

**October 22, 2009 meeting minutes
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

I. Call to Order

Toni Snow recorded these minutes.

Commissioners Present: John Gintell, Sarav Chithambaram, Toni Snow, Tony Wieczorek, Jeff Walker, Bob Parlin, Leslie Phillips, Priscilla Lee

Guest: Ed Byrne, CRLS Diversity Coordinator

II. Motion to Accept Agenda: Passed

III. Update on Appointments and Reappointments

Three Commissioners whose terms expire wish to be reappointed: John Gintell, Leslie Phillips, Richard Juang. There are openings for four new Commissioners, 2 for 3 year terms, 1 for a 2 year term and 1 for a 1 year term. Request for starting the process will be sent to the City Manager by John Gintell with an application deadline of Nov 20. (announcement is on web site and sent to press)

IV. Motion to Accept Minutes from Sept. 24, 2009 meeting: Passed.

IV. Guest Presentation

- Ed Byrne, new CRLS Diversity Coordinator, described his program's agenda for the school year. He emphasized that although his role is to address broad diversity issues, P10E's important history will not be overlooked. He stated that gay and transgender phobia still exists within CRLS culture and assured us that GLBT issues will continue to be a strong focus. A particular concern is the low-to-none male student participation among 11th and 12th graders, while an identified strength is the high participation of 9th graders that resulted from last year's outreach. Nine CRLS students joined the group trip to Washington, DC on October 11th for National Coming Out Day. Future goals include looking at barriers to attendance at meetings, collecting survey data from students re their needs, formation of a monthly men's group, and outreach to other cultural groups. Discussed possibility of one new Commissioner being a CRLS student. (OK with Ordinance and City Manager)

V. Events

- **Cambridge GLBT Commission to receive GOAL-New England Community Service Award, October 30th:** The City will sponsor a table at the award ceremony. GLBT Commission co-chairs and secretary, Mayor Simmons and guests, Police Commissioner Haas, GLBT Liaison Lt. Stephen Ahern, and Joanne Shapiro, CPD training director, will attend.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

- **Public Safety:**
 - According to GOAL's Bobby Aldrich, progress is being made on coordinating GLBT sensitivity trainings at Cambridge Fire Department.
 - John G. has learned that the review committee will look at CPD best practices and that GLBT issues will be included.

- **Schools:**
 - Need to plan approaching Charter Schools and then Private Schools in Cambridge. Cambridge Charter Schools include Prospect Hill Charter School, Community Charter School and Benjamin Banneker Charter School. Priscilla Lee will approach Prospect Hill re inclusion of GLBT issues in their diversity meetings.
 - Lenore Jennings in the Mayor's office is another good resource for working on charter school issues.
 - An additional school-related topic is to make sure that GLBT questions are asked in the annual Teen Health Survey.

- **Publicity/Outreach:**
 - Tony W. distributed a draft brochure for comment/review. This promotional piece will have wide use but the current idea is that it becomes part of our business plan.
 - The Commission referred transgender MTF caller to our voicemail to Human Rights Commission for investigation into a discrimination complaint.
 - The Commission should plan outreach to local Chamber of Commerce and business associations to inform them and local employees of our mission.

Announcements:

- All City Boards/Commissions will meet on Thursday, Dec. 17th 5:00-7:00 pm. Location TBA.
- Monday, November 26 at 4:00: welcoming reception for new school superintendant, Jeff Young at City Hall.
- Next Commission meeting will be on Thursday, November 19th.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.