

**December 1, 2011 meeting minutes  
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2011**

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

Agenda for the December 1 meeting was accepted.

The minutes of the October 27 meeting were approved.

**Commissioners Present:** John Gintell, Steven Lee, Kevin Shpritzer, Marianne Mondt, Aren Stone, Mal Malme, Robert Coats, Sarav Chidambaram,

**Commissioners Absent:** Tony Wieczorek, Priscilla Lee, Mike McKenna, Jeff Walker, Lesley Phillips, Bob Parlin

**Guests:** Jody, Derrick (members of the public)

1. Departing Commissioners

- a. Sarav and Priscilla thanked the commission for their experiences and shared their plans to come as members of the public next year.

2. Project Updates

- a. John G. shared some information about the transgender rights legislation. It was pointed out that Cambridge itself has had its own legislation for close to ten years.
- b. Fire department training by GOAL is on hold since the main trainer is between jobs. The fire department is still committed to getting it done.
- c. Surveys about homeless shelters are being finalized around the issues of transgender issues.
- d. A variety of people are looking into the various issues around gender neutral bathrooms.
- e. We need to set up a process to interview prospective candidates.
  - i. Kevin will coordinate the schedule for the interviews.
  - ii. Marianne, Mal, Aren, Steven, and John all expressed interest in being a part of the interviews.
- f. Town meeting was tentatively set for March 14.
  - i. Needs to be partnered with the mayor's office.
  - ii. Aren questioned if we should have a town meeting that early in the year since everything that came up during the 2008 meeting has not yet been addressed.
  - iii. The commission wants to try for the March 14 meeting, but will need to wait for the outcome of the mayoral election.
  - iv. John and Marianne will co-lead the organization for the town hall meeting.
  - v. Keep the meeting short, have small group section of it for people to have their voices heard.
- g. Seniors Housing & Health Project

- i. Aren and John met with Eileen Ginnetti and Ellen Semonoff and they want to focus on the housing issues and the housing survey that we want to happen. They want to help us find an intern and has suggestions for places to find said intern. We may be able to get funding from the City Manager for this intern.
- h. We want to get a *Gen Silent* screening going.
  - i. Aren, Mal, Steven, and Mike will work to get this set up. They'll look into venues, dates, times, etc.

### 3. 2012 Planning

- a. We definitely want to have a town hall meeting.
- b. *Gen Silent* screening
- c. Conduct a survey to figure out which health care providers have LGBT policies in place.
- d. Convince city councilors to lobby to the city manager on our behalf. John recommends that every commissioner try to contact their city councilors about seniors and youth issues. John will draft up discussion items for commissioners to have with city councilors.
- e. Steven and Marianne talked about writing grants. There may be some grantwriters in the city who can help us.
- f. Kevin suggested looking into areas other than fire and police that could use GLBT sensitivity training such as the MBTA.
- g. Marianne suggested creating a resource guide of some sort for members of the GLBT community.
- h. The idea of having part of the monthly meetings devoted to working, as opposed to discussion, was brought up. This idea will likely be brought up at future commission meetings.
- i. Maybe we can move public comments to the beginning of the meetings' agendas would be a good idea.

### 4. Public Comment

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm