



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Cambridge Human Rights Commission

April 4, 2024
Hybrid Public Meeting

Present: Chair Mercedes Evans and Commissioners Judith Laguerre, Olinda Marshall, Josh Stadlan, Stefanie Haug, Caroline Palavicino-Maggio, Sue Mapel, Beverly Sealey, Stephen Curran, Samuel Myers, and Yasmin Padamsee Forbes.

City Staff: Director of Operations, Superintendent Frederick Cabral

Absent: Executive Director Carolina Almonte

1. Call to Order:

- Chair Laguerre called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

2. Public Comment

- No members of the public joined for public comment.

3. Review and approval of March 2024 Minutes

- The Commission reviewed the minutes from the last Commission meeting on March 7, 2024. Commissioner Stadlan moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Curran seconded.

4. Old Business

- Event Planning
 - **CIRC Welcome Event:** DOO Binney shared that the Welcome Event is scheduled for May 31, 2024, at the Cambridge Public Library lawn.
 - **Fair Housing Month Event** – DOO Binney shared that the Fair Housing Event, “Fair Housing for All,” is schedule for April 27, 2024, at the Citywide Senior Center.
 - DOO Binney asked Commissioners to volunteer at the event. Chair Evans and Commissioners Mapel, Laguerre, Marshall, and Myers volunteered to help out at the event. Commissioner Mapel volunteered to moderate the panel discussion.
 - Commissioners discussed additional outreach ideas for the event. Commissioners suggested asking organizations to display the flyer. DOO Binney will send Commissioners copies of the flyer to distribute to organizations and individuals. Commissioners suggested Catholic Charities, Cambridge Community Center, Cambridge Health Alliance, My Brother’s Keeper, and Greater Boston Interfaith Organization for outreach.
 - Chair Evans suggested providing giveaways at the CHRC table.
- Trainings

- **June Community Dispute Settlement Center Mediation Training** – Commissioners will submit availability for mediation training via doodle poll.
- **Human Rights Education Certificate** – Commissioner Curran expressed that the syllabus for the training did not seem relevant to Commission work. Chair Evans requested that ED Almonte investigate the training and confirm HUD reimbursement eligibility.
- Commissioner Haug expressed interest in community trainings from local public policy programs. Commissioner Laguerre will reach out to contact at the Kennedy School to learn more about their community engagement initiatives.

5. New Business

- The May Commission will feature a presentation from the Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) titled “Day in the Life.” Chair Evans suggested adding a debrief of the April 27 Fair Housing Day to the May agenda.
- Commissioner Sealey requested that relevant articles be sent out prior to Commission meetings and included in the agenda.

6. Adjournment

- Commissioner Currans moved to adjourn at 6:55pm, Commissioner Meyers seconded.

The next Commission meeting will be on Thursday, May 2, 2024, hybrid at 51 Inman Street and on Zoom.