

Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Minutes
November 7, 2019 – 7:15 PM
Boardroom, Whitby Seniors' Activity Centre
801 Brock Street South

Present: Mayline Brown, Chair
Cheryl Frayne
Catherine Philogene
Ayse Yuksel

Also Present: Mallory Dawson, Whitby Public Library Representative
Kim Evans, Staff Liaison, Supervisor, Seniors Services
Heather Oerlemans, Council and Committee Coordinator
(Recording Secretary)

Regrets: Andrea Cecchetto, Vice-Chair
Brianna Nelson
Vivek Singh

1. Disclosures of Interest

1.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

2.1 Minutes - October 3, 2019

Recommendation:

Moved By Cheryl Frayne

That the Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee minutes of October 3, 2019 be approved.

Carried

3. Presentations

3.1 Maria McDonnell, Senior Manager, Community Advancements, Aimee Pugao, Planner II, Parks Planning, Town of Whitby
Re: The Town of Whitby Culture Plan

Aimee Pugao presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Town

of Whitby Culture Plan for information.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- an outline of the culture plan and the four pillars of sustainability, including economic prosperity, social equity, environmental responsibility and cultural vitality;
- culture trends to ensure that all forms of culture are embraced and engaged;
- partnerships with post-secondary institutions, cultural tourism and private companies;
- the benefits of culture and a culture plan to contribute to Town goals; and,
- the priorities of the culture plan including investing in new and existing cultural hubs, celebrating Whitby's diversity and history, supporting cultural organizations, incorporating cultural planning into the public realm, celebrating the local food culture and learning and celebrating indigenous and black culture and heritage.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the feedback previously received from other community engagement groups; and,
- Whitby's documented historical resources.

4. Delegations

4.1 There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

5.1 Event Review and Participation

School Presentation - Fall 2019

Cheryl Frayne advised that she had reached out to Trafalgar Castle School and was still waiting for a response. Ms. Frayne further advised that arrangements for school presentations should be made through the Durham District School Board or Durham District School Board Equity Officer.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- focusing on special events in lieu of school presentations; and,
- establishing youth outreach programs that include learning a skill alongside diversity and inclusion such as film making to bring awareness to bullying.

Annual Diversity Conference, Town of Ajax - November 16, 2019

Catherine Philogene advised that the draft presentation for the Annual Diversity Conference was complete. Ms. Philogene presented the draft presentation to the Committee for information purposes and feedback.

5.2 Future Presentation Ideas Discussion

Kim Evans advised that two presenters were scheduled for the January and February 2020 Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee meetings. Upcoming presentations included Gwen Tuinman from The Wild Nellies, presenting on ways to connect groups of women creatives with various audiences and Liza Serra, Vice-President and Education Facilitator of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Durham Region, presenting on PFLAG's mission to provide support, education and resources on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity/expressions.

Ms. Evans requested recommendations from the Committee regarding presenters and presentation subjects.

Suggestions from the Committee included:

- Esther Enyolu, Executive Director of the Women's Multicultural Resource and Counselling Centre (WMRCC);
- Ontario Shores or Durham Mental Health;
- gender-based violence;
- an Indigenous presenter; and,
- a presentation on homelessness.

5.3 Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Public Survey Review

Kim Evans distributed the draft Whitby Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Public Survey to Members of the Committee and requested feedback.

A brief discussion ensued regarding minor word changes.

5.4 Diversity and Inclusion Communities of Practices: Durham Group and Ontario Group

Kim Evans advised that the Durham and Ontario Diversity and Inclusion Communities of Practices groups shared a diverse amount of information pertaining to municipal and community practices for diversity and inclusion.

5.5 Proclamation Suggestions: Winter 2019-2020

Kim Evans requested proclamation suggestions for January and February 2020.

Suggestions from the Committee included the Chinese New Year and International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust (January 27, 2020).

6. Correspondence

6.1 There was no correspondence.

7. Council Update

7.1 There were no Council updates.

8. Other Business

8.1 Whitby Public Library Update

Mallory Dawson advised that the Comic Arts Festival would take place at the Whitby Public Library (Central Branch) on November 16, 2019 and that 20-25 local authors were participating in the event.

8.2 Multi-Cultural Calendar 2020

Kim Evans advised that the Multi-Cultural Calendar for 2020 was available for distribution to the Town departments.

9. Next Meeting

9.1 Thursday, January 9, 2020 - 7:15 p.m.
Boardroom, Whitby Seniors' Activity Centre
801 Brock Street South

10. Adjournment

10.1 Motion to Adjourn

Recommendation:

Moved By Catherine Philogene

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

H. Oerlemans, Council and Committee
Coordinator

M. Brown, Committee Chair