

CAMBRIDGE GLBT COMMISSION | 09.22.2011 MEETING MINUTES

Present: Reverend Robert Coats, John Gintell, Priscilla Lee, Steven Lee, Michael McKenna, Lesley Phillips, Kevin Shpritzer, Aren Stone

Absent: Sarav Chidambaram, Mal Malme, Marianne Mondt, Robert Parlin, Jeff Walker, Tony Wiczorek

- Call to Order
 - Steven Lee recorded these minutes
 - Agenda for the 09.22.2011 meeting was accepted
 - Minutes of the 08.18.2011 meeting were approved
- I. The Commission discussed the separate rainbow flag disappearing incidences that occurred at the First Parish Cambridge church in Harvard Square in August and September. The Commission was contacted by Marcia Hams for a comment and Commissioner Coats provided a comment, plus spoke with Reverend Fred Small of the First Parish Cambridge church who communicated that the parish would be planning a re-dedication of a new flag in October.
 - II. The 16th Annual Danehy Park Family Day event will take place on Saturday, September 24th from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Commission will have a table set up for outreach. Commissioner Shpritzer has been working with Mary Ellen from the City on the setup logistics. Commissioners Shpritzer, Stone, Steven Lee, Mondt, and McKenna will volunteer to man the table at the event. Free tote bags will be given to individuals who provide their contact/email information.
 - III. Commissioners Gintell and Stone will be meeting with Mayor Maher and Lee Gianetti on Monday, September 26th on strategy and next steps for the Elder Housing Project. Commissioner Steven Lee will update the current fold out brochure and use that as a blueprint to create a fold out brochure more focused on GLBT elder topics and concerns as recommended in the Elder Housing Project report. Commissioner Stone will work on creating linkages between the Commission and other senior service agencies in the city, including contacting the Council on Aging and identifying other housing, health care, or senior service agencies. Commissioner Stone will also work with the Council on Aging on helping think through programming specifically for FLBT seniors at the Cambridge Senior Center. Commissioner Gintell will work on becoming a Transgender Equal Rights Coalition partner.
 - IV. The GLBT Town Hall Meeting will occur on Wednesday, November 16th at City Hall from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Food will be provided during the meeting. The

Commission will work on promotion activities and generate a list of individuals to invite. We will also make sure to give updates at the town hall meeting about the ongoing Senior Housing Project and the most recent Transgender goings on, plus also recognize that it will be Transgender Awareness Week. Commissioner Phillips will contact The Cambridge Chronicle about reporting on the town hall.

- V. A project leader is needed to help get the film 'Gen Silent' to be shown in the city. Commissioner Stone is interested in working on this project. There was a question regarding if Kate Thomas of the Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) would be interested in being involved. Commissioner Gintell will ask Lee Gianetti from the Mayor's Office on how the Commission can help start the process of showing Gen Silent.
- VI. The Commission has on its docket to host a speaker from Youth on Fire to speak to the Commission on GLBT homeless youth and Gunner Scott, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition to conduct a training session on transgender issues and rights. Commissioner Gintell would like the Commission to focus first on the Elder Housing Project.
- VII. For the next Commission meeting on Thursday, October 27th, the agenda will include further talk/update on the Elder Housing Project, as well as reviewing logistics and format of the town hall meeting, how the town hall should start, how meeting groups will work, and what information we would like to obtain and the questions we should ask to collect that information and/or start the group discussions. The Commission will schedule a special meeting prior to the town hall to discuss facilitation strategy of the group meetings. Commissioner Steven Lee will collect availability and time of special meeting. It was discussed that representatives from all the hospitals within the city, the fire department, and members of the Cambridge School Committee should be invited.
- VIII. Commissioner Gintell has requested that the Commission begin focusing on using Facebook and other means of communications to promote the work of the Commission more. Commissioner McKenna suggested that the use of the 'share' button be used more often as a better method to share information.
- IX. The Commission will have at least three (3) open commission seats in the upcoming year 2012. The openings will be the seats of Commissioners Priscilla Lee and Wieczorek, and former Commissioner Toni Snow.