**COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Committee Name: Inner City Advisory Committee

Date: Thursday, March 8th, 2018

Elmbank Junior Middle School

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

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| Present: | Jennifer Arp (Co-Chair), Ingrid Palmer (Co-Chair), Laurie Green, Shaila Krishna, Peggy Thomas |
| Staff Present: | Linette Ballantyne, Michael Cruickshank, Karen Falconer, Ricardo Francis, Khadra Hussein, Daniel Jeffers, Kurt McIntosh, Avtar Minhas Kim Pividor, Kofi Sankofa, Nicole Seck, Marc Sprack, Lesa Williams George, |
| Guests: | Lennox Abraham, Fowzia Ahmed, Sarah Ali, Joy Beals, Sue Bilar, Sadio Botan, Adelita Charran, Melissa Hood, Kalton Isse, Sarah Johnson, Mirelly Lisboa Gontijo, Ali Mohamed, Dahiro Mohamed, Cynthia Newton, Pearl Quash, Fantun Sayid, Abdullan Sid-Ahmend |
| Regrets: | Sheila Cary-Meagher, Helen Fisher, Lee Ford-Jones, Michael Griesz, Ying Ong, Sharma Queiser, Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini |
| Recorder: | Maria Valente-De Sa |

| **ITEM** | **DISCUSSION** | **RECOMMENDATION/MOTION** |
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| Call to Order/Quorum | * Meeting called to order at 6:27 p.m. * Everyone introduced themselves. * This is an informal meeting as quorum was not achieved. The meeting continued as per the Terms of Reference that the Committee would continue to meet and discuss. |  |
| Approval of Agenda | * the agenda was amended to move item number 11 up to item number 7. | Agenda was approved.  Peggy moved to accept the agenda.  No questions/concerns.  All in favour. Carried |
| Approval of Minutes | * the meeting notes had to be deferred to the next meeting as there was no quorum. |  |
| Declaration of Conflict of Interest | Nil |  |
| Principal Welcome  – Michael George | * Principal Michael George welcomed everyone to the school and provided an overview of the school as well as the partnerships, community engagement and community hubs that the school is involved in; * Elmbank has 360 students with over 50 languages; * the school will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary on May 11th, 2018. |  |
| Co-Chair(s) Report | Ingrid Palmer:   * Happy International Women’s Day to everyone; * the Inner City Advisory Committee (ICAC) is made up of passionate parents, trustees, principals, community agencies to assist in closing gaps in the system; * this committee is also an opportunity for parents to engage with other parents; get to know what supports are available; access to principals, superintendents, trustees and community agencies/hubs; * parents were congratulated for what they are currently doing and continue to do to support the students, schools and communities;   Trustee Jennifer Arp:   * currently Co-Chairing with Ingrid Palmer until Trustee Sheila Cary-Meagher returns; * Jennifer is currently the Vice-Chair of the Board and a model schools parent. |  |
| myBlueprint Update  -Linette Ballantyne | * Linette provided an overview of the program myBlueprint that students in grades 6-8 schools are using. Each student has an account through [www.myblueprint.ca/tdsb](http://www.myblueprint.ca/tdsb); * parents may create an email address that links them to their child’s account; * students in grade 8 will complete their grade 9 course selections for high school through myBlueprint; * myBlueprint provides the students the ability to make decisions about their future education and career path with links to post-secondary pathway options, occupation information, setting goals and checking on their diploma requirements; * the program also assists/supports students in completing a resume; * information nights at the various secondary schools are posted on-line for students and parents; * currently there are a few elementary schools that are piloting the program for grades K-5. The program for kindergarten students is called “All About Me”. Although the program is not available at all elementary schools, parents may reach out to their school principal if interested. |  |
| Community Support Worker Updates in Learning Centre 1 | * there are a number of community engagement opportunities for parents to attend (Public Health, changing school climate, etc.…); * the next Parent Academy will be held on February 28th; * there will be further information sessions for parents on youth employment, parent’s conference, special education programs, conflict resolution, etc.…. |  |
| Parents As Partners Conference | * the conference will be held on April 28th at the Beanfield Centre with a variety of workshops for parents to register. The Keynote speak is Unstoppable Tracey; * bussing and child-minding is available for parents, but parents must register for these options. |  |
| Learning Centre 1 & 3 Music Program Update | Learning Centre 1:   * a number of schools have a variety of music program offerings and partnerships with agencies and local partners, as well as Itinerant music programs that are held during the day with the teaching staff.   Learning Centre 3:   * a number of schools are engaged in music programs with external organizations such as Humber College, dance, ballet, steelpan, choir, African-drumming, ukulele, Tamil dance, percussion, as well as Itinerant music programs held during the day and after school. |  |
| Summer School Program Update | Toronto District School Board:   * model schools will be hosting 22 sites across the City of Toronto for students in grades K-8; * model school students are the only students will be provided with bussing to and from the schools. The program will run from July 4th – 27th from 9:00 – 12:00 p.m.; * application forms and a listing of the schools will be uploaded after the March Break and will be due back to the school principal or the community support worker; * summer school programming is open to all students that have a provincial number not just Toronto District School Board students. A child has never been turned away from summer school programming; * Toronto District School Board offers summer school programming to 35,000 students from grades K-12 and adults.   Toronto Public Library:   * everyone was provided with a listing of programs and schedules for programs that are running this summer at the Toronto Public Library; * branches will be providing different programs and activities throughout the City; * registration will be available in June. It was recommended that when parents register the child for a program that the child attend the full session, as a spot is being used up. |  |
| Other Business | Etobicoke North:   * Ali Mohamed is involved with the student and parent engagement programs in the northern part of Etobicoke; * parents are welcome to attend the meetings and have a voice at these meetings, as well as PIAC. |  |
| Summer Programming:   * concern that parents may not be able to register their child(ren) for summer programs at the libraries because others get in much quicker or have access to it earlier than some parents, that the system is not easy. How can parents utilize these free programs?; * look at possibly having a guest speaker from Raising the Village come out to one of our future meetings. |  |
| Inner City Advisory Committee:   * this committee is an opportunity for parents to raise issues, concerns and recommendations to the Board. As a committee, we may ask that the Board to reach out to the Mayor about addressing the inequities of the registration process in the City of Toronto. |  |
| June 7th Inner City Advisory Committee:   * June 7th is the Provincial Elections date. We may wish to reconsider finding another date. |  |
| Next Meeting:  Thursday, April 12th, 2018  9:30 – 12:00 p.m.  5050 Yonge Street, Committee Room A |  |
| Adjournment | * The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m. |  |