Committee Members Present: Commissioner Cecilia Chung, Jane Aceituno, Alex Baty, Bart Broome, Corrin Buchanan, Ruby Cymrot-Wu, Samer Danfoura, Mark Dunlop, Elizabeth Labedz, Allison Laureano, Dominique Leslie, Amos Lim, Mark Murphy, Joseph Peralta, Poonam, Bianca Polovina, Poonam, Fayaz Rajani, Martin Rawlings-Fein, Ray Rudolph, Donna Sachet, Lindasusan Ulrich, Vaughn Villaverde, and Amy Whelan.

Committee Members Absent: Jane Aceituno, Samer Danfoura, Allison Laureano, Fayaz Rajani, Martin Rawlings-Fein, Lindasusan Ulrich, Amy Whelan.

Staff Present: Nadia Babella and Domenic Viterbo,

Guests Present:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Commissioner Chung called the meeting to order at **** p.m. Ms. Babella called the roll.

2. Approval of Minutes of ***, 2010:

*** moved to approve the minutes as written. *** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda:

Nick….. introduces himself

4. Introduction of New Advisory Committee Members:

New committee members:
Bianca Polovina, Fayaz Rajani, Ray Rudolph, Mark Dunlop, Ruby Cymrot-Wu

5. Presentation by Ken Stram: Workshops at the SFLGBTCC re: Economic Empowerment:
Panel presentation: LBGT Center’s Economic Empowerment Program

KEN STRONG Presented to the Advisory Committee

In the late 1990’s the LGBT Advisory Committee did a series of hearings focusing on the economic condition of the LGBT community. The National Census does not collect information on LGBT statistics. The report focused on the lack of economic support systems in place for the LBGT community. Job placement was an issue also lack of resources for LGBT persons wanting to start up businesses. The report went deep into some of the issues confronting the transgender community in San Francisco also home ownership and housing discrimination in a time when AIDS was much more of an issue than it is today. Spirituality also came into focus with many LGBT persons moving to San Francisco leaving behind what had been their support systems. This was pretty much the blue print for the program.

The program was started when Supervisor Bevan Dufty and former Center Executive Director Tom Lynch received a $75,000 grant from the Mayors Office of Community Development. The program began helping people with business plans, relying on non-profit micro lenders to help people qualify for a variety loan packages and small business loans. The program went on to provide post loan technical assistance and referrals, connecting people with resources that could best help them. The empowerment program also provided sensitivity trainings to referral sources.

The EEP received funding for the Workforce Development Program and job fairs. Through tracking they were able to gather statistics, showing who was attending. It was found that the transgender community was not attending. In 2004 they did a job fair that targeted the transgender community and at least 125 persons attended. After conducting in-depth surveys of the transgender community it was found that despite higher education levels, many of them were living on $15,000 per year. It was clear that there was a definite need for deeper services for the transgender population. Members of the community and LBGT Center staff went to he Mayors Office and Board of Supervisors. This was the beginning of the Transgender Economic Empowerment Initiative. They were matched and work closely with (JVS) Jewish Vocational Service who showed them the ropes. The program has been very successful having just made its one hundredth placement.

It is reported that home ownership within the LGBT community is reported to be only about 10%. This being in a city where home ownership in the general population is between 25 and 30%. There are new housing development projects that are currently being built in the Castro/upper Market area. Each one of these projects is required to make 15% of the units available for low income people to buy.

EEP is working to get organized to assist the LGBT community to purchase these homes.

Two years ago they started an event called LGBT economic empowerment day. The goal is to bring people together across all parts of the community. One of the focuses is to bring together people from different race, ethnicity, and socio-economic backgrounds. There have been three tracks the first being for low or moderate income people The second track was for people who were accumulating wealth and possibly looking to purchase a home. Lastly there was Encore that was geared towards seniors and their counterparts. There are also plans for youth in the works and some breakouts for small business developments.

Ken took questions from the Committee

Panel presentation: Sex Workers Outreach Project

Carol Lee presented to the Advisory committee

Presentation will be focused on the sex worker Transgender Community and acts of violence committed towards them. There is often an enmity between the police and the transgender community especially with sex workers. Who continue to remain invisible and feel a sense of ambivalence coming from the police and the government. Areas from which they need the most support. To have the opportunity to take a look at these issues through…

6. Presentation by the Sex Workers Outreach Program (“S.W.O.P.”):
Carol Lee presented to the Advisory committee
Presentation will be focused on the sex worker Transgender Community and acts of violence committed towards them. There is often an enmity between the police and the transgender community especially with sex workers. Who continue to remain invisible and feel a sense of ambivalence coming from the police and the government. Areas from which they need the most support. To have the opportunity to take a look at these issues through…

7. **Presentation by Tommi Avicolli-Mecca: March 25 Hearing re: S.F.’s Sit/Lie Law and its Effect on the LGBT Community:**

Item moved to next meeting

8. **Advisory Committee Mentor/Mentee Partnering (Discussion Item):**

9. **Follow-Up to the Hepatitis-C 7x7 Presentation (Discussion Item):**

10. **Annual Retreat Planning (Discussion Item):**

11. **Work Group Reports:**

12. **Commissioners’ Report:**

13. **Staff Report:**

14. **Old/New Business:**

No Old/New Business was discussed.

11. **Announcements:**

No new announcements were presented.

12. **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at **** p.m.