HAMILTON YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009
1 Hughson St. North, 3rd Floor (South Side) – Meeting Room

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Present: Goce Dimitrioski, Ben Konyi, Katrina Schotsman, Matt Terry, Fan Yang,
Absent with Regrets: Mike Muller, Aman-Preet Randhawa, Pratik Thakkar
Also Present: Corey Beaudoin, Laura Brown, Edward Lee, René Reid (Scribe), Mark Weingartner

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA
   - Approval of minutes for May and June added as item 2
   - Item 2 moved to item 9
   - Added meeting evaluation as item 10
   - Item 9 moved to item 11

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

   None were made.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

   2. Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes, dated Tuesday May 19th and June 16th 2009, were approved as presented. CARRIED

4. PRESENTATIONS

   None were made
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Welcome and Introductions
- Mark welcomed the group and introduced René Reid, new Youth Advisor for HYAC
- Group members then went around the table and introduced themselves to the group individually

5.2 Acceptance of previous minutes
- Quorum at this meeting achieved, previous meeting minutes for May and June were approved and accepted

5.3 Election of New HYAC Co-Chairs
- Mark outlined the role and responsibilities of the HYAC Co-Chair position. He encouraged anyone considering this role to think critically about his or her other time commitments and their ability to fulfill the responsibilities of this role
- Goce Dimitrioski & Fan Yang are the acclaimed new Co-Chairs for this term of the HYAC

5.4 Youth Poverty Report – Update, presentation to Council
- Katie, Goce and Fan still form a committed work group on this project
- René offered to support the work group while they complete the presentation on an alternate night
- Tentative date & time determined at the time of the meeting is Monday September 21, 5-7pm

5.5 Annual Report
- Annual report to council is in its initial stages
- Mark invited a youth committee member to present the annual report
- No one stepped forward at this time

5.6 Recruitment Strategies for the coming term
- Mark described the City’s recruitment process for Advisory Committees:
  1. Advertisement of Positions (various media venues)
  2. Scheduled Information session (usually at the Convention Centre)
  3. Application (Designed by the Clerks’ Office)
  4. Screening (Conducted by the Clerks’ Office)
  5. Interviews (Conducted by two councilors and/or Mark and René)
  6. Appointments to committee (Announced by Clerks’ Office)
- A group discussion ensued
- Overall, HYAC concluded it would be strategically sound to not engage in a new City wide recruitment strategy at this time, but rather invite youth to join the committee from the pool of applicants already interviewed. The next step would then be to c
5.6.1 Take Your Kid to Work Day: Nov. 4th, ’09 @ Hamilton Convention Centre
- Edward Lee, Advisor-Community Relations, Office of the Mayor, provided some context to this event with the intention of having HYAC set-up a booth for information and recruitment purposes
- The event is said to have a ‘mini job fair’ flavour
- Group discussion took place
- Group offered Edward numerous creative and innovative ideas for his booth
- Based partly on the outcome of item 5.6, it was determined HYAC would not participate in the event this year, but would keep it on the radar for the following year to help with recruitment

5.7 HYAC Website – Updates & Options
- René presented her findings from a discussion with a representative from 2Gen.net.
- Group discussion ensued regarding pros and cons to hiring an outside source/company to create our website vs. having youth committee members and/or their friend(s) create our website. Some of the outcomes of the discussion are captured below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth Created Website</th>
<th>Outside Source/Company i.e. 2Gen.net</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pros</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pros</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A website created for youth by youth</td>
<td>Would design/create website with input/mapping from committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less expensive or virtually free</td>
<td>Would be available for future technical support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use a program compatible with all computers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quick turn-around time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Has examples/references to see</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cons</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cons</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May not have tech support available when youth creators leave the committee or are unavailable</td>
<td>Considered by some committee members to be rather expensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May not be able to make customized changes as needed</td>
<td>Site not totally created by the youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific program may be required for creation/up keep</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Conclusion: Committee agreed the need to form a working group (Goce, Matt ,Ben & René) to plan/map out the website and then possibly meet with the company rep.
- Additionally, Goce is going to talk with his friend to determine his availability and to solicit his further input on the website design etc.

5.8 HYAC Branding, promotional items and generating ‘Buzz’
- René sought clarification of the ‘YAC’ logo used on some documents
- Mark explained logo's origins and noted that the committee is not committed to the logo and the need to go through an approval process should a new logo be developed by the youth
• Prior to the meeting, René forwarded members the links to suppliers and suggestions concerning possible promotional items the committee may wish to purchase
• René also brought along a number of promotional items the Hamilton Crew for Action Against Tobacco used to promote their brand to inspire ideas and future consideration
• Fan Yang is going to design some HYAC logo ideas and solicit input from the group
• Matt Terry will create some content for a promotional HYAC flyer/brochure

5.9 Laura Brown – Teen Tobacco Summit & Party in the Right Spirit
• Laura Brown, Health Promotion Specialist with Public Health Services talked with the group about the annual Teen Tobacco Summit & Party in the Right Spirit taking place November 26 ’09. There are numerous planning meetings taking place in the near future with other youth. The hope is that HYAC would like to have a booth or have a representative sit on a panel discussing ‘collaboration’

5.10 Meeting evaluation and feedback
• Those in attendance were asked to fill out an anonymous meeting evaluation
• Overall response to the meeting was extremely positive though it was noted by 2 of the 5 respondents that the location was not very accessible

5.11 Next meeting location and time
• To be determined based on availability of meeting space and accessibility.
• Will be communicated on the next agenda.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS
• Youth Friendly Communities Designation:
  • Corey Beaudoin, Youth-at-Risk Coordinator, Community Services, informed the group Hamilton has earned the ‘Youth Friendly Communities’ designation for meeting 10 of the 16 criterions required. Representatives will be attending an awards ceremony at Queen’s Park in Toronto Oct. 27 2009, when Hamilton will be officially recognized.
  • This is an opportunity for a youth representative from Hamilton to deliver a two-minute talk/speech on behalf of Hamilton youth.
  • Ben Konyi has tentatively accepted this invitation and will communicate further with Corey regarding logistics etc.
  • Corey also mentioned he has requested that more spaces be made available for others to attend this prestigious event.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7pm.