**Mayor’s GLBT Advisory Committee Meeting**

**12/10/12 Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:**

Andrew Barnett

Lester Johnson

Ryan Wilson

June Crenshaw

Barbara Ann Helmick

Earl Fowlkes

Kareem Murphy

David Perez

Ron Swanda

Khadijah Tribble

Jeffrey Richardson

Amy Loudermilk

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| GLBT Affairs Advisory Committee  |
| 12.10.2012 | 6:30pm – 8:45pm | Wilson Building, Room G |
| Meeting called by | Jeffrey Richardson |
| Type of meeting | Closed - Subcommittee |
| Facilitator | Earl Fowlkes |
| Note taker | Amy Loudermilk |
| General Updates |
| Discussion |  |
| * Office is fully staffed with hiring of Amy Loudermilk as Deputy Director
* Jeffrey has begun his transition to SERVE DC; will still assume Director responsibilities until new Director on board
* Mayor to make two important announcements at the Reeves Center on 12/11/12 – all are encouraged to attend
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| Director’s Updates on Office Initiatives |
|  | Jeffrey Richardson |
| Discussion |  |
| * 99% of supervisors and directors in government agencies have received baseline LGBTQ training; online training continuing for hard to reach employees like DDOT. DCHR & GLBT Affairs will set annual goals for employee training for 2013
* The Office will be reviewing all trainings and instituting evaluation measures as appropriate
* Citywide DC Gov LGBTQ Youth Taskforce will reconvene 12/11/12; CFSA trainings for social workers will continue in January; DYRS has drafted policies re: LGBQ youth and is moving towards implementation; DCPS & DCPL continue their programming
* GLSEN has a grant from the CDC and has partnered with the office and OSSE to pilot the Safe Spaces curricula; our target is to train 80 school personnel including DMH school social workers, MPD School Resource Officers and others; charter schools will be included; large emphasis/focus on evaluation and fidelity of the curriculum; purpose of training is to equip staff with how to create safe spaces for LGBTQ youth, how to be allies, and how to intervene in bullying situations
* CM Cheh’s LGBTQ Youth Homelessness bill recently had a hearing at which the office testified. CM Graham is committed to moving some version of the bill forward, although that process is unlikely to be completed this legislative session due to time constraints. At the hearing there appeared to be consensus to raise the age in the definition of “youth”” to age 24 to be in compliance with other local laws, and also for the District to conduct some sort of census to quantify this population, but the specifics still have to worked out. The Department of Human Services also convened a meeting with GLBT Affairs and youth homelessness providers and the DC Concerned Providers Coalition, all agreed to review and improve cultural competence training for providers, DHS and clients – focusing on proactive steps that could be accomplished while the youth homelessness bill is pending. Increasing the number of available beds for youth is a budgetary issue that must be considered as the FY14 budget preparations approach.
* The Office has recently started working on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act:
	+ The Office has been serving on a communication taskforce, beginning to think about how to communicate the important issues that affect the community (i.e. changes to Medicaid eligibility, the abolishment of “pre-existing conditions”, the ability to purchase your own healthcare directly on the open market, etc)
	+ The office was recently made aware that there may be some work to do to ensure coverage for all services for transgender individuals is included in the “essential health benefit standard”, which is the basic minimum standard of services that each state sets in order for insurance companies to operate in the health care exchange. DC thus far has explicitly included in its essential health benefit standard an exemption for any services related to the transitioning of one’s gender, which appears to put DC out of compliance with the local Human Rights Act and recently issued federal regulations. The Office is coordinating a meeting with the legal team at the Health Care Exchange to discuss these issues.
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| Advisory Committee Roles & Responsibilities |
|  | Darryl Gorman, Director of the DC Office of Boards & Commissions |
| Discussion |  |
| * At the last meeting members had many questions about the roles of Advisory Committee Members and how to carry out their duties so OBC Director Gorman was brought in to provide an overview of the parameters and important issues including:
	+ The Committee can develop by-laws if it wishes, others, Roberts Rules of Orders rules. Decisions do not have to be made by vote but can rather be done through consensus
	+ The Chairperson is the designated member who can provide testimony to the Council on matters of its choosing
	+ Importance of attendance – the standard is not to miss more than 3 consecutive absences or action can be taken to remove the member from the committee
	+ There are 3 types of boards:
		- Advisory – gives advice to the Mayor or Council on issues
		- Policy – these are usually tasked with directing an agency (such as the DC Housing Authority Board)
		- Regulatory – determines rates; licensing boards, etc.
	+ Committee must abide by the District’s Open Meetings law:
		- Full meetings of the body where decisions will be made require at least 48 hours advance notice to the public and the agenda for the meeting must be posted publicly. Meeting minutes must also be posted publicly. Each of these types of meetings must also contain a time for the public to speak to the Committee; however, the Committee can determine the specifics of this (length of time allotted, etc.)
		- The Committee can vote to go into an “executive session” which would be closed to the public and media. Usually this is done when very sensitive information is being discussed (such as personnel matters)
		- Electronic meetings (such as those conducted via Skype) are frowned upon because of difficulty of public to gain access
	+ The Director & Chairperson asked each Committee member to think about what it would like to focus on and come prepared to discuss at the next meeting
* There was a question about what the Office’s mission and strategic initiatives are:
	+ Training and cultural competency for all DC government agencies and contracted providers is a top priority
	+ All of our initiatives should reflect the Mayor’s plan for the city as established in the One City Action Plan, including:
		- Public safety and coordination of the Critical Incident Team
		- LGBT Youth
		- Employment
		- Aging Issues
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| Logistics/New Business |
| Discussion |
| * An Advisory Committee Member raised the issue of two DC radio hosts who went on an extremely transphobic rant about a college transgender athlete. The Office will look into the issue and notify the Office of Human Rights.
* Next Meeting will be January 16th, 2013 at 6:30pm.
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