MINUTES: GLBT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 12, 2005 – 6:00 PM
Room 264, City Hall

PRESENT: Cole Gately, Tanya Gulliver, Deirdre Pike, Francine Small, Joe Whelan

REGRETS: Mike Desjardins, Dawn Lepard

ALSO PRESENT: Jane Lee – City of Hamilton

1. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
None declared.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
The minutes will be corrected as to the spelling of Ronn Mattai and the time the meeting adjourned (7:45 p.m.)

(Small/Gately)
That the minutes of September 26, 2005 be approved as amended.
CARRIED.

3. BUSINESS ITEMS

3.1 Safe Spaces Campaign

An update was provided as to the Safe Spaces campaign. The possibility of a partnership with the Sexual Health Awareness Centre and the McMaster GLBT Centre was discussed and encouraged. The next steps will be to clarify with the McMaster Centre and the SHAC their direction with respect to a safe spaces poster campaign and training how the three groups may partner. A working group was established work on the Safe Spaces Campaign being Cole, Francine, and Deirdre. Deirdre will set up a meeting with Craig Waterman, McMaster, Francine & Cole.

Tanya also noted the need to have an education campaign, and to develop a training program that would include several agencies – multi-faceted education campaign. This is to be considered as a secondary program for consideration next year.
3.2 Hamilton Pride Pages

The letter for the first page is to be drafted by Cole. Tanya will arrange for a letter from the Mayor. Joe will ask Deb Stinson for a letter from the Police GLBT Task Force. Deirdre will invite Peter to attend the November meeting.

3.3 GLBT Website

The City’s website content is now on the portal. Jane will try to arrange a website / collaboration space demo for the November meeting, prior to the committee determining what they would like to do about their website.

3.4 2006 Budget Submission

Jane updated the committee with respect to the submission of the committee budget and the request for funds from reserves. The committee would like an up to date account balance for the November meeting.

3.5 2006 Workplan

The committee asked that to see a template for the work plan at the November meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Meeting Time

The committee would like to give consideration to a 5 pm meeting start time. They will do so for the November meeting, and giver further consideration after talking to Dawn, and Michael, and Terry Laufman.

Jane will check to see if there are any conflicts with room bookings.

5. INFORMATION SHARING

5.1 Sex Trade Task Force are holding a series of events on December 15th, a march at 4 p.m. at Wesley Centre, and a vigil at 5 p.m., plus 3 other events.

5.2 LGBT Community Wellness Centre

There will be a priority setting meeting to establish objectives and a name for an LGBT Community Wellness Centre to be held Tuesday October 25 – 5:30 to 8:00 pm at the Junction. They’re looking for input and participation.

6. FOLLOW UP
i) Board of Education’s Equity Policies

Cole noted that she had attended the meeting, and Chuck Reid, the Superintendent had confirmed that Dawn can also attend. They hold the meeting on the last Wednesday of every month.

7. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, the meeting adjourned.
- Revised -

MINUTES: GLBT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 9, 2005 – 6:00 PM
Room 264, City Hall

PRESENT: Cole Gately, Tanya Gulliver, Deirdre Pike, Joe Whelan, Dawn Lepard

REGRETS: Mike Desjardins, Francine Small, Jane Lee – City of Hamilton

ALSO PRESENT: Dena Tooma - City of Hamilton, Jae Admas – Hamilton Pride,
Peter Fryns – Peartree Graphics

1. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
None declared.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Gately/Lepard)
That the minutes of October 12, 2005 be approved. CARRIED.

3. BUSINESS ITEMS

3.1 Website Collaboration Space
Members introduced themselves to Dena and Deirdre explained the history the committee has had with outside people helping on the website and then leaving.
Dena works for Hamilton Public Library organizing website collaboration spaces for the portal. It will not be launching during the term of her contract so she is not clear on when it will launch. She anticipates that it could be within three months but this depends on pilot testing results.
Dena explained the operation of the collaboration space, and indicated that as long as the home page was available as public access the set-up of the rest of the site was up to the committee.
There is a very clear template for developing a website, with increased functionality including minute sharing, documents etc as needed. There are lots of opportunities for personalization and discussion forums as well.
The committee expressed interest in setting up a collaboration space, and Tanya and Dawn were interested in training.

3.2 Hamilton Pride Pages
Peter attended the meeting at the request of the committee. He explained the history of the Pride Pages, and indicated that he is now looking to change the way in which they are developed. Peartree and Pride Hamilton are
discussing a partnership. This would see the book released in the spring, with a second insert edition specific to Pride available in June. Peter is looking for continued involvement from the GLBT Advisory Committee including assistance with the development of community listings and finding advertisers from community groups. The Pride committee will do the same with business listings. The financial contribution from the GLBT Advisory Committee helps offset the cost of the community listing, although advertisers do cover some of this as well. Peter’s contact info is now peter@peartreegraphics.ca and 905-504-9655. The Pride Pages website and email is no longer functional.

3.3 Police Services Meeting
Hamilton Police Service had invited the community to attend a meeting to talk about the needs of the GLBT community. Deirdre and 2 members of the GLBT police taskforce attended, in addition to 20 members of the service. Chief Brian Mullan is interested in learning the answers to two questions. “What are the strengths of the police?” “What are the weaknesses?” Answers can be sent to Lois Morin, Administrator at Ph 905-546-2727, Fax 905-546-4270 or email at lmorin@hmailton.ca. Concerns were expressed about the lack of attendance and members asked where the meeting was advertised. Deirdre and Cole will collaborate to write a letter to the Chief, and send it to the committee by Dec 7th. The letter will include an update about the safe spaces campaign, request for a specific officer designated to GLBT issues, the answers to the questions above, and to express concerns about the advertising and promotion for these meetings.

3.4 Safe Spaces Campaign
Francine and Deirdre met to discuss the campaign plans. The Sexual Assault Awareness Centre, Victim Witness, Ministry of the Attorney General are partnering to bring TEACH in to do training about homophobia. Deirdre will organize a potential partnership meeting to discuss the campaign, activities, funding, resources etc. It is assumed that Planned Parenthood would take the lead financial role. Potential partners to be invited include Pride Hamilton, Volunteer Hamilton, McMaster GLBT Committee, St. Joseph’s Immigrant Women’s Centre, LGBTQ Community Wellness Centre, GLBT Taskforce. Cole and Joe are interested in attending. Deirdre will send out the invitation to committee members.

3.5 2006 Workplan
The committee looked at the template for the workplan. The committee divided up the recommendations of the workplan to prepare a draft for discussion at a future meeting.

3.6 Budget Update
The updated information was provided to the committee. There is a budget of $3890.00; the committee has $2154.35 remaining at this point.
4. **NEW BUSINESS**

4.1 **Pride Hamilton**
Jae Adams, Chair of Hamilton Pride attended the meeting to discuss partnership opportunities. Pride is hoping to expand its awards this year, particularly around the youth sector. The GLBT Advisory Committee has sponsored some of the awards in the past and this seems to be a natural fit. The beneficiaries of Pride this year will be the AIDS Network and the Breast Cancer Foundation.

The committee asked Jae to send a formal letter to the committee making a request for sponsorship and any additional partnership ideas. (This is to include assisting in a banner over Main Street). We will look at ways to integrate the positive spaces campaign into Pride.

5. **INFORMATION SHARING**

5.1 Jae raised the issue of a transsexual woman who had experienced problems at a bar on Hess Street. She had contacted Pride but they don’t feel they are the appropriate body to deal with the concerns. Jae will send a letter to the GLBT Advisory Committee and the GLBT Police Taskforce to explain the issue in greater detail, and to request assistance. It was suggested that bar owners be offered training as part of the Safe Spaces Campaign.

6. **FOLLOW UP**

i) **Board of Education’s Equity Policies**
Dawn and Cole have been attending meetings about the Hamilton District School Board’s development of an Equity Policy Regarding Sexual Orientation.

Dawn also informed the committee that a “Race, Diversity and Equity Action Team” has been formed as a result of the Educational Summit. It includes SISO, Kiwanis, Volunteer Hamilton and others and will be looking at a range of diversity issues and the atmosphere in schools generally.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion, the meeting adjourned.