



LGBTQ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 6, 2014

A meeting of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee was held on November 6, 2014, at 5:48 pm, in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Michelle Fortin, Co-Chair
Metha Brown
Drew Dennis
Gwen Haworth*
Allison Jones
Richard Overgaard
Andrew Shopland
Barbara Snelgrove

ABSENT: Mohammad Basir-Kazerooni (Leave of Absence)
Dean Malone, Co-Chair (Leave of Absence)
Ron Stipp (Leave of Absence)
Patrick Tham (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Tim Stevenson, City of Vancouver
Dave Rieberger, Parks and Recreation, Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Barb Snelgrove
SECONDED by Andrew Shopland

THAT the LGBTQ Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Mohammad Basir-Kazerooni, Dean Malone, Ron Stipp and Patrick Tham for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Drew Dennis
SECONDED by Barb Snelgrove

THAT the LGBTQ Advisory Committee approve the minutes of September 4, 2014, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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The committee agreed to vary the order of the agenda to start with New Business items 2 a, b and c first. For ease of reference, the minutes are recorded in numerical order.

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1. Develop recommendations for LGBTQ Advisory Committee for next term.

Committee members discussed succession planning and provided recommendations.

MOVED by Richard Overgaard
SECOND by Barb Snelgrove

THAT the LGBTQ Advisory Committee recommends future members of the Committee reconfirm their commitment to the Committee on an annual basis.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Gwen Haworth absent for the vote)

MOVED by Richard Overgaard
SECONDED by Andrew Shopland

THAT the LGBTQ Advisory Committee begin each meeting by acknowledging that we are on unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Gwen Haworth absent for the vote)

2. New Business

(a) Recommendations for the Application Process

MOVED by Metha Brown
SECONDED by Gwen Haworth

THAT the LGBTQ Advisory Committee recommends the following changes be considered for future application forms to the Committee:

- Gender Selection Criteria and renaming of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee - with the creation of the designated and held spot for a person who identifies as Aboriginal/Metis/First Nations and two spirit/ LGBTQ, the title shall be changed from LGBTQ to LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee.
- Gender Selection Criteria for LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee - the committee be made up of equal numbers of women identified and male identified people with at least one person who identifies outside the gender binary and one seat reserved for an Aboriginal/First Nations/Metis person which may not be filled otherwise.
- Additional questions to the General Application form should include:
 - Gender: (check all that apply): Woman, Man, Transgender, Gender Variant, I identify as: _____
 - How is your life experience connected to the work of the committee?
 - What accommodations would you require to actively and effectively participate (eg: paper print outs, bus fare)?
 - How many hours would you be able to dedicate on a monthly basis outside the 2 hour monthly meeting requirement?
 - What availability do you have during Monday to Friday work hours?
- Additional questions and comments be added to the LGBTQ2+ Application form should include:
 - The committee is made up of equal numbers of people who identify as women or men (these may be transgender or cisgender women or men) as well as at least one person who identifies outside the gender binary. Additionally, we have one seat that is held for a person who identifies as Aboriginal/First Nations/Metis and will remain open until filled. If the seat is not filled through the normal application process, the process will be extended until filled.
 - We recognize that many of the committees are meant to engage marginalized communities. In our application materials we would like the following allowance:
 - Paper copies may be distributed to community hubs so that people experiencing poverty, homelessness or other barriers to computer access are not prevented from applying.

- Additional language to add to our EEO list:
 - People who have or are experiencing poverty, homelessness and other serious barriers to inclusion are knowledgeable and valuable members of our community who are encouraged to apply. The committee also explicitly encourages youth 18-24 to apply for membership.
- The implementation of youth in an intern position as a form of mentorship and succession planning.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(b) Outreach

The Committee discussed the topic of outreach opportunities. Drew Dennis has started to compile a list of names in Google Docs and will share this with all members.

(c) Use of Social Media

The Committee discussed the importance of remaining non-partisan while serving on the LGBTQ Advisory Committee and be mindful and respectful.

Here is a link to the City of Vancouver's Code of Conduct:

<http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/boards-committees-code-of-conduct.pdf>

(d) Acknowledgments

Councillor Stevenson extended his thanks and appreciation to Committee members for their time, dedication and work on the LGBTQ Advisory Committee.

Michelle Fortin, Co-Chair, expressed thanks for the support of the City Clerk's Office and also to Dave Rieberger for his time, support and work as Staff Liaison to the Committee.

(e) Council of Councils

Dave Rieberger, Staff Liaison, advised all members that the Council of Councils meeting will take place on December 1, 2014. More information will follow.

Adjournment

MOVED by Drew Dennis
SECONDED by Barb Snelgrove

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Gwen Hawthorn absent for the vote)

The Committee adjourned at 7:26 pm.

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