



ONE ATLANTA:
Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
LGBTQ Affairs

**LGBTQ Advisory Board to Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms
Inaugural Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, July 18, 2018
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Atlanta City Hall
Mayor's Cabinet Room
55 Trinity Avenue SW, Atlanta, GA 30303

Composed of citywide leaders and advocates, the Mayor's LGBTQ Advisory Board will make recommendations to the Mayor that will help shape the City's policies and engagements with Atlanta's LGBTQ communities and serve as a bridge between City Hall and LGBTQ residents.

Agenda:

1. Call to order, Kirk Rich & Pam Stewart (Board Co-Chairs)

2. Welcome remarks, Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms

- a) Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms thanked the advisory board for their willingness to serve, reinforced her personal commitment, as well as the City of Atlanta's commitment, to the protection and advancement of the LGBTQ community. The Mayor is committed to a proactive, constant and productive stream of dialogue between the LGBTQ community and City Hall – the LGBTQ advisory board is a vital part of that commitment.
- b) Mayor Bottoms also talked about her vision for Atlanta, which is One Atlanta -- an affordable, resilient, and equitable Atlanta; a safe and welcoming city; a city with world-class employees, infrastructure and services; an ethical, transparent, and fiscally responsible government; thriving neighborhoods, communities and businesses; and residents who are equipped for success.

3. Introductions; name & affiliations:

Attendees, City of Atlanta:

Honorable Keisha Lance Bottoms, Mayor of Atlanta

Marva Lewis, Chief of Staff, City of Atlanta

Richard Cox, Chief Operating Officer, City of Atlanta

Rashad Taylor, Chief Equity Officer and Counselor to the Mayor

Reese McCranie (*via phone*), Deputy Chief Equity Officer, One Atlanta: Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Malik Brown, LGBTQ Affairs Coordinator, One Atlanta: Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Megan Sparks, Senior Director of Programming & External Affairs, One Atlanta: Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Kelly Smith Beaty, Director of Strategic Engagement, One Atlanta: Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Javier Brown, Legislative Manager, One Atlanta: Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Michael Smith, Press Secretary, Mayor's Office of Communications

Kristen Denius, Senior Assistant City Attorney, City of Atlanta

Cathryn Marchman, Executive Director, Partners for Home

Captain Kamula McKnight, LGBTQ Liaison, Atlanta Department of Corrections

SPO Eric King, LGBTQ Liaison, Atlanta Police Department

Firefighter Anare Holmes, LGBTQ Liaison, Atlanta Fire Rescue Department

Firefighter Latia Posey, LGBTQ Liaison, Atlanta Fire Rescue Department

Ayanna Dickerson, LGBTQ Affairs Intern, One Atlanta: Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Jacob Kanter, LGBTQ Affairs Intern, One Atlanta: Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Augustin Giraldo, ATL Counts Intern, One Atlanta: Mayor's Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Attendees, Mayor's LGBTQ Advisory Board:

Bishop Oliver Clyde Allen, Founder, Vision Church Atlanta

Kia Barnes, Community Organizer

Emily Halden Brown, Atlanta Coalition for LGBTQ Youth (ACFLY)

Richard Cherskov, Former Owner, Jungle Atlanta

Gabrielle Claiborne, Co-Founder, Transformation Journeys Worldwide

Paul Conroy, Founder, Out Front Theatre

Tori Cooper, Prevention Specialist, Positive Impact Health Centers

Lisa Cunningham, CEO, Atlanta Film Partners

Jamie Fergerson, Executive Director, Atlanta Pride

Jeff Graham, Executive Director, Georgia Equality

Colton Griffin, LGBT Caucus Chair, Democratic Party of Georgia

Roshelle Darlene Hudson, MSW, Co-Founder, Annual Rustin/Lorde Breakfast

Ivette Lopez, Board of Directors, Latino LinQ

Tracee McDaniel, Executive Director, Juxtaposed Center for Transformation

Josh McNair, Community Activist

Daniel Newman, Actor, The Walking Dead (AMC)

Rev. Dr. Joshua M. Noblitt, Saint Mark United Methodist Church

Philip Rafshoon, Former Owner, OutWrite Book Store & Coffeehouse

Kirk Rich, Principal, Avison Young

Ryan Roemerman, Founding Executive Director, LGBT Institute

Jonathan Russell, Director of Development, Woodruff Health Sciences Center

Brigid Scarbrough (*via phone*), National Board of Governors, Human Rights Campaign

Melissa Scott, Owner, Soul Bar At Pals Lounge

Fred Smith, Atlanta Leadership Circle, Lambda Legal

Rickie Smith, President, In the Life Atlanta

Pam Stewart (*via phone*), Board of Directors, GLAAD

Feroza Syed, Trans Activist

Alex Wan, Former Atlanta City Council Member, District 6

Craig Washington, Co-Founder, Southern Unity Movement

Miss Lawrence, Actor, *Star* (FOX)

4. Photo w/ Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms

5. Ice breaker/ Diving Deeper questions:

Board members were asked about their long-term hopes for the board, as well as what strengths and talents they possess. Below is a brief summary.

a) What does wild success for this board look like to you?

a. Common themes

- i. Improving youths lives
- ii. Eradicating HIV/AIDS
- iii. Eradicating homelessness, especially for LGBTQ youth
- iv. Being a global (national, regional, and state) leader for LGBTQ issues
- v. Equity
- vi. Proactivity
- vii. Achievement of tangible results, within city government and within the community

b) What is your super power?

a. Key Themes -- Superpowers, Strengths, and Talents:

i. Connectivity

1. The ability to connect deeply and/or emotionally with people
2. The ability to connect people to one another, places, ideas, programs, etc.

ii. Creating Space

1. The ability to create safe, nurturing spaces, physical or otherwise, for people to be their true selves.

iii. Storytelling

1. **Communications skills**
2. **Influence**
3. **Persuasion**
4. **Insight**
5. **Perspective**

iv. Simplification

v. Resiliency

vi. Authenticity

vii. Inspiring Hope

6. Working Lunch:

a) Overview of The Georgia Open Meetings Act, Kristen Denius, Senior Assistant City Attorney

- a. Gave an overview of the Georgia Open Meetings Act and its applicability to current city boards and commissions. While the Mayor's LGBTQ Advisory Board is not required to have their meetings to the public, there was consensus among the board members to have this board operate under the same Georgia Open Meetings Act rules as other boards and commissions.

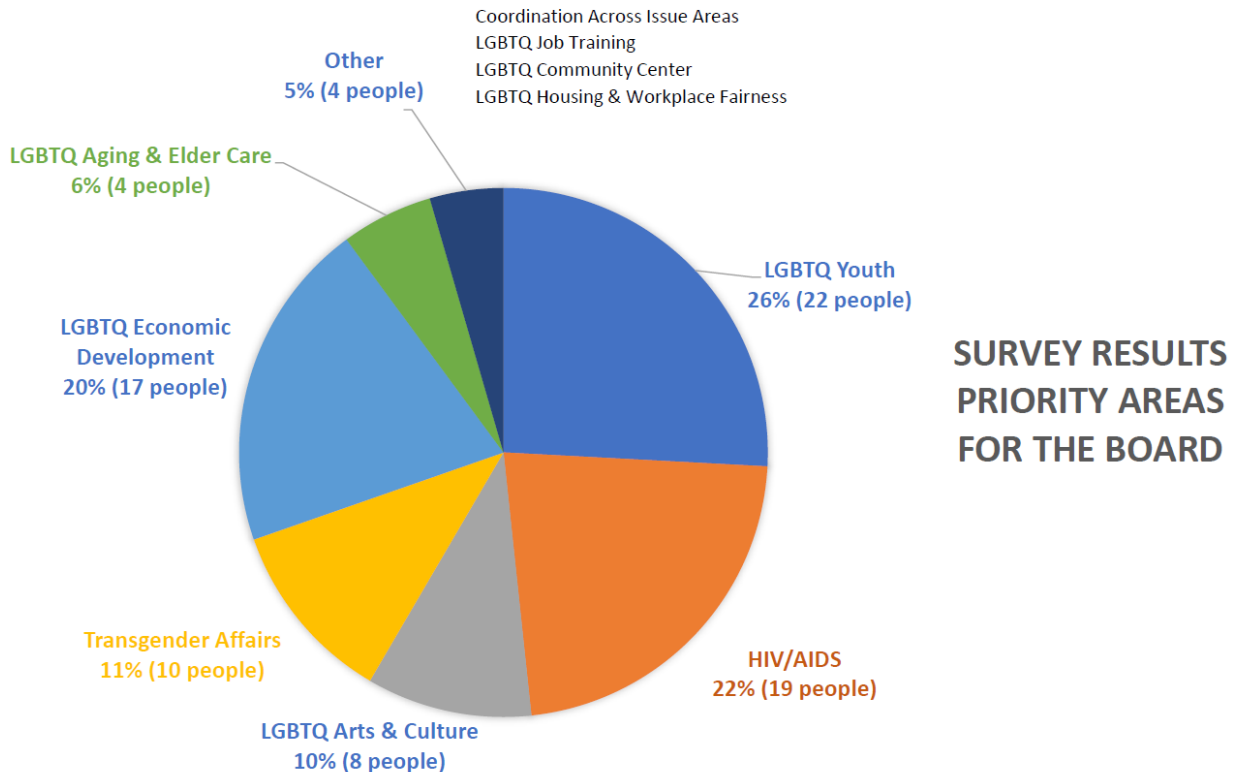
b) Overview of Atlanta Continuum of Care’s LGBTQ efforts, Cathryn Marchman, Executive Director, Partners for Home

- a. HUD requires a strategic plan for homelessness in our community.
- b. Crisis response system needs to be upgraded (shelters, food kitchens, etc.).
- c. The way people exit homelessness is currently not always ideal or always completed.
- d. Strategic plan coming down the pipeline to align investments into creating permanent housing solutions. Divided into two buckets.
 - I. How to address needs of homelessness in youth (18-24) and adults (24).
 - II. Working on educating providers in cultural competency.
- e. Host-Home Model initiating soon.

c) Brief overview of roles / expectations, Kirk Rich, Co-Chair, Mayor’s LGBTQ Advisory Board

d) Analysis of pre-meeting survey results, Malik Brown, LGBTQ Affairs Coordinator

- a. In advance of the meeting, the Mayor’s LGBTQ Advisory Board was asked to select their top 3 wishes for the board’s priority areas.



7. Next steps:

- Polling calendar coming to identify next full board meeting date.

8. Closing remarks, Kirk Rich & Pam Stewart (Board Co-Chairs)

9. Meeting adjourns