WOMEN’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 12, 2016

A meeting of the Women’s Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 5:41 pm, in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Miranda Mandarino, Chair
Terran Bell
Desaraigh Byers*
Andrea Canales Figueroa
Lindsay Clark
Anastasia Gaisenok
Sharon Lau
Fiona McFarlane
Miriam Palacios
Erica Pinsky
Niki Sharma
Rhonda Sherwood, Vice-Chair
Julie Wong*

ABSENT: Erin Arnold (Sick Leave)

ALSO PRESENT: Deb Gale, Manager, HR Business Partnerships, Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK’S OFFICE: Terri Burke, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Acknowledgement

The Chair welcomed members to the Committee and recognized the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh and Squamish Nations.

The Chair also acknowledged the safe space in which the meeting occurs.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Rhonda Sherwood
SECONDED by Niki Sharma

THAT the Minutes of the November 10, 2015, Women’s Advisory Committee meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Desaraigh Byers and Julie Wong absent for the vote)
1. Subcommittee Updates

a) Leadership

Rhonda Sherwood provided an update on the research the Subcommittee compiled regarding what other cities are doing to promote women in leadership. Miriam Palacios noted that although many cities have a lot of policies and initiatives for women’s advancement, the reality is that often action is not taken and the statistics remain the same.

b) Violence Against Women

No update.

c) Pay Equity

Niki Sharma provided an update and noted the Subcommittee is still in the research stage of their work and are planning to present their findings to the Committee in the next two months. She also noted that a more appropriate name for the Subcommittee might be the Gender Wage Gap Subcommittee.

d) Young Women

A member of the Young Women Subcommittee provided an update on their work to date and noted they had reviewed the Gender Equality Strategy and are planning to receive a presentation from TransLink regarding using a gender lens for community engagement, and the Request to Stop Program.

2. Gender Equality Strategy

The Committee discussed the Gender Equality Strategy and agreed to have staff present at a future meeting on the status of the initiatives contained in the policy. They also discussed options for tracking process on the strategy for future Committee members.

3. Action Item Updates

The Chair provided updates on the following:

- The status of current senior leadership openings in the City of Vancouver;
- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities will be reaching out to four to six Women’s Advisory Committees;
- Follow-up to occur regarding the co-hosting request that originated from the Women’s History Month event.
4. New Business

a) University Women’s Club Event

Erica Pinsky and Rhonda Sherwood informed the Committee of the University Women’s Club International Women’s Day event to take place on March 8, 2016, at Hycroft. She noted the focus of the event will be refugees.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Rhonda Sherwood
SECONDED by Erica Pinsky

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 6:47 pm.

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