Anti-Racism Advisory Committee

City of Edmonton

Meeting Minutes October 14, 2020 | 5:00pm - 7:00pm



Invited Attendees

Committee Members:

Beth Brusselers, Trent Daley, Rehana Gilani, Harman Singh Kandola, Feisal Kirumira, Joud Nour Eddin, Ada Okeke, Faisal Salama, Sameer Singh, Shalini Sinha, Kimberly Yamada

Regrets: Betty Mathews, Councillor Scott McKeen

Guests: Heather Mark

Council Sponsors:

Councillor Mo Banga, For Councillor Scott McKeen: Rebecca Visscher

Administration:

Mike Chow, Antoinette Davis, Samuel Juru, Carissa Lamoureux, Aisling Kientzel, Nicole Harcus

1.0 Welcome	ACTION	Lead
 1.1 Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm. Committee members, City Councillors and members of the public were welcomed to the Anti-racism Advisory Committee meeting (ARAC), and the Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement was made. Regrets submitted by Committee member Betty Mathews were acknowledged. 		

2.0 Review	ACTION	Lead
2.1 Agenda Review		
MOTION: To amend the October 14, 2020 ARAC meeting agenda adding White Nationalist presence in Alberta/Proud Boys. Moved by Harman Singh Kandola		
Majority Vote	Carried	
MOTION:		
To adopt the amended October 14, 2020 ARAC meeting agenda. Moved by Ada Okeke		
Majority Vote	Carried	

3.0 Minutes	ACTION	Lead
3.1 Review and approval of minutes from September 9, 2020 meeting		

MOTION: To adopt the September 9, 2020 ARAC meeting minutes. Moved by Joud Nour Eddin Majority Vote Carried

4.0 Updates	ACTION	Lead
 4.1 City of Edmonton updates The City of Edmonton Police Services (EPS) launched a new campaign: Commitment to Action. This campaign has been hosting community conversations to create spaces to listen and work with the community to action and implement the necessary changes that are required. The next session will be held on October 20, 2020. Questions arose during ARAC's discussion on the new Commitment to Action campaign: Are there any statistics on hate crimes? Is there any summary of what they have heard so far? How can we hold Police Services accountable from what they have heard and what they have done so far? Are there other ways to contact Commitment to Action? The Commitment to Action campaign will also host sessions from interested groups. Two ARAC members attended the October 6, 2020 session. Sessions are confidential. Community Safety and Wellbeing Task Force update: There were 10 community members and 1 Chair appointed last week to the Task Force. There were over 60 applicants who applied. The Task Force will have other members represented by: 2 members from EPS, 2 from City Administration and 1 from 		
 the Police Commission. Early next week, there will be an inaugural meeting to introduce the members to the public. Administration will provide some support in the areas of: managing clerical work, research and communication support. An introduction between the ARAC and Task Force Chairs will occur in the near future, this meeting is to leverage the expertise of this ARAC for the Task Force. 		
- Reminder that this Task Force will complete its work after a few months and it will end.		

5.0 Working Group updates	ACTION	Lead
 5.1 Working Group recommendations The working group completed its work within 5 meetings and sent the draft bylaw wording to Administration to be included in the November 16, 2020 report. ARAC needs to ratify the draft bylaw. Thank you to those members who attended and provided input. Reviewing the motion 2 f: ARAC Mandate/Terms of Reference/Budget Members compared ARAC's mandate to WAVE and ETSAB, and this helped guide the work on the mandate wording. The wording was chosen carefully and kept at a larger scale so 		

- that that the mandate will not have to be changed every year.
- ARAC's current budget is \$300,000. ARAC will use 2021 to see if \$300,000 was adequate to support projects and initiatives.
- Added wording: "catalyze action on racism and anti-racism in Edmonton"; this speaks to the outward facing role of the community members and counterparts on City Council and their ability to advocate in spaces that Administration would not. Also included in the list:
 - Anti-black racism
 - Racism against Indigenious Peoples
- Added the wording under 2 a) "ensure equitable engagement of" so that language ensures barriers to participation are addressed and/or minimized as much as possible in the execution of the Committee's work.
- Added in the wording "racially motivated hate" to remove limitations.
- Added in the wording "complement existing structures by providing recommendations on programs and services and their priorities" so that language ensures that ARAC will have the ability to complement the work of existing structures by providing input on issues related to the Committee's mandate.
- And under d, added "take action on".
- Discussion ensued concerning how the ARAC's bylaw compares to that of <u>Calgary's Anti-Racism Action Committee</u> and the <u>Anti Racism Advisory</u> Council
- Administration suggested wording to the Bylaw: "work with the City Manager to develop and maintain a dialogue and take action about matters of concern to stakeholders in relation to anti-racism".

MOTION:

- To convene a special meeting on Wednesday October 21st at 6:00 pm for one hour to ratify any additional wording changes on the ARAC bylaw.
- Moved by Ada Okeke
- Majority Vote
- Honoraria
 - ARAC recommends per-meeting honorarium for all Advisory committee members.
 - Honorarium should be time based.
 - Presenters who provide educational input to the meetings should be provided an honorarium.
 - The Community Safety and Wellbeing Task Force will receive per meeting honoraria which has been set at \$150 for 3 hours and \$300 for over 3 hours. This is on par with the Police Commission.
 - The Office of the City Clerk is reviewing honoraria for Advisory members and its findings will be shared as part of the November 16, 2020 Council report.
 - The Clerk's Office could suggest different ways that volunteers would be provided honoraria (i.e. lump sum, per meeting honorarium).
- ARAC Membership
 - Currently ARAC has up to 13 members appointed by Council.

Carried Admin to book meeting.

- Currently there are 12 ARAC members. This is based on applicants who apply to be on COE committees. Suggestion to allow ARAC to appoint up to 4 members to fill in any gaps in representation and experiences.

6.0 New Business	ACTION	Lead
6.1 Grounding session (and strategic planning session)	Tabled	
6.2 Committee appointment process	Tabled	
6.3 ARAC grant program	Tabled	
6.4 November 2020 meeting date	Tabled	
6.5 White Nationalist presence / Proud Boys	Tabled	

7.0 Old Business	ACTION	Lead
Community resource guide	Tabled	

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Next Meeting		
Date	Time	Location
October 21, 2020	6:00 to 7:00 pm	Google Meet