

Minutes GLBT Commission September 26 2013

July's Minutes accepted

September agenda accepted

Police Department: Superintendent Chris Burke

- GOAL New England Henry Dumas Award going to Chris Burke. Award will be given at a banquet on October 5th. Police Dept. will put out a press release.
- Supt. Burke is finalizing a policy for the Police Dept. on working with Transgender citizens. Boston has one as a result of a court order. Cambridge used portions as a model and expanded upon it. Chris has also reached out to MTPC and Mass Equality and with their help created a new policy for Cambridge that will be unique: tracking patterns and trends, complaints, responses to calls. It's thorough, comprehensive, will be shared with the Commission, as well as with other Police Depts. around the country when it is complete.
- LGBT cultural competency training for the Fire Dept. and city EMTs are going forward.

Email:

- Should we do a monthly email or newsletter?
- Bill would be willing to do brief quarterly emails with others contributing recaps of events, etc.
- He will develop an outline for the next meeting to get an idea of what the format might look like.
- Mike will continue to send email announcements and events.

Website:

- New Google site is a viable option
- Can we link through the city website? John is going to find out.
- Should have the Google site either way.
- Will have a small subcommittee meeting where people learn to edit the page. Caitlin to organize via email.
- Can we have a redirect from the link on the city page?
- Could just include it as a link on the page that we already have and see how we do with maintaining it.
- John and Caitlin ask for a meeting with IT to get things set up, hopefully before the next meeting.

Vendor List on Google

- keep track of vendors who have donated to us, and who we have contacted

Human Rights Commission: Homeless Shelter Project

- Had started a project looking into Cambridge shelters to see what their policies and practices are re: transgender guests. They would like to revive this project with our involvement, report findings to MTPC
- Gregory will be point person on the project, Rachel will help out, they will contact Nancy Schlacter, Executive Director of the Human Rights Commission.

Finances Protocol:

- Need to have one or two contact people to request reimbursement from the city
- Steven will be the main person with Aren as the back up
- Let Steven know in advance if you plan to spend money so he can give the Finance Dept. a heads-up
 - Orders with city vendors need to have Aren or Steven's names on them
- Steven will write up the protocol for us

Events:

- Three people at Danehy Day table, nice day but low traffic area
- Politicians came by to say hello
- Oktoberfest: Rachel will send in the application.
- Steven will get more giveaways to the team going to Oktoberfest
- Cambridge LGBT teachers meeting. Kara will contact Melody to get more info about what we might do for them.
- Gender Non-conformity in Children and Adolescents Conference at Children's Hospital: The Commission will pay for those who want to attend. Right now just Aren who needs to be reimbursed, Rachel and Caitlin attending but employers paying for them to attend.
- Youth On Fire event: As well as the YOF clients and staff, Carly Burton from MassEquality will talk about legislation about LGBT homeless youth. They need to get us a title and a description. Still looking for a film or some other type of headline for the event. True Colors? Need to ask YOF. Hope to collect donations of socks.

Salvation Army and homophobia:

- collecting facts about their stance

Announcements:

- "Burning", a play at Boston Playwrights' Theatre starring Commissioner Mal as a lesbian kicked out of the armed services during Don't Ask Don't Tell. Commissioner and veteran Neil M-B will be on a panel after the October 13th performance
 - City council election coming up
- Re-dedication of the Sidney Borum Health Center coming up
- Speak Out event on October 29 to recruit new members