

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 5th, 2025
3:30-4:30P.M
Multi-Purpose Room 109, Civic Square

Members Present:

- Corey Dutcher, Chair
- Councillor Mary Ann Grimaldi
- Lindsay Avard
- Kara McCartney
- Tara Stephens

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AT 3:33 P.M.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.1 Moved by Lindsay
LGBTQ2+ Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of September
25, 2024 to be presented at a future meeting.

CARRIED

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 4.1 New Board Members- Cortney Peters, appointed at Council Meeting on Feb 4th, 2025.
- 4.2 Letters from Rose Festival/Food Fest- next steps – Letters sent to the Rose Festival and Food Festival.

Food Festival has responded and the committee will be setting up a meeting in the future to meet with them. (Updated as per details City Clerk has obtained since past meeting).

1. Direction to follow up on previous letters, awareness as they are beginning to plan for the upcoming 2025 festival and request a meeting with the group to discuss with the advisory committee and how we can contribute to the event.

- a. Identify a response is required with a deadline identified that the letter has received – to allow us time to contribute to the event as well.

- 4.3 Pride Niagara Support- Pride in The Park funding – Pride Niagara has pulled out due to funding issues. It was suggested that Pride Niagara prepare a letter to send to all municipal councils in Niagara and request funding assistance.
- 4.4 Pride Events for the City - Members to begin thinking about ideas. Consider using WDBIA, and see if there are any potential events. City Clerk to request WDBIA attendance at a future meeting.
- 4.5 Meeting with Mayor Champion - Corey has a meeting scheduled for discuss advisory committee matters. Update to be provided to the committee in the future.
- 4.6 Meeting with WDBIA Chair- Corey to reach out to WDBIA to schedule a meeting.
- 4.7 Goals for 2025 - Identified below.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Unity Awards, donation to pride in the park and other potential events.
 - i. Event at Seaway Mall
 - ii. Event at Community Centre
 - iii. Prepare a calendar of events – bring ideas to the next meeting.
 - iv. Attend Pride in the Park – Advisory Committee – Recruitment
 - v. Halloween
- b. Solidarity Endorsement – Kara to send additional details.
- c. Tara to reach out to - Shannon McHugh, Manager of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (staff liaison), for St. Catherines.
- d. Formation of the Niagara Civil Liberties Union – voice advocating for the LGBTQ community in Niagara. Suggestion from committee member.

- e. PRIZM Niagara continues to meet every Tuesday – support for residents – Mahtay Café in St. Catharines – 7 – 9 p.m.
 - f. Confirming upcoming schedule – Next meeting to be scheduled at members availability.
6. **ADJOURNMENT** at 4:13 p.m.