative to sit at the ACC table in order to bring issues forward
   - Connie McKnight from the Aboriginal Health Centre informed Y. Maracle that she is interested in becoming a member of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC)
   - The committee was also informed that one of the respondents wanted to have a copy of the Terms of Reference. This was not possible since the terms of reference was not final and hence were not included with the letter
   - M. Carter informed the committee members that the City Clerks Office will be sending out a recruitment advertisement seeking up to 6 new members for the Aboriginal Advisory Committee; members were asked to share the flyer with their networks.
   - C. Montana-McCormack provided clarification of the discussion at the last meeting with respect to the brochure
   - Committee discussed the design for the banner
   - It may be too late to get a banner done for this year but it will be done for next year
   - The banner needs to be 40’ across
   - Y. Maracle will be responsible for the banner
   - Y. Maracle collected the information for over the road in front of City Hall and was informed that there is still space available for June 2012. The cost is $312.74 to register, plus $2,000,000 insurance coverage required. The banner has to meet all city specifications
   - The $2,000 could also be used for the banner expenses
   - Y. Maracle agreed to be responsible for the safe return of the banner and will collect the banner after the event. The banner must be collected 24 hours after it comes down (from in front of city hall)
The sign should have the City of Hamilton logo on it and say:

The City of Hamilton’s Volunteer Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Celebrates June as

National Aboriginal Month

MOTION #3
M. Wright/D. Elmes
That up to $2,000.00 be approved to purchase a banner and to cover any costs related to National Aboriginal Month.

CARRIED.

MOTION #4
M. Wright/A. Loft
That the Chair draft a letter to Mayor Bratina, requesting that he declare the month of June National Aboriginal Month.

CARRIED.

- It was suggested that the Chair prepare a declaration for National Aboriginal Month that would be run in the Spectator.
- The Committee requested that staff prepare an invitation for the Mayor to participate in NAD activities from June 15 – 17. The invitation will also include a request for him to attend the event at City Hall also June 21st at 12 noon, to bring greetings. Y. Maracle will provide the itinerary.
- M. Carter to prepare the banner application and send available dates to the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, to decide
- Soaring Spirits is having a logo contest

Draft Survey was developed by C. Montana-McCormack.
Discussion regarding the content of the survey that will be administered during NAD.
- C. Montana-McCormack questioned the purpose of the survey at this time. The committee decided to discuss the merits of the survey. What is the purpose of the survey? How do we get people involved?
Suggestion that everyone who fills out a survey we will put their names in a draw for a prize such as a gift certificate for Food Basics.

Keep the survey simple. For example, “As the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, what do you think is important for us to advise the Mayor and Council”

Another idea was to make a suggestion board and allow participants to write their comments.

The survey is to engage the people and, to let them know that the Aboriginal Advisory Committee (AAC) is working on their behalf.

Questions should focus on:

- How would we better serve the community?
- As the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, what do you think is important?
- List 5 or 10 areas of priority to select from.
- Members were asked to put in their priority suggestions
- The survey should contain no more that 5 questions – what’s important to you?
- In the demographics section the survey should request age, gender and postal code, as well as Aboriginal descent.
- Be sure to include copy of the Terms of Reference.
- A suggestion was made to use the long roll up paper for users to put their priority items on.
- The roll-up paper was selected as the way to go
- Y. Maracle has rolls of paper at her office that can be used
- It was suggested that everyone work on this and copy to M. Carter and B. Smoke

Committee will need to develop a schedule for members so that there is always a committee member present and to encourage people to fill in the survey.

C. Montana-McCormack will start the e-mail on this

7. **Finalizing of Terms of Reference.**

- C. Montana-McCormack distributed the City of Hamilton’s Youth Advisory Committee’s Terms of Reference (TOR), as reference and indicated that the AAC Terms of Reference should be similar to this youth TOR
- New AAC TOR item #2 & #5 were distributed for review
- M. Carter explained that if the AAC want to work on their terms of reference this can be done as a facilitated discussion where everyone takes part; 3-hour session at the June meeting
- M. Carter to send suggestions for facilitators to the AAC members
- The AAC brochure will include how to become a member and the terms of reference.
8. **Letters of Invitation.**
   - Letters were signed by Y. Maracle and sent out to members on the attached list.
   - Letter to Six Nations Confederacy still needs to be determined who it should go to. M. Carter to find out who the Joint Stewardship board members are and to invite them to a future AAC meeting.
   - John Roberts, from the Ontario Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (OCAP), is interested in coming to make a presentation on OCAP, for the July meeting. Letter to go out to him regarding this.

9. **Work Plan discussion.**
   - Will be developed when the Terms of Reference are finalized.

10. **New Business.**
10.1 **Minute-Taker.**
   - No one was interested in taking minutes.

10.2 **New Membership.**
   - City of Hamilton, Clerks Office, will be sending out citizen recruitment advertisements for 6 new members, next week.
   - Members were asked to share with their networks when M. Carter forwards the ad.

10.3 **Ontario Congress of Aboriginal Peoples.**
   - John Roberts was Mohawk College’s Director of Aboriginal Education and is also the representative to the Ontario Congress of Aboriginal Peoples.
   - D. Bentley to invite John Roberts to the July meeting to do a presentation on OCAP.

10.4 **Social Service Worker’s Certificate Program regarding Aboriginal content.**
   - D. Bentley expressed his concern about his previous discussions when a course was developed by Mohawk College.
   - D. Bentley would like to have this item be incorporated in the work plan. To be discussed further, Aboriginal Peer Counselling.

10.5 **Correspondence.**
   - Letter dated March 30, 2012, from the Committee Against Racism (CAR) was received, inviting someone from the AAC to attend CAR meetings, either on a regular basis or as needed.
   - CAR meetings are held every 4th Tuesday of the month, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., room 192.
11. **Information Sharing.**

11.1 **National Aboriginal Day**
- June 15, 16 & 17, at Gage Park, from 11:00 a.m. until sunset
- The Board of Education is supporting a tent but there is no prepared programming
- The Kitty Joseph Walk-a-thon is not taking place this year
- Niwasa will be taking part in NAD for one of the days.
- Heritage Canada is supporting NAD, in the amount of $9,700
- Homelessness Partnership Strategy is supporting, in the amount of $3,000 and $500 for the June 21 event at city hall
- Application to go in to Maple Leaf Meats
- Raffle Tickets will be sold
- Donations needed for the give aways on June 17
- No senior’s tent nor Hamilton Wentworth District School Board tent this year.

11.2 **Art Auction.**
- 337 Sketch Gallery, at Ottawa/Barton, June 1-24
- Calendar to be given to M. Carter to send to all Advisory Committees

11.3 **HRIC Grand Opening**
- May 3, 34 Ottawa St. N., 1:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Official ribbon cutting ceremony at 5:00 p.m.

11.4 **Raise Your Voice Against Poverty**
- May 5 at Chiefswood Park, Ohsweken, 10 am – 5 pm
- Cost: Non-perishable items for food bank
- Mark LaForme & More, live auction, BBQ draw, 50/50
- Free hamburgers and hot dogs
- Y. Maracle will be speaking at this event

12. **Next Meeting.**
- Thursday June 7, 2012, 3 hour facilitated session on Terms of Reference, 5:30 -8:30 p.m., room 264
- Next regular meeting, July 5, 5:30 p.m., room 264

13. **Adjournment.**
- Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

**MOTION #5**

C. Bellamy/D. Elmes
To adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. **CARRIED.**