

LGBTQ+ Commission Minutes – June 27, 2019 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Attending: Bill Barnert, Jessica Daniels, John Gintell, Britt Huhmann, Noe Kamelamela, Steven Lee, Greg MacDonough, Mal Malme, Rachel Oppenheimer, Aren Stone, Amelia Joselow (research associate)
Absent: Leo Austin-Spooner, Susan Bernstein, Maya Escobar, Kate Grams, Nefyn Meissner, Bob Parlin, Lesley Phillips, Kimm Topping, Silas Weiner, Michelle Zucker.

Guests: Nathan Wass, Erica Lai

Approved Minutes from May 2019 Meeting, with corrections Approved June Agenda

Cambridge Department of Public Health Focus Group

For the first hour of the meeting, the Department of Public Health and representatives of Health Resources in Action, engaged the Commission in a focus group regarding the citywide health survey.

Report from Research Associate Amelia Joselow

Amelia met with Bill to discuss next steps for the youth subcommittee. Amelia said the first step for the next phase of the subcommittee's work is to connect with school principals. She has learned that principals do work for parts of the summer and it's possible they could be reached. Otherwise, consulting them will need to wait until October.

Amelia has also found ideas for signs that could be used on all-gender restrooms. The final adoption will need to go past the City Manager, the Disabilities Commission, and the Department of Public Works. A list already exists of all the city building restrooms that can be relabeled as all-gender. John noted that signs that point people toward the all-gender restrooms are also needed.

Future Events

Jessica will reach out by email to ask who is available to staff a table at Cambridge Carnival in September.

Update, All Gender Bathrooms

The subcommittee has met and reviewed the status indicated on a spreadsheet that Amelia had developed. The committee discussed what could reasonably take place during the summer and tasks were assigned. Once the process is underway for restrooms in city buildings, the subcommittee will turn toward private establishments.

There was a discussion at the subcommittee meeting of whether people from outside the Commission can join a subcommittee. Because there was no quorum at this full Commission meeting, further discussion was postponed to the July meeting.

Public Comment

Erica Lai mentioned that she attended the meeting because of an interest in all-gender restrooms on behalf of two groups she is connected with.

Next Meeting: July 25th, 6:00-7:30 p.m.