MINUTES: Status of Women Committee
Thursday, September 27, 2012 – 5:30 p.m.
Room 193, Hamilton City Hall

PRESENT: Denise Doyle, Linda Gill, Catherine Hughes, Jeannie Howe, Myra James, Heather Judson, Katherine Kalinowski, Patti McNaney, Basharat Tayyab

REGRETS: Adele Alfano, Amirah Hassan, Uzma Qureshi, Denise Spoelstra

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Michelle Poirier

ALSO PRESENT: Maxine Carter, City of Hamilton

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
All were welcomed.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None declared.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
The following additions were made to the agenda under Item 7 – New Business:
7.1 Request from Clare Freeman re Community Safety
7.2 Request from Muslim Women
7.3 Update on Women’s Leadership Summit
7.4 Update from Michelle Poirier – Gender Analysis
7.5 Update – Student Help with Survey
7.6 New Members

(M. James/H. Judson)
That the Hamilton Status of Women agenda for September 27, 2012 be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
(H. Judson/B. Tayyab)
That the minutes of August 23, 2012 meeting of the Hamilton Status of Women Committee be approved, as presented. CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Workforce Census
Maxine Carter updated the committee regarding the status of the requested information from Human Resources. There is a need to have an organizational chart also with the information.

Marketing Material
Denise Doyle updated the committee regard the marketing materials. The postcards, bookmarks, letterhead, business cards and a folder designed by FactorE. D. Doyle will send samples to everyone by email.

It was suggested that the committee also consider getting a quote for buttons. Heather Judson will obtain a quote from Button Pushers.

Jeannie Howe said that she is able to get buttons donated. They are 2” in diameter. She will also look at putting the logo on a piece of jewellery. The committee will need 200 for October 20th for the Women’s Summit. J. Howe will have a draft by next week.

6. BUSINESS / DISCUSSION

6.1 Gender Equity Lens in Other Municipalities
Denise Doyle provided an overview to new members regarding this initiative.

Michelle Poirier had informed D. Doyle that she secured a student from McMaster’s Gender Equity Studies to assist the SWC with developing the gender equity lens for the budget process and gender budget analysis.

D. Doyle to organize with M. Poirier to have the student attend the October SWC meeting. It was suggested that the committee focus on one or two areas, e.g. child care.

6.2 Overview – Equity & Inclusion Policy and Gender Equity Commitment Statement
Maxine Carter provided an overview to the committee regarding the Equity & Inclusion Policy and the Commitment Statements.

D. Doyle said that Ottawa has already developed their equity lens and is using it in the budget process.

The Committee briefly discussed the situation regarding Lynwood Charlton Hall. Members were asked to view the Council meeting on-line.
(C. Hughes/K. Kalinowski)
That the Hamilton Status of Women Committee draft a letter to Council regarding the closing of Lynwood Charlton Hall. **CARRIED**

With respect to the City for All Women – Inclusion Lens document, the new members were asked to go on-line to review the link.

6.3 **2013 Business Plan (Budget)**
The draft 2013 Business Plan (Budget) was discussed.

(B. Tayyab/M. James)
That the Hamilton Status of Women Committee approved the 2013 Business Plan, as presented. **CARRIED**

6.4 **Update – Take Back the Night Event**
Heather Judson provided an overview of the Take Back the Night event. Many of the participants in the event expressed an interest in the Status of Women Committee and lots of information was provided about the committee.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 **Request from Clare Freeman re Community Safety**
Follow up to the meeting last year with Clare Freeman regarding community safety. Clare Freeman is conducting a study on community safety and has had focus groups with the Mayor & Council, agency managers and community groups, etc. She would like Hamilton Status of Women to participate in the focus group. Committee members would like to receive the project outline from Clare in writing. Catherine Hughes will follow up.

7.2 **Request from Muslim Women**
Basharat Tayyab gave an overview of the Muslim Women Council of Hamilton (MWCH). One event hosted by MWCH is the Celebration of Holidays Event. Women for different faiths come out to celebrate various religious and cultural events (i.e. Diwali, Eid, Christmas). This year’s Celebration of Holidays will be held on December 7, 2012 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at St. Peter’s Anglican Church. MWCH is seeking partnership with the Hamilton Status of Women Committee for this event.

(M. James/C. Hughes)
That the Hamilton Status of Women Committee partner with the Muslim Women Council of Hamilton for the Celebration of Holidays Event 2012 with an budget amount not to exceed $500.00. **CARRIED**

7.3 **Update on Women’s Leadership Summit**
See update in Item 6.1 above.

7.4 Update from Michelle Poirier – Gender Analysis
See update in Item 6.1 above.

7.5 Update – Student Help with Survey
Patti McNaney was not able to get students from McMaster University to help with preparing the report from the survey. Patti McNaney will put together a draft report for the Committee.

7.6 New Members

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS and INFORMATION SHARING

8.1 On October 12, 2012, Jennifer Evens was the first woman to be sworn in as Police Chief for Peel Region. The Hamilton Status of Women Committee will write a letter of congratulations to her.

8.2 Persons Day Event
The Persons Day Breakfast will be held on Thursday, October 18, 2012 from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Liuna Station.

(P. McNaney/M. James)
That the Hamilton Status of Women Committee purchase 4 tickets for the Persons Day Event. CARRIED

9. ADJOURNMENT
On motion, the meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING
Thursday, October 25, 2012
5:30 p.m. – Room 193, City Hall