Minutes
Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee
Tuesday December 15, 2009

McMaster University Centre for Continuing Education, Downtown Centre
50 Main St E. 2nd Floor, Room # 241
4:45pm – 7:30 p.m.

Present: Fan Yang, Katrina Schotsman, Michelle Leach, Fatime Sadeq
Absent with Aman-Preet Randhawa, Corey Beaudoin, Laura Brown,
Regrets: Matt Terry, Ben Konyi, Anda Wang, Tahiya Bakht, Goce Dimitrioski
Also Present: Councillor Tom Jackson
Edward Lee, René Reid, Mark Weingartner

1. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**
   Item 6.1 to be inserted into item 4.1, the rest of the agenda will then follow in sequence.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
   None were identified.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
   Did not have quorum at this meeting to approve meeting minutes dated
   November 17th 2009

4. **PRESENTATIONS**

   4.1 **HYAC Website and Logo status update**: (Matt, Tahiya, Fatime, Michelle
   Mark & René)
   
   Sue Moffatt of fpm3 brought examples of black and white and colour HYAC logo
   concepts for the group to consider. A discussion took place among the committee
   about what they liked or did not like and ideas about modifications to some of the
   designs. Sue emphasized the need to come up with a look the group liked before
   moving onto creating the website. Sue will forward René a PDF of the logos and
   then René will forward the designs to the rest of the group for feedback. It was
   agreed that group members will be asked to identify 3 logos they like and offer
   comments about any changes they would like to see done to the logos. René will
then compile the data and forward the results to Sue. Sue will then have something to the group in early January 2010. As a decision was not able to be made about the logo design and we did not have quorum for voting purposes, timelines on these projects have had to be extended.

4.2 Teach-back on Unfiltered Facts Summit Learnings *(Tahiya, Fatime & Michelle)*

- Fatime and Michelle shared with the group their experience while attending the Unfiltered Facts Summit this past November. Some 350 other youth in Hamilton also attended this one day event.
- They shared some of the promotional items they received and went through the contents of the Take Action Tool Kit. Fatime and Michelle talked with the group about the booth they staffed while at the summit and mentioned attending sessions. HYAC conducted a survey at the booth and gathered names for a mailing list for upcoming HYAC events and activities. HYAC also had a draw for two $25 iTunes gift cards and was able to present them in front of all the delegates at the end of the day.
- Photos and film taken while at the event are in the process of being turned into a video for HYAC promotional purposes.

4.3 René’s September Survey Results

- René presented the results of a survey she conducted in September 2009 when she first began her role as Youth Advisor with HYAC. There was some discussion based on the outcome of some of the responses. Though the response rate to the survey overall was low, it was agreed the survey provided some interesting insights.
- Councillor Tom Jackson asked for more information/comments garnered from this survey.

4.4 HYAC’s Year End Debrief

- As a year-end summary/debrief, René asked a number of questions which she wrote on chart paper and hung around the room. Members were then encouraged to write their responses down on post-it notes and stick them onto the chart paper. The questions will also be sent out to members who were unable to attend to ensure everyone on the committee has had the opportunity to respond. Examples of some of the questions asked:
  - ‘Where is HYAC on Hart’s Ladder of Youth Participation and why?’
  - ‘As a committee, what are the things HYAC needs to work on to move items forward or to work together better?’
  - ‘As a committee, what are the things HYAC does well together?’

- The aim of this year-end summary:
  A) To encourage/support youth in giving their feedback about the committee overall
  B) To identify the needs of the committee and/or gain new insights
  C) To compare with feedback given in the September survey
  D) Celebrate accomplishments

4.4 Looking ahead to 2010 *(René/all) - Deferred*
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Personal Schedules for 2010 & determining a consistent ‘work group’ night to work on initiatives

- Those in attendance were still unsure when they would be able to meet as a ‘work group’ during week day evenings.

- Agreed to give Tuesday evenings in January a try for now to.

5.2 New monthly HYAC calendars/planners (René)

- René showed the group a sample of a personalized HYAC calendar she was designing to assist everyone to track dates and times of HYAC related events, activities, work groups and or monthly meetings. This calendar would also highlight René’s availability during the month for support as she is in the office on a part time basis.

5.3 Youth Homelessness and Poverty Project Wrap-up (All)

- A new draft presentation based on several previous presentation incarnations was presented to the group. Group members viewed the slides and read the included notes.

- A group discussion took place about the overall content and direction the presentation needed to go. Katie, a group member who has participated in this project from the beginning, provided much needed detail about some of the slides. Mark assisted the group to arrive a clearer picture about why the project was undertaken in the first place and what the group wanted to have happen as a result.

- Group was encouraged to utilize an alternate template if the desired

- All agreed to proceed with further tweaking of the project next week with the aim being to submit the report in January for presentation in February.

- Katie volunteered to present on behalf of HYAC

- Fan tentatively volunteered to present on behalf of HYAC

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

6.2 HYAC members and community youth Free Training Opportunity (René)

Date, time and location to be confirmed:

-Saturday Feb.20th

- Registration Details to follow.

This two part training will offer young people an opportunity to discuss ways to influence public policy. Public policy is about decision-making. Thomas Dye's notes public policy is "whatever governments choose to do or not to do" - this has implications for what government choices are made around young people's health. Do schools stock vending machines with pop or juice? Should youth have access to bike paths, green spaces and subsidized healthy snacks? Does banning tobacco and junk food advertising compromise the public's freedom of choice? These policy tensions and debates impact young peoples'
daily lives. The following activities will support youth in debating and engaging with these issues.

**Objectives**

**By the end of this 6-hour module youth participants will be able to:**

Describe the policymaking process to support health promotion.

**Specific:**

**By the end of this 6-hour module youth participants will be able to:**

- Develop and practice skills around negotiation.
- Describe and name the components of the policy cycle;
- Identify 3 policy actors and their roles;
- Identify 3 best practice policy changes that create supportive environments for healthy nutrition, tobacco control and increased physical activity.

- Members all agreed this would be a good opportunity and said they would like to participate. An invitation would also be extended to other youth in the community.

6.2. Holiday Social Get Together for December -deferred

6.3. Meeting Evaluation and Feedback – All

- Overall response about this meeting was favourable from the youth in attendance
- Possible venue suggestions for next meeting included 1 Hughson or McMaster Continuing Ed. Ctr.
- Pizza & pop were the refreshments of choice for the next meeting
- Members found the meeting useful because they were informed about the training opportunity, survey feedback, HYAC’s logo and website design
- One member identified that ‘the goals were kept clear and everything’s moving forward’
- One member found the people informative

7. **ADJOURNMENT**
   (Yang/Sadeq)

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

**CARRIED**