



Cambridge Human Services Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2018
5:30 – 7:30 PM
Citywide Senior Center
806 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Commissioners present: Duane Brown, Christine Elow, Christopher Hall, Bran Shim, Nan Stone, Rev. Lorraine Thornhill, Khari Milner

Regrets: Julie Asher, Rachel Weinstein

Presenter(s): Melissa Castillo, DHSP's Division Head for Cambridge Youth Programs; Adam Corbeil, DHSP's Division Head for Cambridge Recreation

Department of Human Service Programs (DHSP) staff present: Janice Alger, Mike Payack (recorder), Ellen Semonoff

I. Welcome, Networking, and Dinner

- Ellen Semonoff welcomed members of the Commission and introduced Melissa Castillo, DHSP's Division Head for Cambridge Youth Programs, and Adam Corbeil, DHSP's Division Head for Cambridge Recreation

II. DHSP's Race and Equity Initiative

- Melissa Castillo and Adam Corbeil discussed the Department's Race and Equity Initiative, the Department of Human Service Programs' mechanism to eliminate racism within the Department
 - Melissa and Adam are members of the Race and Equity Initiative Steering Committee
 - During the spring of 2017, all 215 full-time DHSP staff attended the 10 C's of Awareness and Change workshop, a half-day training on race and identity, to create a common language
 - During the fall of 2017, 40 of the Department's senior leaders attended two days of training on identity and structural racism; the rest of the Department's full-time staff attended the day-long identity training during the winter and spring of 2018
 - During 2018, approximately 200 of the department's 500 part-time staff attended the 10 C's half-day training
 - The Department engaged in monthly learning opportunities, called DEAL (Drop Everything and Learn), including videos, articles, and other learning opportunities for all staff

III. FY2020 CDBG Planning Update

- Ellen Semonoff and Mike Payack provided a high-level overview of the steps by which the Human Services Commission makes Community Development Block Grant Public Services funding recommendations to the City Manager
 - The Commission and DHSP staff will discuss details of the process during the winter and initiate the process in the spring

IV. Upcoming Schedule:

- Mike Payack announced that the next meeting of the Human Services Commission is scheduled for Thursday, November 8, 2018

V. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Payack, DHSP/Planning & Development