

**April 28, 2016 meeting minutes
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2016

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

Agenda for the April 28 meeting was accepted.

The minutes of the March 24 meeting were approved.

Commissioners Present: John Gintell, Bob Parlin, Mason Weintraub, Rachel Oppenheimer, Mal Malme, Jessica Daniels, Kimm Topping, Aren Stone, Maya Escobar, Bill Barnert, Kevin Shpritzer, Susan Bernstein, Lesley Phillips, Steven Lee, Sylvia Guerra

Commissioners Absent: (excused) Anna Weick, Kristina Mastropasqua, Brian Eiermann, Ted Waechter, Linda Daniels

Guests: Police Superintendent Chris Burke (Police Dept. Liaison to the Commission), Brian O'Connor (Detective with the Cambridge Police Dept.)

I. Welcome

- a. Commissioners and guests introduced themselves.

II. Police Report

- a. They are close to finalizing the language on the Request for Proposals (RFP) for a vendor to supply LGBTQ cultural competency training for municipal employees. The city has named the training SOGI for sexual orientation and gender identity.
- b. The RFP will be out later this spring, or summer at the latest.
- c. They hope to have trainings begin by the fall.
- d. Commissioner Haas will be retiring in May. Chris Burke has been named as the Interim Commissioner until the full hiring process takes place.
- e. Because of the increased requirements of his new position, Chris will be stepping down from his role as Commission liaison.
- f. Brian O'Connor will be stepping into Chris's role as liaison. Chris spoke highly of Brian and will stay in communication with Brian regarding Commission issues.
- g. Chris filled Brian and the neCommissioners in on the history of the liaison role with the Commission.
- h. Commissioners thanked Chris for his long tenure and support of the Commission with a round of applause and a standing ovation.

III. Mayfair – Sunday, May 1, 12-6pm

- a. Current volunteers to staff the Commission table are Susan, Aren, Kevin, Jessica, Ted and Bob.
- b. Bill will help set up and take down.
- c. Kevin will coordinate a final schedule.
- d. In case of inclement weather, the rain date is May 15.

IV. GLBTQ & Allied Educator Appreciation Event – May 3, 4-7pm

- a. Bill and Bob are the lead organizers for this event. (I may be wrong, but that's what I think)
- b. The Mayor's office and GLBT Commission are the sponsors.
- c. This event will be held at Tavern in the Square in Central Square.
- d. Commissioners are encouraged to attend and to invite any relevant contacts.

V. **Youth Pride – May 21**

- a. Bob will sign up for us to have a table at this event.
- b. There is a \$100 sign-up fee.

VI. **June 4 – River Festival**

- a. Kevin will apply for us to have a table at this event.

VII. **June 11 – Pride Brunch & Bayard Rustin Service Award – 9-11am**

- a. Pride Brunch will be held at City Hall in the Sullivan Chamber.
- b. Bill and Lesley will be the emcees.
- c. Nominations for the Bayard Rustin award are due by May 13. Additional information can be found on the City website.
- d. We need postcards printed ASAP to give away at the various upcoming outreach events.
- e. Our recommendations for Community Award recipients need to be submitted to the City by June 2.
- f. The Commission voted on recipients for an individual Community Recognition Award to be given out at Pride Brunch.
- g. We will vote on the second Community Recognition Award at our next meeting.
 - i. Commissioners should send nominations and rationale to Rachel to compile.

VIII. **November – our own event – Transgender Arts event**

- a. Mal reported on the progress of planning this event.
- b. There have been two planning meetings so far, and a third will be in May and will include transgender artists and other organizations.
- c. At this time, no event date has been set.
- d. The committee is considering venues other than the Main Library. The layout of the Library may not be conducive to an Arts event.

IX. **LGBT Seniors Housing – Policy and Practices Project**

- a. Elysia Chandler (Commission Research Intern) was unable to attend tonight's meeting.
- b. She will issue a report to the Commission on her progress with this project soon.

X. **LGBT Youth After School Activities – Policies and Practices project**

- a. Kimm, John, Nancy Schlacter (Executive Director of the Human Rights Commission), and Taha Jennings (Aide to the City Manager) had a meeting a couple of weeks ago.
- b. They are looking to collect information about all Cambridge afterschool activities.
- c. From there, we will put together a survey about practices and policies related to LGBT staff and youth to give to afterschool organizations.

XI. **Name Change Committee**

- a. The committee has met and is planning to meet at least two more times.
- b. Steven requested to discuss the topic in length at both the June and July meetings.

- c. Commissioners should send ideas and thoughts to Steven over email for him to bring to the next committee meeting.

XII. Communications Committee

- a. The committee will get training to manage our website once the City's new system is implemented.
- b. The date for this training will be set after the updated City website launches.

XIII. Gender Neutral Bathroom Committee

- a. The committee needs to meet to discuss the next steps.
- b. John suggested that the committee holds off on further action until we see what happens with the upcoming transgender rights bill vote.

XIV. Budget

- a. For FY 2016, we have spent \$578 on printed materials, about \$300 on a button maker, and about \$100 on supplies to make approximately 1,000 buttons.
- b. We have budgeted \$750 for Tuesday's teacher event, and \$100 for Youth Pride registration and \$100 for candy/give-aways.
- c. That leaves us with \$500-\$600.
- d. We can allocate \$250 toward printing flyers for Pride Brunch.
- e. The Commission gave Steven permission to spend the remaining budget on items to support the Commission at outreach events.

XV. Cambridge Uncovered Episode filming – CCTV – May 17 evening

- a. Aren and John received a request from Frank Morris of CCTV.
- b. CCTV would like a couple of Commissioners to discuss the state of LGBT issues in the community.
- c. Bill will contact Frank to get more information.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm