

**March 22, 2012 meeting minutes  
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2012**

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

Commissioners introduced each other

Agenda for the March 22 meeting was accepted.

The minutes of the February 23 meeting were approved.

**Commissioners Present:** John Gintell, Steven Lee, Kevin Shpritzer, Bob Parlin, Marianne Mondt, Aren Stone, Mike McKenna, Rebecca Caira-Davila, Maggie Giles, Dana Zircher, Neil MacInnes-Barker, Lesley Phillips, Caitlin Drechsler

**Commissioners Absent:** (excused) – Jeff Walker, Mal Malme, Robert Coats, Gregory Grays-Thomas

**Guests:** Chris Burke (Supt. of Police), Neil S. (member of the public)

**I. Gen Silent**

- a. Steven is finding out possible dates for the library screening and Aren will coordinate once those possible dates are figured out.
- b. We will need to figure out refreshments and other small details once we're settled on a date.

**II. Mayfair – May 6**

- a. Kevin has booked the commission's spot at the Harvard Square Mayfair
- b. The event is Sunday, May 6 from 12-6
- c. We need giveaways for our table. We have old tote bags, but they have former Mayor Maher's name on them.
- d. Supt. Burke has offered to print out brochures for the commission.
- e. Steven has most of the old items we had.
- f. Marianne pointed out that due to the date of the event, we should use the event to publicize Gen Silent, Pride Brunch, etc.
- g. Stickers, ally pins, bookmarks, keychains, pens, tattoos, magnets, etc. would be perfect to give away. Marianne will research little giveaways/tchotchkes.
- h. We should have a clipboard with an email list signup option.
- i. Kevin will arrange the table for Riverfest, which will be on June 2.

**III. Bayard Rustin Award**

- a. April 20 is the deadline for nominations
- b. The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bayard Rustin's birthday was this past Saturday, March 17.
- c. We had only two nominations last year, so we're hoping for more this year.
- d. We need to finalize the award giveaway. John will check with Lee G. to see what they had ordered last year.

**IV. Pride Brunch – June 9**

- a. We need to decide when to have the Pride Brunch.
- b. We could change the day or keep it the same day as Boston Pride.
- c. Lesley feels that we are tied into keeping it on a Saturday.
- d. We're looking for a speaker for the event. Marianne has connections to Elizabeth Warren and will look into booking her as well as ways to recognize her for her work.
- e. A Pride Brunch committee was formed. Matt Nelson from the mayor's office will be involved. Commissioners will be Neil, Lesley, and John, and Marianne will be on publicity.

**V. Youth Pride – May 19**

- a. Neil and Maggie will communicate with Mal about setting this up.

**VI. GLBT Film Festival – May 4**

**VII. Lawyers for Transgender Rights – April 12 – 6-10pm**

- a. The commission can be listed as “in kind” supporters of this event.
- b. Requirements for being an in-kind sponsor are listed at <http://www.masstpc.org/events/ltr/>

**VIII. Social Media**

- a. Rebecca shared her suggestions for our social media guidelines.
- b. She shared questions and tips to help us better use social media.
- c. We can use HootSuite to help.
- d. Aren would like some more information on how to fully access the programs.
- e. Neil proposed that we setup a social networking committee that is charged with being active with our social media outlets.
- f. Marianne suggested we set up a Delicious.com account that keeps us in the loop on topics of interested using tags.
- g. Marianne will also add new commissioners as administrators on our Facebook page.
- h. We discussed that we want to more actively use social media but need to make sure we use restraint and common sense and consider the mission of the commission and the city government.
- i. Dana suggests that we might consider posting more as individuals.
- j. Neil suggested that we can still post as Cambridge GLBT Commission, but could conclude our posts with a signoff with our initials.
- k. A social media subcommittee was formed with Dana, Mike, Marianne, and Rebecca

**IX. Business Cards**

- a. Marianne has ordered 500 business cards for the commission, which will be arriving in the next week.

**X. LGBT Aging Conference/Actions**

- a. The conference was well attended. Commissioners Neil, John and Aren attended.
- b. Another one will be next year.
- c. Aren will report over email about her experience.

- d. Neil was very impressed with the conference and learned a lot. He will also report over email.
- e. Both Aren and Neil feel there is a lot of work being done on LGBT aging issues and would like to tie into them in some way.
- f. The lack of social security survivor benefits for LGBT couples is an example of information the commissioners learned about.
- g. Many LGBT seniors are estranged from their families, often even more so than younger LGBT people, so we should look into providing social outlets for LGBT seniors, as there is interest in this.
- h. John would like to access resources from two local housing organizations: Cambridge Homes & Cadbury Commons.
- i. At our next meeting, we would like to identify ways to get involved with these organizations and how to pursue some of the action items from Kary Kenst's report.

**XI. Other Action Items**

- a. Census – Dana wondered if there is a way to get hard data on LGBT demographics in Cambridge.
- b. John will give a breakdown of the city government to the commission at the next meeting.

**XII. Announcements**

- a. City Manager Healy is retiring next year.
- b. CRLS has chosen a new principal, Damon Smith, and we should pursue meeting with him.
- c. John is going to meet with Melody Brazo (Family Liaison to the LGBT Community for the Cambridge Public Schools) to get her feedback on a possible youth project and how we can get funding for it.
- d. Neil has been working with Jeff on a way for LGBT youth and seniors to interact and learn from each other. Caitlin offered to help with reaching out to the independent schools in the city.

**XIII. Public Comments**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm