



**Minutes**  
**PICKERING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**ON RACE RELATIONS & EQUITY**

January 3, 2008  
 7:00 pm  
 Main Committee Room

Attendees: Councillor David Pickles, Chair  
 Marisa Carpino, City of Pickering, Vice-Chair  
 Sethu Madhavan, Community Appointee  
 Cathy Grant, Pickering Public Library  
 Mariyah Gonzales, Dunbarton High School  
 Ishu Vij, Dunbarton High School  
 Linda Roberts (Recording Secretary)

Absent: Kirk Mark, Community Appointee  
 Tanya Malika Foster, Community Appointee  
 Siobhan Saravanamutto, Dunbarton High School  
 Sharon Singh, Pine Ridge Secondary School  
 Philip Howard, Durham District School Board  
 Fred Gibson, Pickering Carib Canadian Cultural Association  
 Margaret Lazarus, Valley Farm Public School  
 Joanne Guindon, Durham Catholic District School Board

<i>Item / Ref #</i>	<b>Details &amp; Discussion &amp; Conclusion</b> <i>(summary of discussion)</i>	<b>Action Items / Status</b> <i>(include deadline as appropriate)</i>
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	
	Councillor Pickles welcomed everyone and introductions were made.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Review &amp; Approval of Agenda</b>	<b>All</b>
	The agenda was reviewed and approved	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	<b>All</b>
	Marisa reviewed the action items from the previous meeting.  It was suggested we add a link to the high schools from our website.	

	Minutes of the December 6, 2007 meeting of Race Relations were approved.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>March Break Diversity Program for Kids</b>	
	<p>Mariyah provided an overview of their plan of action for the March Break Diversity Program. She had a copy of the action plan available. She outlined the program as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be a 2 day event from 9 – 3 in the Library to be held on March 11 and 13th</li> <li>• Library auditorium has been booked</li> <li>• Participants will be from grades 6 – 8 (11 – 13 age group)</li> <li>• Will be open to all students</li> <li>• Contact feeder schools to nominate students</li> <li>• Program will consist of workshops, hands on discussion, movies</li> <li>• High school students will run the program, Library staff will assist with registration, set-up</li> <li>• Curriculum to be decided prior to first meeting of [YOU]nity in January</li> <li>• Mariayah and Ishu to visit schools and speak to administration</li> <li>• Same group for both days</li> <li>• Prepare a form for parents to sign off on that clearly indicates drop off and pick up times, they must provide transportation and lunch</li> <li>• Snacks will be provided</li> </ul> <p>Discussion ensued on criteria. Mariyah questioned funding, and it was indicated the Race Relations Committee has a small budget to work with, but could provide some assistance toward the purchase of food items for the snacks being provided. Cathy suggested the Library could assist with donating markers, paper supplies.</p> <p>It was also suggested the City could help with certificates to the students once they have completed the program, which would also include the printing costs.</p> <p>The Committee is still looking into having guest speakers for this event. Discussion ensued with respect to this and Cathy offered to check with Kirk</p>	<p>Cathy to prepare form</p> <p>Mariyah will pass along budget requirements to Marisa</p> <p>Cathy to contact Kirk Mark</p>

	<p>Mark first to find out if he had any lined up, then she will look into other possibilities for guest speakers. She will keep Mariyah informed.</p> <p>It was suggested we have an evaluation tool at the conclusion of the program. We could possibly incorporate some of the questions from our survey in this.</p> <p>School board representatives could contact feeder schools. Mariyah will provide us with electronic material they have and we will forward onto the school board representatives.</p> <p>Councillor Pickles indicated he would advise Mayor and Council of the dates for the program in order for them to drop by. Once agenda has been set, Mariyah will advise on the best times for this.</p>	<p>Planning committee to create</p> <p>Mariyah to provide to Marisa</p> <p>Mariyah to advise</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Youth Page Update</b>	
	<p>Marisa informed the Committee she has received a submission from Dunbarton High School. This is the only submission received to date.</p> <p>Cathy suggested possibly the Teen Advisory Group at the Library could meet with [YOU]nity. Mariyah informed her that they have an email for [YOU]nity.</p> <p>Marisa informed the members the deadline for submissions in the Family Calendar for February would be January 10<sup>th</sup>. This edition comes out the end of January.</p>	<p>Mariyah to email information to Marisa Marisa to post on website</p>
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Other Business</b>	
	<p>6.1 <u>Annual Report</u></p> <p>Marisa indicated she needs to be informed of any changes or additions as soon as possible in order to make changes and have ready for presentation to Council.</p> <p>Discussion ensued on possible dates to present the annual report to council.</p>	<p>Linda to let Marisa know about possible dates for presentation to Council.</p>

	<p>Comments on report as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use one slide for mandate</li> <li>• Bullet points for goals and objectives</li> <li>• Bullet points on what the Committee is pursuing in 2008</li> <li>• Census information on demographics – Cathy and Marisa to get together on this</li> </ul> <p>It was suggested we contact Paul Savel and suggest he ask to be a delegate at the same meeting in order to promote the 2008 Tapestry event.</p> <p>Councillor Pickles asked if any members would like to be a delegate in February to speak on upcoming events in 2008. We would prepare speaking points. This would be a brief presentation. If anyone is interested, please let Marisa know by the beginning of February.</p> <p>6.2) <u>Writing Contest</u></p> <p>Marisa provided an update on the writing contest. Over 100 submissions have been received as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 submissions – grade 2 – 5 category</li> <li>• Over 100 submissions- grade 6 – 8 category</li> <li>• 1 submission - grade 9 – 12 category</li> </ul> <p>Marisa passed around the binder she had prepared for the judges and provided a brief outline of the contest. The judging will take place on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. We are ahead of schedule to date. The press release has been done and it appeared in the Race Relations Forum paper. Successful this year due to the increased involvement of the school representatives as well as the timing of the contest launch. She also noted we need to acquire a French judge for the future.</p> <p>6.3) <u>Heritage Day</u></p> <p>Marisa provided an update on Heritage Day. The</p>	<p>Marisa to contact Paul Savel</p>
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