



Minutes
PICKERING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON RACE RELATIONS & EQUITY

December 6, 2007
 7:00 pm
 Main Committee Room

Attendees: Councillor David Pickles, Chair
 Marisa Carpino, City of Pickering, Vice-Chair
 Kirk Mark, Community Appointee
 Cathy Grant, Pickering Public Library
 Siobhan Saravanamutto, Dunbarton High School
 Sharon Singh, Pine Ridge Secondary School
 Linda Roberts (Recording Secretary)

Absent: Sethu Madhavan, Community Appointee
 Tanya Malika Foster, Community Appointee
 Philip Howard, Durham District School Board
 Fred Gibson, Pickering Carib Canadian Cultural Association
 Mariyah Gonzales, Dunbarton High School
 Margaret Lazarus, Valley Farm Public School
 Adrian Rampersad, Dunbarton High School
 Joanne Guindon, Durham Catholic District School Board
 Ansar Siddiqui, Pine Ridge Secondary School

<i>Item / Ref #</i>	Details & Discussion & Conclusion <i>(summary of discussion)</i>	Action Items / Status <i>(include deadline as appropriate)</i>
1.0	Welcome	
	Marisa welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.0	Review & Approval of Agenda	All
	Marisa reviewed the action items from the previous meeting. She informed the Committee the Pickering Town Centre would not know about the availability of the mall for our Heritage Day event until mid-December. She also indicated that we would not have the resources to judge a large number of French entries. Due to this, we will include only the one school showing an interest, which was the Frenchman's Bay Public School. The agenda was approved.	
3.0	Approval of Minutes	All

	<p>Minutes of the November 1st, 2007 meeting of Race Relations were approved.</p> <p>Siobhan reported that Adiran Rampersad will no longer be attending our meetings, as he will be attending University. Ansar Siddiqui will also no longer be available to attend our meetings due to his work schedule.</p>	
4.0	March Break Diversity Program for Kids	
	<p>Siobhan provided an update on the March Break Diversity Program. She indicated their sub-committee have held two meetings to date. She informed everyone the name of their committee is [YOU]nity and they have met twice already in the Library. They have already generated interest among other students. She provided an outline of what has been accomplished to date with respect to the March Break program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To spend two full days on registration • Provide lunch/snacks • To look into sponsorship/fundraising • Hope to divide committee into groups of 2 or 3 • Pair younger with older • Decide on topics • Want topics important to diversity • To be a two day event held from 9 – 3 • To be held in auditorium at Library • Hands on activities – want it to be fun • To do a press release (it was suggested this should come from students) • Cathy confirmed Library can do registrations <p>Discussion ensued with respect to promotions and deadlines. Marisa informed she could publish through the Community Page advertising and the Family Calendar, which goes out to the schools. Timeframe would be to finish up the structure for promotion and include a description by January for inclusion in the February</p>	<p>Siobhan to forward information to Marisa</p>

	<p>month. A short update could be provided at each meeting.</p> <p>We could replace the articles once a month on the Race Relations page. It was noted that the articles should be signed by the author, i.e. name, committee member, name of school.</p> <p>Kirk suggested looking into the website www.March21.qc.ca to see what is happening nationally. This could be a good resource for ideas.</p> <p>Marisa indicated our interest in having other members of [YOU]nity come to our meetings. Siobhan indicated one student is interested in attending our next meeting.</p>	
6.0	Other Business	Marisa Carpino
	<p>Marisa provided updates on the following:</p> <p>6.1) <u>Writing Contest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 3rd deadline has passed • Received 115 entries – 17 from grades 2 – 5 range • 97 entries from grades 6 – 8 • 1 high school entry • Preparing packages for judges in January <p>6.2) <u>Authors Circle</u></p> <p>Marisa indicated she had attended this event. She provided a copy of the program, as well as a thank you note received and an article from the newspaper. She noted it was a great event.</p> <p>6.3) <u>Race Relations Forum</u></p> <p>This is to be held on March 19th. Discussion ensued on guest speakers for the event. The Committee was requested to give some thought to this.</p>	

	<p>6.4 <u>Annual Report</u></p> <p>A copy of the power point presentation Marisa has drafted up was handed out. She requested that the Committee come back with comments at our next meeting.</p> <p>It was suggested we download the stats contained on the website www.Census.2006.ca which provides some good background data. We could include this in our demographics.</p> <p>Councillor Pickles explained the process of delegations at Council meetings. He noted it would be good to have two people do the presentation. Discussion ensued on how best to present the annual report. Kirk volunteered to help present. Siobhan offered to speak with Kirk on this.</p> <p>Marisa will do up speaking points for the report presentation. Any notes can be emailed or dropped off for her.</p>	<p>Linda to email copies of handouts to members</p> <p>Marisa to action.</p>
8.0	Adjournment	All
	<p>8:45 pm</p> <p>Next Meeting: Thursday, January 3, 2008 at 7:00 pm in the Main Committee Room</p>	

Copy: City Clerk