



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office on LGBTQ Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes:
Wednesday, September 16, 2015
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center
2000 14th Street NW, Washington DC 20009

Meeting called by	David Perez, Chair to LGBTQ Advisory Committee
Facilitators	David Perez, Chair to LGBTQ Advisory Committee Sheila Alexander-Reid, Director of LGBTQ Affairs Terrance Laney, Deputy Director of LGBTQ Affairs
Secretary	Nicole Armstead, MSW, LGSW
Attendees	Sheila Alexander-Reid Glen Ackerman Julius Agers Nicole Armstead Joanna Cifredo Ruth Eisenberg Letitia Gomez Alexander King Terrance Laney Consuella Lopez Christopher Adam Obermeyer David Perez Dionne Reeder Thomas Sanchez Andrea Sharrin Jim Slattery Imani Woody
Apologies of Absentees	Victoria Kirby York, Vice Chair, LGBTQ Advisory Committee Sheldon Scott



MEETING START TIME: 6:00pm

MEETING AGENDA

Introduction and swearing-in of new members

- David Perez called the meeting into order. He began with a self-introduction and dedicated brief time for all present committee members to introduce themselves. Committee members include a diverse range of people, including, but not limited to: small business owners, creative writers, federal workers, political activists, community organizers, supporters of youth and aging communities, educators, and social workers.
- Steven Walter, the Director of MOTA, and Anthony Stevens formally swore-in three committee members who were unable to attend the previously dated Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments – New Commissioners Swearing-in Ceremony, on 07/30/2015: Joanna Cifredo, Letitia Gomez, and Christopher Adam Obermeyer.

Secretary nomination and election

- David Perez called upon the committee to nominate and vote for a secretary. Nicole Armstead volunteered for the position. The nomination was voted upon and the motion was carried by David Perez. Additional committee members stated, “I second the motion,” and Nicole Armstead was formally appointment to serve as secretary.

Overview of the Office of LGBTQ Affairs and Advisory Committee Responsibilities

- Sheila Alexander-Reid updated the committee of the change from Office of GLBT Affairs to the more inclusive Office of LGBTQ Affairs. With this more inclusive name, Sheila added that the LGBTQ Advisory Committee also needed to reflect the same, adding that:
 1. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning persons were represented
 2. All eight wards were represented
 3. All members were “ready to go to work” for the respective LGBTQ communities.
- The LGBTQ Advisory Committee will be responsible for supporting the aggressive efforts of Mayor Muriel Bowser to end homelessness in the District of Columbia by 2020.
- The LGBTQ Advisory Committee will be responsible for addressing the following critical issues: homelessness—especially among transgender youth and young adults, increased employment opportunities, and HIV.
- The LGBTQ Advisory Committee will be responsible for the following key points:
 - A. Advise the Office of LGBTQ Affairs and Mayor of the needs of this respective community
 - B. Offer recommendations to improve the lives of this respective community
 - C. Abide by the mission of the committee
 - D. Uphold the duties assigned by the mayor.



Report by Office of LGBTQ Affairs

- The Mayor’s Office of LGBTQ Affairs was provided with a \$12,000 budget
- Terrance Laney reviewed and discussed the Office of LGBTQ Affairs six month plan, noting that each month will focus on one key priority issue or demographic most affected by the issue(s). The plan includes:

MONTH	FOCUS POINTS	NOTES
July	<p><u>INTERNAL ORGANIZATION</u> 6 month planning Official name change LGBTQ 101 Trainings in nursing homes and health care facilities Newsletter re-launch Housing specialist hired Advisory Council Swearing-In Ceremony</p>	<p>Significant attention will be made to the completion of LGBTQ 101 trainings for all DC government employees. The committee has raised almost \$200,000 to hire more professional trainings—facilitated by LGBTQ-identified persons. This will also provide increased employment opportunities for a community often challenged when seeking employment.</p> <p>The first contract will be training the DC Department of Corrections.</p>
August	<p><u>HOUSING</u> Collect pledges to end homelessness Housing specialist will begin intensive outreach to service providers and develop a credentialing program for shelters and housing facilities that serve LGBTQ youth Youth Homelessness Census Reel Affirmations Film Festival, film <i>Check-It</i></p>	<p>The Office on LGBTQ Affairs will focus on promoting the mayor’s agenda for ending homelessness in the District, creating pathways to the middle class and increasing the number of facilities with the capacity to serve the LGBTQ community.</p>



<p>September</p>	<p><u>HEALTH</u> Completion of LGBTQ Health Survey Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Juvenile Justice Summit United States Conference of AIDS <i>Bisexual Awareness Day (9/23)</i> Deadline for all employees to be trained on LGBTQ 101, if not extended by MMB</p>	<p>The Office of LGBTQ Affairs was asked to assist the Department of Health to complete the <i>LGBTQ Health Survey</i>. The project has included many challenges, specifically around getting responses from demographic. The goal proposed receiving 200-400 responses; only 40 responses were actually received. Working to re-visit the survey.</p> <p>The Office on LGBTQ Affairs will focus on wellness and health disparities in the LGBTQ community. The Office will do community outreach and engagement that focuses on raising awareness of the *90-90-90-50% by 2020 plan to drastically reduce new HIV infections and increase access to care and treatment for HIV+ residents of the district.</p> <p>* 90% tested for HIV on an annual basis, 90% HIV+ on treatment, 90% of HIV+ achieve viral suppression and new infections reduced by 50% by the year 2020.</p> <p>DC will host the <u>first</u> Bisexual Awareness Day, 9/23</p>
<p>October</p>	<p><u>LGBTQ HISTORY MONTH & YOUTH</u> We are Washington DC LGBTQ History Month Social Media Campaign African-American Task Force: <i>Check-It</i> outreach National Coming Out Day (10/11) Spirit Day (10/15) Intersex Visibility Day (10/26)</p>	<p>The Office of LGBTQ Affairs will focus on LGBTQ youth during the month of October, specifically highlighting services for LGBTQ youth in preparation of <i>National Coming Out Day</i> and <i>Spirit Day</i>, which addresses LGBTQ youth experiencing bullying.</p> <p>We are DC LGBTQ History Month Social Media Campaign will aim t feature 20 LGBTQ-identified people, living, in the district, engaging in great work to increase the lives of this respective community.</p> <p>There will be a tremendous focus on the scheduled release of the <i>Check-It</i> documentary, specifically working to ensure the physical, emotional, and social safety of the featured cast — all of who are LGBTQ youth and young adults.</p>

- The report reflects October as an event-filled month, and a there will be a tremendous focus on the scheduled release of the *Check-It* documentary, specifically working to ensure the physical, emotional, and social safety of the featured cast — all of who are LGBTQ youth and young adults.

OVERVIEW OF CHECK-IT

- A documentary film by Dana Flor and Toby Oppenheimer
- Focus brings light to the lives and narratives an LGBTQ gang—comprised mostly of African-American gay and transgender youth, living in DC (Trinidad and Gallery Place). It is an intimate portrait of these members as they navigate through struggles disproportionately experienced by LGBTQ youth — especially youth of color.
- Focus includes a storyline of resiliency; fashion is used as a creative outlet and eventually an escape out of gang life for many involved.



- The LGBTQ Advisory Committee expressed an array of responses to the filming of Check-It — some feeling the film was exploitive of young vulnerable persons, while others commended the need to tell this story. All committee members, nevertheless, understand the collective role to support the cast members through the preparation and aftermath of film release. Further planning will be needed and committee members Nicole Armstead, Joanna Cifredo, Consuella Lopez, David Perez, and Dionne Reeder agreed to plan and identify resources to assist with the film release and launch.

New Business

- David Perez prepared to close the meeting, but opened the space for any feedback and suggestions for the next meeting. The following were discussed:
 1. Conduct a more in-depth introduction of committee members, to include: gender and pronouns, how each member identifies along the LGBTQ spectrum, and respective wards where each member resides
 2. Share individual skills, talents, and interests of each committee member
 3. Possibility of creating sub-committees
- Terrance Laney will continue discussing the Office on LGBTQ Affairs Six Month Plan during the next meeting
- The LGBTQ Advisory Committee will discuss planning meetings in rotating locations, to reflect all wards

MEETING END TIME: 8:03pm

NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION:

Tuesday, October 6, 2015 from 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center: 2000 14th Street NW, Washington DC 20009