Anti-Racism Advisory Committee

City of Edmonton

Meeting Minutes July 29, 2020 | 5:00pm - 7:00pm



Invited Attendees

Present:

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

Regrets:

Betty Mathews

Council Sponsors:

Councillor Mo Banga, Councillor Scott McKeen

Administration:

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

1.0 Intro	ACTION	LEAD
 The meeting was called to order at 5:07 pm. Committee members, City Councillors and members of the public were welcomed to the Anti-racism Advisory Committee meeting, 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 adopt the July 29, 2020 Anti-racism Advisory Committee (ARAC) meeting agenda. Moved by Ada Okeke Majority Vote	Carried	

3.0 Updates	ACTION	LEAD
 3.1 City of Edmonton updates related to ARAC City administration updates were shared and Committee members were introduced to the City staff overseeing coordination of the referred motion on the Edmonton Police Commission. In the coming months, City administration and Committee members will revisit the idea of organizing an anti-racism grounding session led by community partners. 		

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4.0 Discussion items	ACTION	LEAD
 4.1 Referred Motion regarding Edmonton Police Commission The referred motion on the Edmonton Police Commission was discussed, and the areas requiring input from the Committee were highlighted (2a, 2f). The Project Manager overseeing coordination of the motion provided an overview of the City's reporting process and timelines, and responded to questions from the Committee. While the bylaw to create the Community Safety and Well-being Task Force (2a) is due to Council in August 2020, the portion of the motion related to recommendations about ARAC (2f) is due to Council in October 2020. Reporting related to 2f will be completed by early September 2020 to allow sufficient time for internal review. Committee members discussed potential ways in which they could contribute to the work of, or become involved with, the Community Safety and Well-being Task Force (sitting on the Task Force, grounding session between the Task Force and ARAC, etc.) The importance of working closely with the Task Force, avoiding duplication of work, appointing members with lived experience and providing a mechanism for Task Force members with conflicts of interest to recuse themselves, was noted by the Committee. 		
 4.1a - Previous engagement done by City Administration on the development of the Anti-racism Advisory Committee's mandate and activities Previous engagement work to inform the creation of ARAC's bylaw was highlighted, and the various activities that the Committee can undertake to fulfill its mandate were clarified. It was explained that the Committee can provide recommendations to Council on anti-racism funding to support community-led anti-racism initiatives, identify and engage stakeholder groups and seek their input into the Committee's work, conduct research and prepare reports for Council on community-based issues and concerns, and work with the City Manager to develop and maintain a dialogue on matters of concern to stakeholders in relation to anti-racism. It was clarified that subcommittees/working groups can be formed and can include experts, members of the public and others who are not part of the Committee. It was clarified that the parameters of the grant funding program will be developed in 2020 and distribution of funding will begin in 2021. 		
 4.1b - Building a consultation process with ARAC members A consultation process with ARAC members to address 2a and 2f of the referred motion on the Edmonton Police Commission was explored. It was proposed that a working group made up of Committee members and supported by Administration meet in August 2020 and report back to ARAC, and the Committee's Chair and Vice-chair could speak to the report at the October 19, 2020 Council meeting. MOTION: To strike up a working committee to work with Administration on the referred motion components. Moved by Shalilni Sinha Majority Vote 	Carried Send out a poll to see if members are interested in	Admin.

	participating on the working group.	
 4.2 2020-2021 meeting time and schedule The need to establish and publish a meeting schedule for ARAC was discussed. It was noted that: meetings must be accessible to the public and meeting agendas must be posted on the ARAC website at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. subcommittees or working groups may establish a different schedule. It was proposed that the regular meeting schedule could start in September 2020 and the working group could focus on providing input on the referred motion on the Edmonton Police Commission in August 2020. It was noted that while meeting dates/times can change, due notice (one month) to the public should be provided. MOTION: To adopt a schedule at this point in time, of the second Wednesday of each month from 5 - 7 pm for ARAC meetings and to post this schedule on the ARAC website. Moved by Shalini Sinha Majority Vote 4.3 Meeting minutes process 	Carried	
 The Committee discussed whether meeting minutes should be posted to the ARAC website immediately following the meeting or once they have been approved by the Committee at the next ARAC meeting. MOTION: Defer when the minutes are to be approved to the next ARAC meeting, upon seeing an example of the draft meeting minutes.	Carried Send out the ARAC draft minutes for viewing.	Admin.
4.4 Chair and Vice-chair terms - The Committee explored the number of consecutive terms a member can serve as Chair or Vice-chair. MOTION: The Chair and Vice-chair may serve as the Anti-racism Advisory Committee's Chair and Vice-chair for up to 1 consecutive year term (2 term limit).	Carried	
4.5 Remote participation - The Committee explored the topic of remote participation by Committee members who relocate outside the city during their appointed term with ARAC. MOTION: For Kimberly Yamada to stay on the Anti-racism Advisory	Carried	

Committee for her two-year term.

Moved by Trent Daley

Majority Vote

5.0 Election of Chairs	ACTION	LEAD
5.1 Call for <u>nominations</u> - Chair nominations: Shalini Sinha and Harman Singh Kandola.		
MOTION: To close the nominations for the Anti-racism Advisory Committee Chair.	Carried	
5.2 Nominee speeches - N/A		
 5.3 Voting and results A list of ARAC Chair nominees was emailed to the Committee members. Members emailed their votes back to the Administration and the votes were tallied. It was announced that Shalini Sinha received the most votes. 		
MOTION: To appoint Shalini Sinha as Chair of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee. Moved by Faisal Salama Majority Vote	Carried	

6.0 Election of Vice-chair	ACTION	LEAD
6.1 Call for <u>nominations</u> - Vice-chair nominations: Feisal Kirumira.		
MOTION: To close the nominations for the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee Vice-chair.	Carried	
6.2 Nominee speeches - N/A		
6.3 Voting and results MOTION: To appoint Feisal Kirumira as Vice-chair of the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee. Moved by Shalini Sinha Majority Vote	Carried	

7.0 Agenda Building	ACTION	LEAD
MOTION Defer the agenda building section to the September 9, 2020 Anti-Racism Committee meeting. Majority Vote	Carried	

 7.1 2020-2021 ARAC tentative work plan Committee members were informed that the Committee would need to create a 2020-2021 work plan. 	TABLED Brainstorm issues to bring forward to the September 9, 2020 meeting.	All members
 7.2 Code of conduct It was suggested that the Committee may wish to create a Code of Conduct to govern the conduct of its members. The City of Edmonton's Council Code of Conduct (Bylaw 18483) was provided as an example. 	Review the Council Code of Conduct prior to the September 9, 2020 meeting.	All members
 7.3 Internal communication It was suggested that the Committee may wish to develop a process for communicating between members. 	TABLED	
 7.4 Subcommittees The Committee was informed that they can establish subcommittees to conduct research, obtain and summarize public input, or to obtain specialized expertise and provide reports on those matters to the Committee. Each subcommittee must contain at least one Committee member who will act as chair for the subcommittee, may include experts, residents and others who are not part of the Committee; and should have a reporting schedule. 	TABLED	
 7.5 Community resource guide It was noted that Administration had received calls and emails from citizens requesting support and guidance from the Committee on how to respond to racism. It was suggested that the Committee should explore the possibility of developing or sharing an existing resource guide on the ARAC webpage. 	TABLED	

8.0 Questions	ACTION	LEAD
8.1 Questions from Committee members for Administration	N/A	

Meeting Adjourned at 7:37 pm

Next Meeting		
Date	Time	Location
September 9, 2020	5:00 to 7:00 pm	Google Hangout meeting