

**Advisory Committee on Street Harassment (ACSH) Minutes**

**March 25th, 2020, 2pm**

**Virtual Meeting via GoToMeeting (<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/931556189>)**

**Present:**

Michelle Garcia, Interim Director of DC Office of Human Rights (*OHR*) and Director of DC Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants (*OVSJG*)

Aamir Mansoor, Legislative Director for Councilmember Nadeau (*City Council*)

Thomas Yabroff, Community Outreach Specialist in the Mayor’s Office of LGBTQ Affairs (*MOLGBTQA*)

Sarah Fashbaugh, Community Resource Officer at Alcohol Beverage Regulation Administration (*ABRA*)

Amy Nelson, Director of Legal Services for Whitman Walker Health (*Immigrant Rights*)

Indira Henard, Executive Director of the DC Rape Crisis Center (*Gender Based Violence*)

Kevin Gaddis, Metro Transit Police Department (*WMATA*)

Darakshan Raja, Co-Director of Justice for Muslims Collective (*Religious Tolerance*)

Helen McClure, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety & Justice

Maya Vizvary, Street Harassment Prevention Program Analyst at OHR

Stephanie Franklin, Communications and Community Outreach Director at OHR

Zino Adjroud, Research Fellow at OHR

Chelsey Cox, Journalism Masters Degree Candidate at Georgetown University

2:10 – 2:30pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Welcome from OHR Interim Director Garcia &amp; Councilmember Nadeau</li><li>2. Introductions: Maya will direct order<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Name</li><li>b. Pronouns</li><li>c. Organization/Community</li><li>d. What’s one thing you enjoy doing for stress relief?</li></ol></li></ol>
2:30 – 2:50pm	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. Advisory Committee updates<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Disability voice</li><li>b. Remaining months of FY2020</li><li>c. Beyond FY2020: SHPA law and further</li></ol></li><li>a. We are still looking for someone to unofficially serve on ACSH to provide the perspective from the disability community. Survey respondents that identified as having a visible disability or mobility issue had some of the highest numbers of street harassment experiences throughout the survey. Unfortunately, the disability community was not one of the eight populations listed in the SHPA bill, so this person will most likely have to unofficially serve on the Committee. If anyone has some good ideas for someone from that community that has the capacity and desire to serve on a Committee like this, please let Maya know. Also, acknowledging that the disability community is probably doing additional advocacy these days with COVID-19 and that all of us are operating in a public health emergency.</li></ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Maya is seven months pregnant! She is due mid-June 2020. What a wild time to be expecting (!); unfortunately nobody can see her baby bump since we're not meeting in person. All this being said, she will be out on parental leave (most likely) from early/mid-June to mid/late-September. As a reminder, the fiscal year for the DC government is from Oct 1 to September 30, so she will most likely be gone for the entire fourth quarter of the Fiscal Year 2020. There will likely be at least one meeting during her absence since the SHPA law requires quarterly Advisory Committee meetings.</li> <li>c. The SHPA law technically sunsets – or is only written up until – September 30, 2020. However, given 1) our six month (ish) extension with the first report, and (2) the COVID-19 pandemic/public health emergency, we can most likely expect an extension for the second report (which is due September 30, 2020 according to the law) and just extended timelines in general. Funding for the recommendations in our first report (ie: trainings and reporting portal) may be limited or delayed due to all the funds required by the public health emergency. It's difficult to know what will happen in the coming weeks, months, and year and what the funding implications will be. As an FYI, the Mayor's budget submission to the council has been extended to May 6<sup>th</sup>. City Council then votes on the budget in late June.</li> </ul>
<p>2:50 – 3:00pm</p>	<p>4. Status of the SHPA Report</p> <p>The SHPA report was finalized mid-February and our graphic designer finished its look by early March. The report was officially submitted to Internal Review in mid-March and we are now just waiting for various offices to review it. Once we make changes requested, it can be officially published and submitted to both the Mayor and City Council. Multiple members reported that COVID-19 documents/reports/information is the top priority and everything else (ie: our SHPA report) has been pushed to the bottom.</p>
<p>3:00 – 3:40pm</p>	<p>5. 2020 Public Awareness Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Social media plan around report release</li> <li>b. Brainstorm session on virtual event/activation</li> <li>c. Goal: Report release and event to occur during the 10<sup>th</sup> annual International Anti-Street Harassment Week (April 19 – 25)</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Given the likelihood that the SHPA report will not get out of Internal Review by the International Anti-Street Harassment week, we will have different social media plans for the release of the report and for International Anti-SH week. For the report release – whenever it happens – we will have some social media posts to build up the release and then posts that highlight statistics and stories in the report once it is published.</li> </ul>

	<p>b. A virtual event was discussed and while it seems like people are generally appreciating opportunities to engage, they are also only doing/engaging with essential activities. We are already approaching Zoom-fatigue....</p> <p>That being said, we discussed a strong social media plan for International Anti-SH Week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several folks have heard reports of street harassment experienced by folks that present as East Asian       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Connect with the Mayor’s Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs to see if they want to collaborate on a social media post or two; see if they have specific incidents/stories that they would be willing to share on social media</li> <li>ii. Explain that this is the type of street harassment happening in DC during COVID-19</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Someone has heard reports of people harassing others for not following the 6-foot distance rule – perhaps make this another example of what street harassment currently looks like?</li> <li>• Make another push of our “<a href="#">Share Your Story</a>” survey that lives on <a href="https://nostreetharassment.dc.gov">nostreetharassment.dc.gov</a>. This way people can engage and share street harassment incidents (past or present) while we are unsure of if/when a reporting portal (one of our recommendations in the report) becomes a reality</li> <li>• OHR will plan to share the social media posts and plans with Advisory Committee members as soon as we can and ask that they share from their agency/organization’s social media if possible during International Anti-Street Harassment as well       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Just a heads up that everything we create/publish has to go through an approval process from the Mayor’s Communications office. Anything that is remotely related to COVID-19 is particularly vetted but also is the priority of Communications right now. Knowing this approval process and timeline, Maya will work on something quickly and hopefully it will be designed and approved by International Anti-Street Harassment Week (April 19 – 25).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>3:40 – 3:45pm</p>	<p>6. Next Steps &amp; Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are not sure when the next meeting will be. It will most likely be after our report goes through Internal Review and we have a better idea of timing during this public health emergency. Thank you for everyone’s patience as things unfold and we figure this out.</li> <li>• Everyone stay home as much as possible and we wish you safety, peace, and health! And thank you to everyone providing essential services!</li> </ul>