



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LA FRANCOPHONIE

MEETING HELD on Wednesday, October 22, 2014, at 4 p.m.
Dieppe Room – City Hall

MINUTES

Members present: Madeleine Arseneau, Youth Representative
France Caissy, Community Representative
Jody Dallaire, Councillor and Chair
Isabelle McKee-Allain, Community Representative
Serge Milot, Community Representative
Yvan Roy, Post-secondary Institution Representative
Philippe Thériault, Champlain Place Representative
Annie Duguay, Staff Representative
Luc Richard, Staff Representative

Members absent: Luc Belliveau, School Representative
Joanne Maillet, City Businesses Representative

1. Welcoming remarks

The Chair welcomed members and noted that regrets were received from Luc Belliveau and Joanne Maillet.

2. Adoption of agenda

A motion to adopt the minutes was moved by Yvan Roy and seconded by France Caissy.

Motion carried

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on September 3, 2014

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 3 meeting – with a few changes – was moved by France Caissy and seconded by Madeleine Arseneau.

Motion carried

4. Business arising from the minutes

The Chair asked if the committee's suggestion from April 2 in regards to collaboration between the school district and the City had been brought to the attention of city council. Annie Duguay explained that the issue had been discussed with school district representatives and that the municipality now has two opportunities per year for sending information to schools for distribution to students. The Chair asked, however, that the issue be brought to city council anyway.

Members also discussed the possibility of presenting the Linguistic and Cultural Development Policy (LCDP) to the next meeting of the AFMNB (Association francophone des municipalités du Nouveau-Brunswick) taking place in Dieppe November 14-16. It was noted that the policy is currently not on the scheduled agenda for the meeting.

5. Nomination of committee vice-chair

No nominations were received by the Chair. The Chair asked if there was any interest in the role of vice-chair for the committee.

6. Heritage Policy (Luc Richard)

At the request of the Chair, Luc Richard presented an overview of the Heritage Policy and of the process that led to its development and adoption by city council last July. A copy of the action plan was provided to members. Clarifications were made to identified partners. While responsibility for the implementation of the plan belongs to the City's management, it was confirmed that participation by residents or resource persons was important to the achievement of a number of outcomes.

An amount will be proposed during the budget process in order to be able to undertake or finalize a number of the priorities indicated.

7. Discussion surrounding the Convention de l'Acadie du N.-B.

Members briefly discussed the event which took place recently. It was noted that the Premier announced an increase in financing for the implementation of the LCDP, and it would be good if the City could take advantage of this, considering its efforts in identity building.

8. Advisory Committee on La Francophonie priorities for 2014-2019

Members sought inspiration from the LCDP insofar as fueling its efforts at the municipal level. Before adoption its own plan, we should seek further knowledge on the current situation in Dieppe, i.e.: what is being done and what is not being done in all sectors – cultural, sport, economic, etc. It was suggested that the public be consulted as to what living in Dieppe represents to them.

The issue was discussed at length. Some ideas or suggestions coming out the discussions were:

- Work on the economic component. For example, it was noted that only English-language music or radio is offered in the waiting rooms of private businesses, and even Service NB;
- Work on the community organization component. It was noted that referees are not always francophones; that training offered to coaches is not always in French; and the meetings of boards of directors or team meetings are not in French even when the large majority of people present are francophones. It was suggested that language be part of the accreditation process for organizations;
- Promote meeting-related best practices to community organizations based on recommendations of the Commissioner of Official Languages. Acquire tools and educate members of the community through training we provide to accredited groups;

- Work with youth in regards to identity building – involve the Youth Action Committee;
- Target the Carrefour de l'Acadie and its students from grades 6-8; people say there are few activities organized by the City for those in grades 6-8. It is said to be difficult to connect with this age group, however it is an important time in their identity development;
- Keep in mind the current fragmentation of residents insofar as their hometowns go. The majority of parents currently in Dieppe were not born and raised in Dieppe and bring with them a different perspective of Francophonie and Acadie compared to parents who were born and raised here. However, the children of current Dieppe parents will be Dieppe residents from birth and will have lived a similar youth from the point of view of the Francophonie and the place of the French language. That is where our next generation (and our future parents) are.
- Continue to instill in parents the importance of protecting the language;
- Form partnerships with all stakeholders, including laterally (i.e. with other committees);
- Find examples of success stories among businesses. It is said that Malley Industries is here, in part, because of the bilingual population;
- Encourage documentation in French in the technical sector such as in the construction industry. People find themselves with documentation that is solely in English when they are constructing or doing business with suppliers in this sector. However, several of these workers and owners are francophones.
- List of best practices from other cities.

9. **Schedule of next meetings**

The dates for the next meetings were set for November 26 and January 14.

10. **Information sharing**

A presentation on the subject of the Cultural Policy was requested for the next meeting.

11. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.