

**March 26, 2009 meeting minutes  
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

**I. Call to Order**

Toni Snow recorded these minutes.

Commissioners Present: John Gintell, Sarav Chithambaram, Bob Parlin, Neal Minahan, Mal Malme, Toni Snow, Jeff Walker, Richard Juang, Priscilla Lee, Leslie Phillips, Tony Wiczorek.

**II. Motion to Accept Agenda:** Passed.

**III. Motion to Accept Minutes from February 26, 2009 meeting:** Passed.

**IV. Review of Successful Rally at CRLS on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>:** Thanks to those involved in publicity, networking, sign making, public art, and speakers! “Phelps-A-Thon” raised nearly \$4,000 for CRLS’s Project 10E and Cambridge’s Welcoming Schools Program.

A. Follow up tasks:

- (Tony W.) Post bulleted flyer and link to Chronicle article on web.
- (Toni S.) Thank you to Cambridge Police – Cmsr. Haas.
- (All) Should we draft written description of how we organized the event? Could be posted on web as an aid to other communities facing visits from the Phelps group.

**V. Designing our own Letterhead:** Group agreed that GLBT Commission has need for its own letterhead.

- (Toni S.) Obtain samples from other City commissions - Women’s Commission and Peace Commission.
- (Tony W. and others) Draft design of GLBT Commission letterhead and distribute to group for review.

**VI. Transgender Subcommittee: (Members include Richard J., Leslie P., Neal M., John G. and Mal M.):** Transgender subcommittee was formed with an early goal of creating an action plan for a “Trans-inclusion Agenda.” Group discussed involvement with MTPC, meeting with broader Cambridge community, and borrowing ideas from other communities.

- (All) Members of Commission urged to attend Transgender Equality Lobby Day on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at State House in support of a Transgender Civil Rights Bill.
- (Neal M.) Commission needs to be trained – perhaps Gunner Scott can help. Richard J. is also willing to take a leading role.

**VII. Public Safety Subcommittee:** (formerly known as Police Subcommittee - name changed to focus more broadly on GLBT training in other public safety areas.)

**A. Cambridge Police Department**

- (Toni S.) Arrangements underway with Deputy Steven Williams for tour of new CPD facility.
- (Co-chairs) Draft questions ahead of time for tour.
- (per Kelly Downes) Hate Crimes Policy has been implemented.
- (per Joanne Shapiro) GLBT sensitivity training has been permanently incorporated into training at CPD.

**B. Additional trainings**

- (Toni S.) Contacting GOAL re GLBT sensitivity trainings for Fire and EMT workers.
- (Mal M.) Will contact NAGLY/GOAL friend for help.

**VIII. Elder Subcommittee:** Discussion re need to do outreach with Cambridge Somerville Elder Services by attending upcoming breakfast.

- (Toni S. and John G.) Will attend “Gay and Gray” breakfast on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am at Healy School, 5 Meacham St. in Somerville. Other Commission members are also encouraged to attend.

**IX. Education Subcommittee:** Toni S. gave public comment at Cambridge School Committee meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup> to support \$5000 in supplemental budgeting for supplies and materials at Welcoming Schools program. Search for new school superintendent is nearing an end and 3 finalists will appear at public meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

**X. Publicity Subcommittee:** Commission involved in various stages of planning upcoming events:

- (J. Walker) Official City send-off for Chris Mason’s May 10<sup>th</sup> Driving Equality tour - Involve City Council
- (Toni S.) Youth Pride – May 9<sup>th</sup>. Should Commission be involved?
- (J. Walker) 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Equal Marriage in Cambridge, May 17<sup>th</sup>
- (J. Walker) Cambridge Pride planning – Boston Parade Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> - Invite Barney Frank?
- (Tony W.) Continue working on website

**XI. Public Health Subcommittee:** The public health subcommittee met and decided to begin with something small and feasible in the way of outreach to “Cambridge Cares about AIDS” to get an idea of what the GLBT community faces in Cambridge.

**Announcement:** (Mal M.) Meg Stone, Director of Impact Boston, a personal safety training nonprofit organization, would like to trade three basic self defense workshops (three 3-hour workshops with spaces for 8-15 students each) for Cambridge meeting space for their annual Impact directors meeting held in August, 2009. Impact Boston would facilitate these workshops in cooperation with the Cambridge GLBT Commission, offering the Commission to extend these workshops to the Cambridge LGBT community members. The Commission may specify offering the workshops to certain groups within

the LGBT community, for example LGBT youth, seniors, those who identify as transgender. The timeline for these workshops to take place would during 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.