

Cambridge LGBTQ+ Commission
September 26, 2019 Minutes

Welcome

Commissioners Present: Aren Stone, Steven Lee, Silas Winer, Britt Huhmann, Bill Barnert, Noelani Kamelamela, John Gintell, Leo Austin-Spooner, Mal Malme, Bob Parlin, Meesh Zucker, Greg McDonough, Rachel Oppenheimer, Maya Escobar, Kimm Topping, Jessica Daniels

Absent: Lesley Phillips, Susan Bernstein, Catherine Grams, Nefyn Meissner

Staff present: Amelia Joselow

Guests: Angelina and Nick from Black & Pink

Minute Taker: Kimm

Minutes approved from June Meeting

Minutes approved from July Meeting

Agenda approved

Police Department

- We decided that going forward we need to include at the top of the agenda whether police have been invited to the meeting
- Ongoing questions for Commissioner Bard:
 - GOAL, Fire Dept, and EMT's?
 - Holding cells – what are they like? Shower, restrooms?
 - How we can help improve GOAL training?
 - What are the procedures for release and re-entry? Are there resources in Cambridge for re-entry?
- Commissioner Bard and Fire Chief Mahoney will join us at October meeting

Black and Pink

- Angelina shared about her story and Nick shared about Black and Pink's work in the community
- Black and Pink advocates for prison abolition and provides legal services, advocacy, a pen pal system, newsletter, re-entry support, bail funds in partnership with MA Bail Fund
- Drop-in hours in Cambridge on Sundays at Democracy Center, 45 Mt. Auburn St.
- Upcoming Event: October 25th (No Pride in Prison) at Fenway Community Health Center

- Working on bill for condom access – Nick will pass along specific info to us
- We discussed re-entry resources; Aren will contact Brian Corr and Nancy Schlacter about re-entry resources
- We discussed a potential education event next year focused on Black and Pink; we can invite them to table at Rainbow Room and other events too

LGBTQ History Exhibit

- We need to check in with Wil on opening reception
- Feedback on panels – we need to respond

Past Events

- Fairs at Community Charter School of Cambridge
 - Two fairs were attended by Amelia (both middle school and high school); Bill attended high school
 - Spoke with over 120 students
 - No GSA right now, but they're working on revitalizing
- Cambridge Carnival: No updates right now
- GOAL Training
 - Amelia and Bill attended a training
 - Police Subcommittee will meet with Commissioner Bard to discuss feedback