

Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Minutes  
January 9, 2020 – 7:15 PM  
Boardroom, Whitby Seniors' Activity Centre  
801 Brock Street South

---

**Present:** Mayline Brown  
Andrea Cecchetto, Chair  
Cheryl Frayne  
Catherine Philogene, Vice-Chair  
Ayse Yuksel

**Also Present:** Councillor Shahid, Mayor's Designate  
Kim Evans, Staff Liaison, Supervisor, Seniors Services  
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator  
(Recording Secretary)

**Regrets:** Brianna Nelson

---

Call to Order

1. Appointment of Chair

- 1.1** The Committee was advised that the appointment for Chair and Vice-Chair of the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee for the January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 term would take place at this time.

Kim Evans called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

Cheryl Frayne nominated Andrea Cecchetto for the position of Chair of the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

Andrea Cecchetto accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations and the nominations were closed.

Kim Evans called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

Andrea Cecchetto nominated Catherine Philogene for the position of Vice-Chair of the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

Catherine Philogene accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations and the nominations were closed.

Recommendation:

Moved By Cheryl Frayne

That Andrea Cecchetto be appointed Chair of the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee for a term ending on December 31, 2020.

**Carried**

Recommendation:

Moved By Andrea Cecchetto

That Catherine Philogene be appointed Vice-Chair of the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee for a term ending on December 31, 2020.

**Carried**

Andrea Cecchetto assumed the Chair.

2. Disclosures of Interest

**2.1** There were no disclosures of interest.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

**3.1** Minutes - November 7, 2019

Recommendation:

Moved By Cheryl Frayne

That the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee minutes of November 7, 2019 be approved.

**Carried**

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 4.2, Gwen Tuinman, Creator of the Wild Nellies, at this time.

4. Presentations

**4.1** Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator, Town of Whitby

Re: Advisory Committee Policy and Procedures Refresher

Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Advisory Committees' Policy and Procedures. Highlights of the presentation included:

- the responsibilities of staff, Mayor's Designate, Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of advisory committees;
- meeting etiquette, decorum and rules of debate;
- procedures for motions; and,
- rules related to presentations and delegations.

**4.2** Gwen Tuinman, Creator of the Wild Nellies

Re: Connecting Women: Creators of Music, Art, Theatre, Film and Literature

Gwen Tuinman provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Wild Nellies, a womens creative that collaborates with groups such as women's shelters, to empower women impacted by domestic violence. Highlights of the presentation included:

- examples of events and performances by the Wild Nellies;
- raising awareness and funds to help women fleeing from domestic violence; and,
- examples of collaborations with the Denise House, Anishanaabe Kewewag Gamig Inc., and the Women's Multi-Cultural Resource and Counselling Centre of Durham Region.

It was the consensus of the Committee to hear Item 4.1, Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator, Town of Whitby, at this time.

**5.** Delegations

**5.1** There were no delegations.

**6.** General Business and Reports

**6.1** Town of Ajax Diversity Conference Recap - November 16, 2019

Kim Evans advised that she was unable to attend the Town of Ajax Diversity Conference.

Mayline Brown advised that the presentation on human trafficking was very informative.

**6.2** Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Work Plan Review and Event Participation for 2020

Kim Evans advised that the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee 2019-2022 Work Plan was approved by Council. Ms. Evans further advised that the Committee would review the Work Plan at this time.

Kim Evans requested that the Committee choose proclamation requests from the 2020 multicultural calendar. She further requested that each member prepare two proclamation requests for the dates selected by the Committee and submit the requests to the Office of the Town Clerk.

Kim Evans advised that proclamation requests would be prepared for the following February and March dates:

- February 20, 2020 - World Day of Social Justice;
- March 8, 2020 - International Women's Day; and,
- March 20, 2020 - International Day of Happiness.

Discussion ensued regarding events the Committee would like to participate in which included How-to-in-10, Canada Day Citizenship Ceremony, Culture in the Square, Harvest Festival, Open Streets, Newcomer Bus Tour, Diversity Walking Tours and Movies in the Park or a movie night event.

Discussion ensued regarding presenters and presentation topics the Committee would like to invite to future Committee meetings including:

- homelessness;
- the John Howard Society that helps to integrate people back into society after a period of incarceration;
- DRIVEN Durham that provides support for women experiencing abuse and/or gender based violence; and,
- human trafficking.

Other items discussed by the Committee included:

- Town of Whitby employee training in 2022 (unconscious bias);
- partnering with two schools to provide staff training through a staff lunch and learn (indigenous education);
- conducting the Whitby Sustainability Advisory Committee Public Survey; and,
- ordering Committee inventory and swag.

**6.3** Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Public Survey

Kim Evans advised that the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Public Survey would be available to the public in 2020.

Ms. Evans distributed copies of the survey for the Committee to review. It was the consensus of the Committee to remove 'based on sex' as an option to questions 4 and 8 of the survey and to change 'first nation/inuit/metis' to 'indigenous', and 'white' to 'caucasian' as options to question 13.

**7.** Correspondence

**7.1** There was no correspondence.

**8.** Council Update

**8.1** Councillor Shahid provided updates regarding:

- the Rogers Hometown Hockey Event that was held on December 28 and 29, 2019; and,
- the launch of the Town's new branding.

Councillor Shahid distributed information about a Newcomer Inclusion Program and Diversity and Inclusion Symposium for the Committee to discuss. Councillor Shahid suggested that the Committee could create an introductory package for newcomers to Whitby. She further suggested that the Committee considered hosting a one-day conference to celebrate and discuss diversity in Whitby.

Councillor Shahid advised that the Committee should clearly indicate the Committee's participation and sponsorship for the Multicultural Calendar.

**9.** Other Business

**9.1** World Religion Day

Cheryl Frayne advised that World Religion Day celebrations would be held on January 12, 2020 between 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Delpark Homes Centre, Oshawa.

**9.2** Memorial

Cheryl Frayne advised that the Town of Ajax would be hosting a public memorial for local residents on board flight PS752 at the McLean Community Centre.

10. Next Meeting

**10.1** Thursday, February 6, 2020 - 7:15 p.m.  
Committee Room One, Whitby Town Hall  
575 Rossland Road East

11. Adjournment

**11.1** Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Cheryl Frayne

That the meeting adjourn.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

**Note: These minutes were approved by the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee on February 6, 2020.**