



Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: July 31, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall

Present: Erden Ertorer, Sheila DeLuca, Brian Kon, Marilyn Tian, Jitto Tom Uthup, Marla Terreberry-Portfilio, Elizabeth Grimmond, Cat Thagard, Nkiru Nwagbo, Wayne Campbell (Councillor), Mona Patel (Councillor), Jay MacLean (Staff)

Guests: Ms. Ezime Waboso (nTwyne), Ms. Denise Herrera Jackson (nTwyne)
Mr. Steve Barnhart (Niagara Parks Commission)
Mr. Tim Johnson (Niagara Parks Commission)

Meeting Minutes

1. Land Acknowledgement (Erden Ertorer)

2. Guest Speaker (nTwyne)

- Representatives from nTwyne presented to the DEI Committee.
- They are planning to host/coordinate a special event in 2024.
- They made a specific request to the DEI Committee which included the following:
 - 2.1 The DEI committee be an official partner of Fusion Niagara.
 - 2.2 The DEI committee sponsor the launch at the Marketplace (Fall 2023).
 - 2.3 The DEI committee engage all multi-cultural organizations in Niagara Falls to participate in the Launch/Heritage Day.
 - 2.4 The DEI committee become a founding member of the Niagara Falls YCA.
- A motion from Councillor Patel and seconded by Sheila DeLuca to accept the report/presentation from nTwyne and that they report back to the Committee at a future meeting and provide a specific financial request on the amount needed for the DEI committee to sponsor the Launch of Fusion Niagara at the Marketplace.

Motion CARRIED

3. Guest Speaker (Niagara Parks Commission)

- Representatives from the Niagara Parks Commission presented to the committee.
- The presentation was to propose the unveiling of an interpretative piece in Queen Victoria Park to commemorate and recognize September 30, National Day of Truth and Reconciliation event which took place last year.
- The timing of this unveiling is very good as this year marks the 10th anniversary of Orange Shirt Day.
- The committee was in support of such a commemorative piece being done by the Niagara Parks Commission.

4. Approval of June 2023 Minutes

- A motion from Sheila DeLuca and seconded by Marla Terreberry-Portfilio to approve the June 2023 minutes

Motion CARRIED

5. Flag Raisings and Grand Openings

- The Committee Co-chair provided an update on special events attended in the last couple months which included some cultural events.
- Committee members were encouraged to join these events.

6. Region of Niagara DEI Survey

- Staff confirmed their will be representatives attending the August 2023 meeting to provide an overview and update on the Regional DEI survey conducted back in 2021-2022.
- Committee members will have the opportunity to follow-up with any questions.

7. Park Bench Donations from D&I Committee

- Staff provided an update on locations for installation of the Rainbow and Orange Bench.
- An email will be sent out to the committee members with proposed locations for the benches.
- A motion from Brian Kon and seconded by Elizabeth Grimmond to add a statement on the Plaque Scripture for the Orange Bench to include (Count on Me).

Motion CARRIED

8. Tracking of DEI related events

- The chair provided an updated on the tracking of various DEI related committees.
- The committee wants to ensure all DEI related events are tracked in a document or workplan or some sort.
- Staff will work with the Chair and Co-Chair on the further development of the Committees Workplan and ensure all DEI related events are captured.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. The committee discussed the idea of hosting a social gathering for the committee members. This could be done as a meeting off-site. The committee will think of some potential ideas and report back at a later meeting.
- b. Brian Kon provided a preview of the new Orange Shirts that will be available for National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Staff will inquire on the potential of having them made available for staff to purchase.
- c. September 10, 2023 there will be a community BBQ for Hospice Niagara between 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm at St. George Presbyterian Church. The Co-Chair will send out more details closer to the event. All committee members are welcome to attend.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- A motion from Sheila DeLuca and seconded by Brian Kon to adjourn the meeting.

Motion CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

August 28, 2023
6:00 pm.