

**January 24, 2013 meeting minutes  
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013**

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

The minutes of the November 29 meeting were approved.

Agenda for the February 28 meeting was accepted.

**Commissioners Present:** Steven Lee, Kevin Shpritzer, Aren Stone, Neil MacInnes-Barker, Mike McKenna, Bob Parlin, Mal Malme, Gregory Grays-Thomas, Caitlin Drechsler, Danny Venezia, Kristina Mastropasqua, Kara Smith, Rachel Oppenheimer, Neil Scannell, Lesley Phillips, Rebecca Caira-Davila

**Commissioners Absent:** (excused) – Maggie Giles, John Gintell

**Commissioners On Leave:** Dana Zircher

Robert Coats has resigned from the Commission because he is moving. We greatly appreciate his service.

**Guests:** Chris Burke (Supt. of Police), Muna Kangsen (staff member of the Peace Commission, the Police Review and Advisory Board, and the Employee Diversity Committee, which is the conduit for our money, Matt (community member)

**I. Introductions**

- a. New commissioners were introduced and welcomed to the commission.

**II. Money**

- a. Muna Kangsen spoke about how the commission can use funds and how to use them appropriately.
- b. He is appreciative of the work the commission does and wants to help us access the funds in our budget.
- c. We should check with Muna for any purchases that we are uncertain about.
- d. For purchasing basic items like light refreshments or office supplies, we can simply make the purchases and submit receipts.

**III. Proposed Budget**

- a. Aren shared John's proposed budget for the 2012/2013 year.
- b. There is \$600 unallocated in the proposed budget.
- c. Lesley thinks we should make sure everything is allocated.
- d. Mike suggested we add a line item for web services.
- e. Certain line items were adjusted and **the revised budget was approved.**

#### IV. **Police**

- a. Supt. Burke reported that Dr. Spencer, of the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department, would like to get his organization involved in GOAL training.
- b. That would enable 800 corrections employees and sheriff department staff to receive GOAL training.

#### V. **Youth on Fire**

- a. Mal, Rachel and Greg will contact YOF to find out how we could best support them.

#### VI. **Events**

- a. *Brother Outsider* film showing
  - i. A movie about the life and work of Bayard (pronounced –“bigh-yerd”)
  - ii. **Thursday, March 21** at the Main Library.
  - iii. Refreshments begin at **5:30**. People into the auditorium at 6:00.
  - iv. Reverend Irene Monroe will speak and be a panelist.
    1. Irene lives in Cambridge
    2. Is an LGBT activist, African-American activist and a writer
    3. Has been in films discussing LGBT issues and religion
    4. Is an ordained minister and has been active in the Cambridge, queer, and African-American communities for many years.
  - v. We would like to have simple refreshments at the event such as pizza.
    1. Danny offered to contact vendors regarding food donations.
  - vi. Priscilla Lee will talk about the March on Washington which is being held this August to commemorate the 1963 March.
  - vii. Vice Mayor Simmons will talk about the Bayard Rustin Service Award.
  - viii. Kristina and Caitlin will work to design and print posters and postcards for the event. We will invite the GSA from the Cambridge Community Charter School.
  - ix. Steven is writing a press release. All Commissioners can advertise the event to any groups with which they are connected.

#### VII. **Communications**

- a. Database
  - i. We are looking into media databases to store information and to send out email “blasts” to our email list.
  - ii. Rebecca thinks Zoho is a good company to serve our needs. [www.zoho.com/crm](http://www.zoho.com/crm)
  - iii. We will try the free version of the site.
- b. Group Organization
  - i. Caitlin and Mike suggest a move to Google Groups for communication and Google Drive for storing, accessing, and editing documents.
  - ii. We will all be invited to join the new Google Group to try it out this month.
- c. Website
  - i. Steven has a call scheduled next week with the head of the Women's Commission regarding how they went about setting up their own website, one that is independent of the city's website.

- ii. Having our own site would enable to us to streamline the process of adding updates and allow us to make it more attractive.

**VIII. Seniors Project and Youth Project**

- a. John and Aren recently had a meeting with Mayor Davis and Vice Mayor Simmons
- b. The Mayor will set up a meeting with the Cambridge Health Alliance regarding training their employees and perhaps showing *Gen Silent*.
- c. Vice Mayor Simmons spoke with Mike Johnston at the Cambridge Housing Authority about training housing managers. They were very concerned that there may be some LGBT people who do not feel safe to be “out” at their homes.
- d. There is a meeting in February 26 @ 2:30 with Ellen Semonoff, Assistant City Manager, to talk about the Youth Project, specifically how to get training for the after-school staff that is connected with the city.
- e. LGBT Elders Conference will be held at Salem St. University. Monday, March 11, 8:30-4:30. The commission can pay to send some interested commissioners to attend.

**IX. Public Comments/Announcements**

- a. Muna let us know about an upcoming event.
  - i. The City of Cambridge will be commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.
  - ii. Tuesday, February 12, from 6-8pm at City Hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm