PRESENT: Rob Brown, Kerry Cranston, David Gunton, Gord Jackson, Marlon Picken, Michelle Poirier, Kristeen Sprague, Debbie Wooldridge

ALSO PRESENT: Maxine Carter – City of Hamilton

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
   The meeting was called to order. Everyone was welcomed and introductions were made roundtable.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST
   None declared.

2a. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
   The following items were added to the agenda:
   - Are You Queer Campaign
   - Hamilton Police Services Advisory Report

   Woolridge/Jackson)
   That the agenda for the May 19, 2011 meeting of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee be approved as amended. CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   The minutes of January 20, 2011 were reviewed. D. Woolridge provided a brief summary of the contents, however, since she was the only past committee member in attendance, the minutes were tabled for approval at the next meeting of the committee.

   D. Woolridge requested that a committee member volunteer to be the recording secretary for evening. K. Cranston volunteered.
4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Review of Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles & Terms of Reference

D. Woolridge prepared and reviewed the previous LGBTQ Advisory Committee’s accomplishments and actions including any outstanding issues.

Highlights of this discussion included:
- that the committee work with other organizations in the city, such as Positive Space Collaborative, The Well, and other organizations.
- committee members will also have opportunity to interact with Council members & city staff.
- it was noted that we need to have youth voice at table, always an area where LGBTQ Advisory has been lacking. There was a youth community member who liaised with past committee & new committee may wish to explore this option.
- it is very important for committee members to participate in the discussion, however, must leave the meetings united despite any disagreements which occur during meetings. In other words, we should have our discussions and disagreements at the table not outside of the committee.

Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles
- past committee did not have a vision and guiding principles however there were existing Mission and Terms of Reference
- many months spent preparing present document, which was just completed and approved by Council in the Fall 2010.
- Vision includes the City Of Hamilton vision statement.
- use of word “Queer” added to advisory name to reflect all LGBTQ communities
- put “choice” in city vision, as committee wants people to choose Hamilton as their city of choice for residence.
- advise City Council on community issues affecting city-owned properties, services, not private property or businesses
- many people from LGBTQ communities have issues and concerns regarding the Hamilton Public Library which previous committee addressed on occasion
- Recreation Centres needs to have trans change rooms and washrooms and the City is addressing this concern
- lifeguards in Recreation Centres need to have Trans training to ensure pool is a safe space for them also.
- LGBTQ Advisory Committee will make decisions, that are then sent in a report format to the Audit, Finance and Administration Committee for discussion and approval and then from there to Council
- LGBTQ Advisory wants to make city facilities LGBTQ friendly
past committee was asked to assist with wording of citywide employee demographic survey
City Hall itself is not a positive space as not many city workers have received training as yet.
City has begun to implement the new Equity & Inclusion Policy
employment & education are very important areas in an equity program
access to social services improving, but LGBTQ still have some barriers
ability to participate in larger non-LGBTQ community volunteering opportunities, etc improving

Values
past committee had a list of about 50 values, narrowed it down to most important
Gord suggested adding “civility” to list

Terms of Reference
ensure that LGBTQ members are treated well on city property
make recommendations to City Council regarding areas of interest and need for LGBTQ communities,
important to have terms of reference so we can point out challenges to the City in order to improve the overall appeal of the City.
LGBTQ Advisory Committee may wish to invite the Mayor and Council to an advisory meeting to make them more aware of LGBTQ issues
past committee funded the establishment of a database to track and update information about LGBTQ communities, organizations, businesses, services in the city.
database created by/operated by The Well, who are tracking the number of hits they receive on the site.
suggestion that someone from the Well could be invited to attend an LGBTQ advisory meeting to explain where that program currently stands.
LGBTQ Advisory Committee must be aware that they represent all members of the LGBTQ communities
past committee spent a lot of their time working on the newly revised mission, vision, mission, guiding principles and terms of reference
no actions are official until the minutes of that meeting get approved at the following meeting.

Maxine will provide the draft of guiding principles of respectful meetings & Terms of Reference to be used at all future meetings.
Principles/rules of engagement to be added to committee package at the next meeting.

**(D. Woolridge/K. Sprague)**
That the orientation report presented be accepted. **CARRIED.**

### 4.2 Plans for Hamilton Pride Week

K. Cranston provided an outline/overview regarding the situation about the Hamilton Pride Festival Inc (HPFI). It is no longer a functioning body and as such there was no official Pride activities planned for this year. A group of individuals and organizations have banded together to form the HammerPride Alliance (HPA). HPA is not an organized body of the HPFI, it is a group of individuals & organizations that will each handle their own events during Pride Week. These events will all be listed on a poster that will be printed by HPA. The events which HPA will be hosting are a rally being organized in front of City Hall on the afternoon of Saturday, June 18th followed by a festival at The Werx (121 Hughson Street North).

The list of tentative Pride events is attached.

Due to time restrictions HPA was not able to secure permit for use of forecourt at City Hall for rally. This was merely a logistical issue. The HPA is requesting that the LGBTQ Advisory Committee assist in ensuring that the forecourt of City Hall is booked for the Pride Rally. The previous LGBTQ Advisory last met in January, at which time it was not known that HPFI was collapsing.

**(K. Cranston/M. Picken)**
That LGBTQ Advisory Committee request and obtain a permit for the use of City Hall forecourt on Saturday, June 18th, 2011 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and that staff report back on the progress of the application. **CARRIED.**

**(M. Picken/D. Woolridge)**
That LGBTQ Advisory Committee request to have City Hall raise the Pride flag in front of City Hall from Monday, June 13th, 2011 where it will fly until Monday, June 20th, 2011. **CARRIED**

**(D. Woolridge/K. Sprague)**
Due to time restraint, items 4.4 and 4.5 will be tabled until next meeting. **CARRIED.**

### 4.3 Selection of Chair & Vice Chair

This being the first meeting of the committee for the new term, the seats of the Chair or Vice Chair were vacant.
There were two nominations for the position of Chair. After elections were carried out, Marlon Picken was elected as the new Chair of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee for a one-year term.

There were two nominations for the position of Vice Chair. After the elections were carried out, Kerry Cranston was elected Vice-Chair.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

5.1 **Are You Queer Campaign**
Debbie advised that the Are You Queer campaign was successful.
- There were many responses to the banner, both positive and negative.
- She explained that the LGBTQ Advisory Committee requested the banner space two years ago. The Well paid for banner to be made.
- A Spectator article is online for anyone who wishes to read it
- Suggestion that the LGBTQ Advisory Committee invite Jae or Simon to speak about results of program
- D. Wooldridge suggested that guidelines need to be in place to appoint those who are approved to respond on behalf of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee, be it Chair, Vice-Chair or media spokesperson elected by committee

M. Picken requested email contact list for committee members. Maxine will obtain approval of contact list on agenda for next meeting

**(D. Wooldridge/ G. Jackson)**
That the next meeting of LGBTQ Advisory Committee be moved to Thursday, June 23rd at 5:30 as current date of Thursday, June 18th is during Pride Week celebrations. **CARRIED.**

6. **ADJOURNMENT**
On motion, the committee adjourned.

**Agenda Items for June Meeting**
- Development of Principles
- Media Contact For Committee
- Committee Contact Information
- Equity And Inclusion Policy Overview