



**HIV Health Services Planning Council
Community Outreach & Advocacy Committee
Minutes
Wednesday, January 9, 2008
25 Van Ness Avenue Room 330B
5:30-7:30pm**

Committee Members Present: Banks, Cooper, Mabry, Manley, Navarro, Newell, Scherich

Committee Members Absent: Flores, Penagos

Other Council Members Present: Siron

Others Present: Christopher Gortner, HHS

Council Support Staff: Jack Newby, Dennis Wheeler

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order and everyone introduced themselves. Quorum was established.

2. Review/Approve Agenda

The Agenda was reviewed and approved by consensus.

3. Review/Approve December 12th, 2007 Minutes.

The December 12th Minutes were approved by consensus.

4. Announcements

Jack Newby announced that Channing Wayne was out ill and the meeting would be recorded for purposes of the minutes.

Jack Newby announced that the Planning Committee had reviewed and agreed with the recommendations for focusing on individuals over age 50 and previously incarcerated in the Needs Assessment. This was also the request of Robert Whirry, the grant writer. A Needs Assessment Work Group will be developed and announcement for Work Group Members will be sent to all council members.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Steering Committee Update

There was no Steering Committee Update.

7. Advocacy Project Report

- *The Committee will receive and review the monthly report from the Consumer Rights Advocacy Project.*

The Consumer Rights Advocate, Dennis Wheeler, updated the committee on his activities during the previous month and reviewed his report. There was one new client who had a potential grievance with Westside Community Health. The Advocate was able to assist this individual. There were also housing concerns regarding this individual and the Advocate was advised to contact CM George Simmons for assistance and information. The Advocate updated the Diva Berry in Marin and will be meeting with individuals in Marin on December 10.

8. Update of PLWHA Caucus Meeting

Council Support suggested several dates in late January. These dates were the 22nd or 23rd and the 29th or 30th. Potential locations were reviewed such as the Sausage Factory in the Castro, the Zen Center, the LGBT Center or a restaurant in the Mission. The committee agreed that these dates would be acceptable. Co-Chair Manley reported that he brought the Caucus Meeting to the P & E Committee and it was agreed that this would be a social gathering, and not a business meeting. The future status of the PLWHA Caucus would be determined in the council re-structure discussions.

9. Review/Discuss Proposed Minority and Women's HIV Caucus

CM Banks reviewed his proposal and clarified that it would be a Minority and Women's Affairs Committee of the council. He mentioned that a more detailed discussion would be presented at the P & E meeting on December 11. CM Banks outlined the various challenges facing communities of color and the women's community regarding the incidence of HIV and that it is a growing epidemic in these communities. He would like the committee to focus on eliminating barriers to care and how to better engage these affected communities in the process. He would like to include presentations from providers, council members, HIV Health Services, and other stakeholders. He mentioned that there were similar committees in New York, Houston, and Baltimore.

Several Committee Members asked questions regarding the proposal and the scope of the committee. Suggestions were made to focus on the prioritization and allocations function of the council and to review the possible logistics of having presentations from a wide variety of community members.

10. Update Status of San Francisco EMA HIV/AIDS Resource Guide

- *The Committee will be updated on the current status of the San Francisco EMA HIV/AIDS Resource Guide*

Christopher Gortner reported that he met with Council Support Jack Newby and Ray West regarding this project. The PDF of the previous guide has been forwarded to council support. There should be another meeting to discuss how to begin the process of updating the information and including interested council members in the process. Mr. Gortner suggested that there would be a printing of approximately 5000 copies as well as a PDF version posted on-line. He also indicated that the final contracting process had not yet been completed. Council Support, Newby reported that we are in the initial stages of this process and want to include council members without the necessity of formal noticed meetings. The committee will continue to be updated.

11. Status Update of Veterans Administration Presentation

The Veterans Administration Presentation is scheduled for the March Council Meeting. Council support is working on securing a presenter for this date. Committee members asked that the report focus on the available services and how to improve referrals from other agencies for eligible clients.

12. Next Meeting Date and Agenda Items

The next Community Outreach and Advocacy Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 13th, 2008 from 5:30 until 7:30 at SF DPH, 25 Van Ness, Room 330B, San Francisco.

It was requested that Council Support inquire as to the status of Co-Chair Wade Flores and determine if he is able to continue as Committee Co-Chair. Depending on the outcome of that inquiry, a possible vote on a new Co-Chair may be scheduled for the next meeting.

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.