OGAG Meeting 5/1/2019

Wednesday, May 1, 2019   9:05 AM

The OGAG was created late in Mayor Gray's term. There was significant turnover with the change of administrations to Mayor Bowser particularly among government members. Many of Mayor Bowser's appointments date from June 2016. In June 2019 all the current public members terms expire. Although reappointments are possible, this is likely the last meeting of the OGAG as currently constituted.

Discussion:

What have been the strengths and weaknesses of the OGAG in advancing open government?

- Strengths
    - Mix of government and public members, and its role as a voice for transparency is the OGAG's super power.
    - Review of agency open government plans. (This was done when OGAG was first created and plans were created under the same Mayor's order)
    - Serving as a stakeholder group during development of the Data Policy.
    - Stakeholder list / tool (link)
    - Willingness to take on and work through controversial issues.
    - OGAG review is helpful for agencies releasing new public facing applications and websites.
- Weaknesses
    - It is difficult for a mix of government and public members to deal with controversial issues.
    - Engagement with agencies beyond OCTO needs to improve.
    - Frequent changes in government members is disruptive, but perhaps inevitable.
    - Group should be more active in drafting and voting on resolutions.

What are the lessons learned about how to most effectively operate the OGAG?
- Maintain a cadence of frequent, but reasonably short meetings.
- Subgroups formed around impromptu issues are likely to be more effective than standing subcommittees.
    - That said, putting a particular subcommittee in charge the agenda for a particular meeting might be effective. This could be done an a recurring basis.
- Having procedures helps deal with controversial issues.

Advice for MOTA, what constituencies is it important to have represented on the OGAG?
- FOIA and Open Meetings
- Open Data
- Journalists (are an important group that hasn't been represented to date.)
- Not everyone needs to be an expert, ordinary residents can help.
- Note: current members are willing to help advertise and recruit new members.

How can we better engage agencies?
- OCTO gets high marks for participation, but the Group needs to do more to reach other agencies.
    - Work through the Deputy Mayors
    - Take a particular topic and invite particular agencies:
        - For example, topic is open budget and invite OCFO to present.

Suggested topics for next OGAG configuration to consider:
- PII/privacy, as the District considers these important topics OGAG has a role.
- Charter School openness, data and accountability
- DC's body-worn camera program in terms of what video is released under what circumstances.

- ANC openness and technology to support ANC meetings and websites.
- Budget transparency. What budget data is DC publishing and how are we publishing it?
- Be a place to validate the many erstwhile suggestions that come into EOM regarding public engagement.
- Engagement forums (such as budget engagement forums), what ideas does OGAG have to get the most out of these events?

Current OGAG roster and terms (Attended 5/1/2019 meeting)

1st Name	Last Name	Status	Description	Term Ends
Marie	Whittaker (on behalf of DMPED)	Vacant / unoccupied seat	Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) Designee	
		Vacant / unoccupied seat	Office of the City Administrator (OCA) Designee	
Rayna	Smith (on behalf of DMHHS)	Offer Extended to Candidate	Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services	
Tiffany	Crowe	Offer Extended to Candidate	Deputy Mayor for Operations and Infrastructure	
Robert	Becker	Active / filled seat	Public Member	06-09-2019
		Vacant / unoccupied seat	Public Member	06-09-2019
Camile	Glover	New member appointment in progress	Public Member	06-09-2019
Justin	Grimes	Active / filled seat	Public Member	06-09-2019
Sandra	Moscoso	Active / filled seat	Public Member	06-09-2019
Kathryn	Pettit	Active / filled seat	Public Member	06-09-2019
Josh	Tauberer	Active / filled seat	Public Member	06-09-2019
Shannon	Turner	Active / filled seat	Public Member	06-09-2019
Jennifer	Comey	Active / filled seat	Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) Designee	01-02-2023
Bijan	Hughes	Active / filled seat	Mayor's Office of Legal Counsel (MOLC) Designee	01-02-2023
Julie	Kanzler	Active / filled seat	Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO)	01-02-2023
Rebecca	Katz	Active / filled seat	Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM) Designee	01-02-2023
Barney	Krucoff	Active / filled seat	Office of the Chief Technology Office (OCTO) - Chief Data Officer designee	01-02-2023
Karuna	Seshasai	Active / filled seat	Designee of the Mayor's Office of General Counsel	01-02-2023
Manya	Shorr	Active / filled seat	District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL) Designee	01-02-2023
Michelle	Vanneman	Active / filled seat	Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice (DMPSJ)	01-02-2023
Zach	Walter	Active / filled seat	Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia	01-02-2023
David	Tseng	Active / filled seat	Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) Designee	01-02-2023
Elaine	Block	New member appointment in progress	District of Columbia Office of the Attorney General	01-02-2023