



City of Hamilton

MINUTES: Status of Women Committee

Monday, March 23, 2006 @ 5:30 PM
Hamilton City Hall, Room 264

Present: A/Chair: Liz Weaver
Secretary: Jo-Ann Savoie
Members: Pat Saunders
Santina Moccio
Colleen Wicken

Also Present: Bev Neil

Absent: Paula Holmes-Rodman

Item	Discussion	Action
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1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
nil

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from November 24, 2005, January 12 and February 23, 2006 have been tabled for 27 April 2006.

3. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

3.1 **Debrief of International Women’s Day**

Pat attended several events and made her report to the committee. She attended the Totally Awesome Young Woman’s Breakfast event and thought it was well done. She also attended the Kiwanis event called Women Deserve Options. Pat particularly enjoyed Dr. Maroussia Ahmed’s discussion.

3.2 **Report on Preliminary Exploration of Women and Politics Activities and Groups**

Pat debriefed the group on her limited involvement with Denise Doyle and the upcoming Women in Politics. Some discussion was generated on the fact that our mandate is “getting out the Vote” and not to necessarily encourage women to run for politics, it was decided we would not partner with Women in Politics but rather just attend to show support.

3.3 **General Plans and Projects Through to November 2006**

This topic turned into an excellent brain storming session. Many ideas were discussed. The committee decided that Paula's speech at the WOD dinner would be a good start to "kick-off" our strategy to get women out to vote. Santina agreed to research Edmonton's One Women One Vote project and return the results to the committee. There was some discussion on a Fact Sheet to be available at the dinner. Due to the limited amount of space available on the tables it was decided that an ad would be taken out in the program.

(Saunders/Moccio)

That the City of Hamilton Status of Women will spend \$200.00 for a 1/3 ad to be displayed in the 30th commemorative WOD awards banquet program. **CARRIED.**

Some of the ideas members decided to further explore were:

- Catchy slogans such as "one woman one vote", "equal voices", "Women, your voice will make a difference" etc
- Advertise on the City's website
- Connect with the Spec (**Santina**)
- Women's issues flyer to all councilors and all members running in the election
- Target young women- Redeemer, McMaster and Mohawk (**Jo-Ann**)
- September, tag onto existing events
- Delegation in September to council re; women's issues to launch project
- Workshop in October to encourage the vote
- Nov focus on vote
- Reminder cards to women's groups
- Facts from Stats Canada on Women's issue (**Bev**)
- National Status of Women (**Pat**)
- Women in poverty- Sandy Shaw (Social Planning and Research Council) (**Pat**)
- Sexual Assault Stats (**Liz**)
- FCM final report (**Bev**)
- Date of Election
- How/where to vote
- Where to go for more info
- One Woman One Vote- YWCA (**Santina**)
- Equal Voices (**Pat**)
- Mohawk, Redeemer, McMaster (**Jo-Ann**)
- Involve other groups, languages
- Identify large companies with large amounts of female employees (hospitals, Tim Horton's)
- Fax services- CIS
- Slogan- Vote- Empowerment of Women

3.4 **Other Business**

Jo-Ann will advise Paula on motion to purchase an ad. Colleen will have her staff work on slogan and logo for campaign.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 27 April 2006** at 5:30 PM in Room 264.