**Mayor’s GLBT Advisory Committee Meeting**

**03/19/14 Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:**

Earl Fowlkes

Andrew Barnett

June Crenshaw

Chris Obermeyer

Sterling Washington

Amy Loudermilk

RJ Flowers

Khadijah Tribble

Thomas Sanchez

May Sifuentes

Ron Swanda

Julius Agers

Megan Wallace

Benjamin Takai

Courtney Snowden

**Absent/Excused:**

Barbara Helmick

Leandrea Gilliam

Les Johnson

David Perez

Dr. Imani Woody

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| GLBT Affairs Advisory Committee | | |
| 3.19.2014 | 6:30pm – 8:30pm | 1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Room G-9 |
| Meeting called by | Sterling Washington | |
| Type of meeting | Open – Full Committee Meeting | |
| Facilitator | Earl Fowlkes | |
| Note taker | Amy Loudermilk | |
| Updates/Introductions | | |
| * **Opening Remarks from the Chair:** * **Reminder of the difference between excused and unexcused absences** * **No Public Comments at the beginning** * **Meeting Agenda was approved upon the commencement of a quorum. Last month’s meeting minutes were approved.** * **Introductions were provided and an introduction was given by new Committee Member, RJ Flowers** | | |
| Director’s Update | | |
| Sterling Washington |  | |
| * + **Public Safety**:     - **Presentation by MPD – Kelly O’Meara & Sgt. Mahl**       * The Anti-Defamation League released a long-awaited report in February which reviewed the LGBT community’s relationship with MPD, the handling of LGBT crime, and MPD’s oversight and administration of the GLLU. There were about 24 recommendations issued with the report, and MPD has agreed to 95% of the recommendations that have been offered.       * Some of these goals include the reorganization or focus of the GLLU. Other goals include revising all LGBT training to MPD officers and developing a trust between MPD and the community. Discussion about the importance of increasing the strength of the GLLU affiliate program       * The next steps: Putting together a living document about the timeline and how to achieve the recommendations in the report       * The Office of Police Complaints will also play a part in the plan to gain trust between the community and the police.       * MPD will be holding a town hall regarding these issues, specifically transgender issues       * Training officers by other officers and how to get other officers to believe this is an important issue       * The GLLU affiliate program will be totally revised and re-evaluated.     - The Critical Incident Team has begun a strategic planning process. Last night the group voted to change their name to the Violence Prevention & Response Team (VPART). The group is also writing up mission/visions statement, and membership criteria. * GLBT Affairs has conducted training for Court Supervision and Offenders Services Agency   + **Advisory Committee Members are allowed to have up to two excused absences per calendar year. If an individual has more than this or has unexcused absences, the Office of Boards & Commissions has the authority to determine if an individual shall continue to serve on the Committee.**   + **DC Government Training**     - Fire and EMS has received cultural competency training, about 60% of agency is trained to date     - Questions arose as to how to measure the change in various agencies after training     - There is no pre or posttest currently, a suggestion was made to incorporate that into the next round of trainings. Although the online version does have a quiz at the end.     - Evaluations are conducted and the information is analyzed by the DC Office of Human Resources     - A question was asked about if climate surveys of agencies have been conducted. GLBT Affairs could only do this with agencies who have 100% of employees trained. This might be something the Office could do as agencies become 100% in compliance with the training.     - Unfortunately the Office does not have a budget for evaluations.   + **GLBT Health**     - February 27th the Mayor clarified that all transition-related health needs of transgender individuals that are determined to be medically necessary( gender dysphoria) must be covered under insurance companies in the District of Columbia     - Report – working on a partnership with the American Institute for Research to conduct the survey.   + **Youth Initiatives**     - The LGBT Youth Homelessness Act signed on February 28th and is now in the Congressional Review Period. If 30 days pass with no rejections, the act will become law.     - The bill also requires training for all service providers and it adds the Office to the Interagency Council on Homelessness. Additionally, the Office must help with the annual Point-In-Time survey to count for the first time ever homeless LGBT individuals, which occurs annually. GLBT Affairs will also receive funding to hire an additional FTE, a Housing Specialist.   + Communications Concerns * **Concerns about the timely response to emails – staff and all Advisory Committee members will try to do better**   + **Sheroes Event** * **The event is in two days and it looks like the Office is finally breaking even to pay for the event. If the committee decides to do this event again next year, it is suggested that the fundraising efforts start earlier. We have had extreme difficulties getting donations and the Office had to spend money on the event that it hadn’t budgeted for.** | | |
| * + - The bill also requires training for all service providers and it adds the Office to the Interagency Council on Homelessness. Additionally, the Office must help with the annual Point-In-Time survey to count for the first time ever homeless LGBT individuals.. GLBT Affairs will also receive funding to hire an additional FTE, a Housing Specialist.   + **Communications Concerns** * Concerns about the timely response to emails – staff and all Advisory Committee members will try to do better   + **Sheroes Event** * The event is in two days and it looks like the Office is finally breaking even to pay for the event. If the committee decides to do this event again next year, it is suggested that the fundraising efforts start earlier. We have had extreme difficulties getting donations and the Office had to spend money on the event that it hadn’t budgeted for.   + **New Business**     - **Subcommittee Updates**        * **Public Safety** – initially wanted to work on getting groups paid **who** provide training to MPD; training ANC’s and creating dialogue on sex work. Prioritizing getting training organizations paid and discussed opportunity to testify during Budget Oversight Hearings about the need for this.       * **Health** – had a few concerns regarding the health report including: content (want to ensure all within the LGBT community are covered); timeline and holding people accountable; and methodology. Last concern was about if the subcommittee should push out new policy or if they should only focus on supporting existing policy – Sterling clarified that it’s both.       * **Youth & Families** – Focusing on other agenda items now that the Youth Homelessness bill has passed.       * **Aging** – Continuing to work on the Age-Friendly City initiative and has done several LGBT specific community listening sessions.   + **Funding for GLBT Affairs Office**     - A concern was voiced about the lack of financial resources allocated to the GLBT Affairs Office when compared to other Community Affairs Office. | | |
| Meeting Date for 2014 | | |
| **Next Meeting is June 23, 2014. Location TBD.** | | |