



Cambridge Human Rights Commission
Thursday, March 7, 2013

Present: Commissioners Bonita Cox, Mercedes Evans, Melissa Gonzalez-Brenes, Adrian Velazquez, Randa Shedid, Matthew Barrett, Brendan St. Amant, Elaine Angelone and staff member Carmen S. Negrón.
Guest: Police Superintendent Chris Burke.
Absent: Commissioners Caitlin Goss and Chanta Bhan.

Documents Used:

- February 2013 minutes
- Best Practices for Serving Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students in School
- Controlled Choice Advisory Committee meeting minutes

1. Call to order

Chair Bonita Cox called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Carmen informed Commissioners that she was recording the meeting.

2. Public Comment

No members of the public were present for public comment.

3. Review and Approval of February Minutes

The February minutes were unanimously approved, with minor changes. (Commissioners Cox, Gonzalez-Brenes, Velazquez, Shedid, Barrett, Angelone).

4. Staff Report

Chair Cox updated the Commissioners about the hiring process and staff activities, including Fair Housing month and the CET event.

5. Outreach Projects

The Commission unanimously approved translation of the lead print flyer in all of the discussed languages. (Commissioners Cox, Gonzalez-Brenes, Velazquez, Shedid, Barrett, Angelone). Superintendent Burke informed Commissioners that the CET event went well, and that Commissioner Goss did a great presentation.

6. Follow-up on Secure Communities

A discussion was had about CPD and Secure Communities.

7. Follow-up on shelter survey outreach status

Chair Cox informed the Commission that the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition's Policy Committee published a book on guidelines for schools to work with transgender students.

8. Bill of Rights Defense Committee discussion

Commissioner Gonzalez-Brenes informed the Commissioners about the Bill of Rights Defense Committee and her interest in the issues the Committee is addressing. Commissioners decided that for now they would want to stay informed and later on they could decide if they want to form a coalition.

9. April meeting with School Department

Chair Cox stated Jim Maloney of the School Department will be coming to the April meeting. Commissioner Cox shared the Controlled Choice Advisory Committee meeting minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4, at 6:00 p.m.