

LGBTQ+ Commission October 25, 2018 Minutes

Welcome

Minute Taker – Kimm Topping

Introductions

There were no invited police at this meeting.

In Attendance:

Commission (present)

John W. Gintell; Aren Stone; Bill Barnert; Jessica Daniels; Abby Duker; Noelani Kamelamela; Greg MacDonough; Rachel Oppenheimer; Bob Parlin; Kimm Topping; Silas Weiner; Catherine Grams;

Amelia Joselow, LGBTQ+ Commission Research Associate

Commission (absent)

Steven Lee; Susan Bernstein; Maya Escobar; Mal Malme; Lesley Phillips

Guests

Mike McKenzie (public) & Andrea Stone (public)

Approve Minutes from September Meeting - Minutes Approved

Approve / Modify Agenda - Agenda Approved

Town Hall Oct 11 - Supporting Cambridge Youth

- Thanks to Amelia and Kimm for being the lead organizers. Two breakout groups met and discussed youth supports in the City. Amelia compiled all notes and shared with us.
- People felt that messaging at start was very LGBTQ+-specific and wondered if we could have broadened it more.
- Review of Town Hall opened up a discussion about our relationship with GSA's and youth groups.
 - In the past, we visited GSA's to host discussions. Could we do this again?
 - Misinformation about trans/GNC youth being able to change their name/gender marker on school paperwork is a concern. Cambridge Public Schools works with youth to allow these changes. Can we share with Queer Friendly Educators? Could we create "did you know" fliers to share with schools?
 - Amelia raised an idea about an intergenerational drop-in resource center.
 - As a result of this discussion, a youth subcommittee was formed to address these questions. Committee includes Abby & Bill (Co-Chairs), Kate, John, Noe, Bob, Kimm, Maya & Amelia.

Commission Relationship with Police Department

- Police Subcommittee meets on November 7th 6:00-7:00PM. Commissioner Bard will be invited to join the discussion.
- We received answers from our former liaison, Det. Brian O'Connor, to a few questions and will review them at the next meeting.

Report from Amelia Joselow, Research Associate

- Amelia is wrapping up meetings with youth out-of-school-time programs.
- She made a contact at the Housing Authority and will reach out to build that relationship.
- Amelia is working on what the next round of the senior housing project will look like – new survey questions or re-administer the previous survey?

Recent Past Events

Tabling at Oktoberfest – Oct 7: A lot of visitors to our table. There was rain during the second half of the day. Thanks to all who tabled and special thanks to Jessica for coordinating.

All Gender Bathrooms Committee

- City buildings conversion- signage: John shared an email that was presented at City Council. We will wait to hear back on updates.
- Question 3: We will ask Mayor McGovern for a draft ordinance to protect trans folks in public accommodations if question 3 does not pass. We also discussed created a resource list for this and future events where folks might need support. Subsequent investigation showed that the Human Rights Commission Ordinance includes protection for gender identity and gender expression so that nothing new would be needed.
- Response to latest proposed Federal Government policy that would define gender as dependent on assignment at birth. We will talk more about this if it seems close to becoming a reality.

Public Comment / Announcements

- A member of the public brought us a concern about mistreatment by medical providers that Jessica and Kimm will follow up on.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 15th 6:00-7:30 Windsor Health Clinic

