MINUTES
Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee
Tuesday, March 16, 2010

McMaster University Centre for Continuing Education, Downtown Centre
50 Main St E. 2nd Floor, Room # 234
4:45 – 7:30 p.m.

Present: Goce Dimitrioski, Fan Yang

Absent with Regrets: Ben Konyi, Tahiya Bakht, Aman-Preet, Matt Terry, Michelle Leach, Katrina Schotsman, Anda Wang, Fatime Sadeq, Philip Homerski, Corey Beaudoin

Also Present: René Reid, Mark Weingartner, Edward Lee, Paula Hearn, Joe Finkle, Morganne King Wale, Chris Martin, Aryan Piroev Hassan, Daoui Abouchere

1. INTRODUCTION & ICE-BREAKER

1.1 General information about HYAC (Goce/Fan)
Goce provided a brief introduction to the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee for the guests at this meeting.

1.2 Brief ice breaker game (Goce)
Goce facilitated a quick ‘Round Robin’ having those in attendance introduce themselves and share something about their plans for the summer.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Additional discussion items were added (6.3 & 6.5) and the order of the discussion items were adjusted based on priority.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Approval of minutes of previous meeting (Goce)
Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated Tuesday February 16, 2009, were not approved as presented as quorum was not achieved.  
(Dimitrioski /Yang)

5. GUEST PRESENTATION

None

6. PRESENTATION

6.1 Youth Poverty & Homelessness Project (Fan)

Fan did a run-through of the Youth Poverty and Homelessness presentation for those in attendance. Comments overall were positive. Feedback included suggestions to follow the script more closely and to practice words that may challenging to pronounce. Fan and Katie are to arrange a time to get together to practice more before going before the committee.

6.2 Influencing Public Policy Training (Fan & Goce)

- 20 people representing 5 youth groups in the community attended this HYAC hosted event facilitated by the Youth Advocacy Training Institute
- Two attendees who had also been at the training Feb.20th were awarded their certificates
- Fan passed around the training booklet and talked about the training highlights
- Youth identified that they would like to host another training for youth in the community and said they felt these trainings were valuable
- René will look into the logistics of hosting another training opportunity in the near future and will report back to the group.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7.1 T-shirts for HYAC and members of the general public (René)

René brought in sample t-shirts to help stimulate discussion about future HYAC shirts. The group discussed design challenges such as logo placement and shirt colour. Shirt style and/or material type still need further discussion. Goce has offered to investigate further options and or design possibilities. As we did not achieve quorum, no decisions were made as to the look or material of the shirts.
7.2 HYAC Website and Logo status update (Fan, René, Mark)

- Mark provided an update about the sub-pages of the website that maintain the bulletin board theme throughout.
- Currently, Mark and René are working on the content and asking for member feedback throughout the process. It is hoped HYAC members will take on a more active role in contributing to and updating the content in the future.
- Goce stressed the value in having lots of visuals on the website while steering clear of a lot of text.
- Once the sub-pages are complete with the content in place, Mark and René will forward the preliminary concept to the group for final consideration and input.

7.3 Hamilton Next Generation Project focus group & Lincoln M. Alexander Award 2010 (Eddie Lee)

- Eddie further elaborated on the focus group and the Lincoln M. Alexander Award 2010.

7.4 HYAC’s Proposal for 2010 – Preparations (Goce)

- Discussion took place about possible collaboration opportunities between the MSU (McMaster Student Union) and HYAC.
- Looking for ways to draw students off campus and to become more engaged in the City of Hamilton.
- Many new students view downtown as dangerous or unsafe.
- Some ways to partner with the MSU may be to include simple promo items with HYAC branding in ‘Frosh Bags’ in Aug./Sept. Promo items should be something of value to students such as a toothbrush etc. Paper items such as flyers are typically discarded. More discussion will need to take place to determine future partnerships and initiatives such as Hamilton 101

7.5 Recreation opportunities for youth (Mark)

- This topic stemmed from discussions that arose from the Youth Homelessness and Poverty Report run-though in February.
- We need to determine what info is needed to be brought forward for next meeting.
- We need an inventory of the facilities that are available in various areas.
- It was identified that some area are over or undersubscribed with sports and activities.
- Recreational involvement may be cost prohibitive to younger youth and children.
- More recreational activities seem to be tailored to younger youth and children.
- More discussion will need to take place once there are more members in attendance.

8. EVENT/WORKSHOP/COLLABORATION UPDATES

8.1 Leadership Quest 2010 (René & Katie) - Deferred
8.2 HYAC’s Photo Op with the Mayor *(René & Phil)* -Deferred

8.3 Tim Horton’s Team-up to Clean-up Event – April 19th-25th *(René)*
   - Application for participation is by online registration
   - HYAC needs to identify a location
   - HYAC needs to figure out who they are going to challenge to clean-up during this event
   - HYAC members need to identify if they are willing to commit to this initiative
   - René will submit the final application once final decisions and logistics have been made

8.4 Meeting evaluation and feedback *(René)*

9. ADJOURNMENT

   *(Yang/ Dimitrioski)*
   - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

   CARRIED