

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**WAC 1-2020
Wednesday, September 30, 2020
Meeting held by Video Conference**

Committee: Councillors Butters, Huson, Villella, I. Camillo, S. Hill, R. Ivri, N. Kalb, E. Kovacs, L. Lane, C. McGrath, N. Qureshi, H. Shaikh, R. Unrau, E. Zimmermann

Absent/Regrets: Councillor Ip

Staff: L. Gigliotti, Associate Director, Employee Services, A.-M. Norio, Regional Clerk, J. Smith, Human Resources Consultant, M. Trennum, Deputy Regional Clerk, C. Ogunniyi, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Program Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. ROUND TABLE INTRODUCTIONS

Committee members briefly introduced themselves and provided their experience and reasons for wanting to be part of the Committee.

4. SELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

4.1 Call for Nominations for Committee Chair (Regional Councillor)

Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, explained that in accordance with the Women's Advisory Committee terms of reference, the Committee Chair must be a Regional Councillor from the membership of the Committee.

The Regional Clerk called for nominations for the position of Committee Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee for a two-year term (2020-2022).

Moved by Councillor Butters
Seconded by Councillor Villella

That Councillor Huson **BE NOMINATED** as Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee for a two-year term (2020-2022).

4.2 Motion to Close Nominations for Committee Chair

The Regional Clerk called a second and third time for nominations for the position of Women's Advisory Committee Chair. There being no further nominations it was:

Moved by R. Unrau
Seconded by E. Kovacs

That nominations for the position of Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee **BE CLOSED**.

Carried

4.3 Voting for the Position of Committee Chair

There being only one nominee for the position of Committee Chair (Regional Councillor), the Regional Clerk announced that Councillor Huson would be the Women's Advisory Committee Chair for a two-year term (2020-2022).

4.4 Call for Nominations for Committee Vice Chair (Public Member)

Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, explained that in accordance with the Women's Advisory Committee terms of reference, the Committee Vice Chair must be a public member from the membership of the Committee.

The Regional Clerk called for nominations for the position of Committee Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee for a two-year term (2020-2022).

Moved by Councillor Huson
Seconded by Councillor Butters

That Ruth Unrau **BE NOMINATED** as Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee for a two-year term (2020-2022).

Moved by N. Qureshi
Seconded by Councillor Huson

That Elisabeth Zimmermann **BE NOMINATED** as Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee for a two-year term (2020-2022).

Elisabeth Zimmermann declined the nomination.

4.5 Motion to Close Nominations for Committee Vice Chair

The Regional Clerk called a second and third time for nominations for the position of Women's Advisory Committee Vice Chair. There being no further nominations it was:

Moved by Councillor Butters
Seconded by Councillor Huson

That nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee **BE CLOSED**.

Carried

4.6 Voting for the Position of Vice Chair

There being only one nominee for the position of Committee Vice Chair (Public Member), the Regional Clerk announced that Ruth Unrau would be the Women's Advisory Committee Chair for a two-year term (2020-2022).

At this point in the meeting Councillor Huson, Committee Chair, assumed the chair.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

There were no items for consideration.

6. **CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Moved by R. Unrau
Seconded by Councillor Villella

That the following items **BE RECEIVED** for information:

ED 11-2020
Economic Recovery Plan Update

WAC-C 1-2020
YWCA Canada & Gender and the Economy - 2019 - Feminist Economic Recovery Plan for Canada

Carried

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

7.1 **Round Table - Priorities and Work Plan**

7.1.1 Meeting Frequency

Committee members discussed the frequency of meetings as outlined in the Committee Terms of Reference.

Moved by E. Zimmermann
Seconded by R. Ivri

That this Committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Corporate Services Committee:

That the Women's Advisory Committee Terms of Reference **BE AMENDED** to provide that the Committee meet six (6) times per year.

Carried

7.1.2 Establishment of Working Groups

Moved by Councillor Butters
Seconded by N. Kalb

That this Committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Corporate Services Committee:

That in alignment with the goals of the Women's Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, that three (3) working groups **BE FORMED**;

That a working group **BE ESTABLISHED** to advocate for gender-based issue resolutions and opportunities related to Regional policies, priorities and decisions and that Sabrina Hill, Rochelle Ivri, Naheed Qureshi, and Elisabeth Zimmermann **BE APPOINTED** to this working group;

That a working group **BE ESTABLISHED** to promote leadership development that empowers women in Niagara to fully participate in civic life and that Councillors Butters, Huson, and Villella, and Isabell Camillo, and Laura Lane **BE APPOINTED** to this working group; and

That a working group **BE ESTABLISHED** to research and provide information and resources about women's gender-based issues to Niagara and that N'ora Kalb, Emily Kovacs, Coletta McGrath, Hafsah Shaikh, and Ruth Unrau **BE APPOINTED** to this working group.

Carried

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date is to be determined.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Councillor Huson
Committee Chair

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk