

# Cambridge LGBTQ+ Commission

MINUTES: 2024-02-22

Tonight's Chair: Bill Barnert

Attendance (X = Here, LOA = Leave of Absence, Blank = Absent):

COMMISSIONERS	Pre-sent?	COMMISSIONERS	Pre-sent?	STAFF	Pre-sent?
Badriyyah Alsabah		Linden Huhmann	X	Carolina Almonte	X
Bill Barnert	X	M. Joyce-Anderson		Amelia Joselow	X
Bob Bordone	X	Mary Gardner		Phoebe Hallahan	X
Cindy Telingator	X	Noelani Kamelamela	X	Sarah Binney	X
Frank Arce	X	Olivia Sevey		<b>GUESTS</b>	
Gregory MacDonough	X	Warner Santiago	X	Vincent Daveed Monrreal	
Jason Doo		Zack Dresser	X	Deidre Travis Brown, Cambridge Director of Equity and Inclusion	
Kat Long					

# Cambridge LGBTQ+ Commission

AGENDA: 22-Feb-2024, 6 – 7:30 PM

**Location:** Zoom

## **Agenda**

Co-Chairs: Bill Barnert and (TBD)

Tonight's meeting chaired by: Bill Barnert

1. **Welcome**
2. **Assign Minute Taker** - Frank
3. **Approve / Modify Agenda** – Approved 6:18pm
4. **Approve Previous Minutes** – September 2023 (Approved 6:20pm) and January 2024 (Approved 6:23pm)
5. **Presentation from Chief of Equity and Inclusion Deidre Travis Brown**
  - a. Facilitated a conversation and presented a deck. [Insert Deck]
  - b. **Highlighted:**
    - i. New City Manager Yi-An Huang wanted to elevate Equity and Inclusion throughout the City of Cambridge, especially due to silos
    - ii. Working on creating strategic plan for department, which includes:
      1. Women's Commission, LGBTQ+, Human Rights, CIRC, Immigrant Rights & Citizenship, and Domestic/Gender Based Violence Prevention Initiative
    - iii. Guiding principles: Engagement, Culture, Trust & Accountability, and Shared Best Practices
    - iv. Looking forward to partnership and noted the power in numbers to move forward.
    - v. Department will be creating and sharing resources and tools to units across the City to Cambridge.
    - vi. Creating new positions to move the work forward
    - vii. Actively planning City 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Marriage Equality Celebration May 2024
6. **Project Updates** (current actions, and plans) including reports from Carolina, Sarah, Amelia, & Phoebe
  - a. **Carolina:** 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration 5/18/24 with Noe and Bob on working group. 11-2/3pm.
  - b. **Sarah:** LGBTQ+ resource guide updated, now an interactive format, and on the LGBTQ+ website. It's using a the StoryMaps format. IT has local and national resources. **ASK:** Commissioners please take time to review and share if anything is missing and/or inaccurate information. Also, share with networks.
  - c. **Sarah:** April is Fair Housing Day, 4/27 at Citywide Senior Center, 11am-2pm. Labeling opportunity?
  - d. **Phoebe:** Hosting SAGE table on 4/3. Need volunteers. Bill,
  - e. **Phoebe:** Trans day of Visibility – 3/31

- f. **Amelia:** Wrapping up data collection for Cambridge Health LGBTQ+ Inclusion Project.
- g. **Amelia:** Working with nearby cities, e.g. Boston & Somerville, to build/maintain relationships to identify opportunities to collaborate and create mini-communities of practice.

## 7. Working Group Reports

- ⊘ Communications – Newsletter soon!
- ⊘ Housing – **Get update from Linden**
  - Update 1: Enabling more than 3 unrelated people live together.
  - Update 2: Assessment and identification of varying affordable housing programs and initiatives in Cambridge and how to make them more accessible and equitable.
- ⊘ Events – Noted above!
  - **National Coming Out Day** is October 11<sup>th</sup> (a Friday this year). While it may seem very early to start planning, what we want to do is collect stories ahead of time and put together a web presentation to be released in October (format to be decided). In order to collect stories from students, we need to get them this semester. Who is interested in working on this project? (M volunteered to help, Zack offered to provide story. (Vincent offered to help, too.) Bill to talk to M about leading.
  - **Pride Planning** will start soon. Sarah requested next meeting we allocate time for strategic brainstorming session.
- ⊘ Recruitment – Lauryn declined reappointment, we will be recruiting for (up to) 5 commissioners. Folx interested reach out to Carolina.
- ⊘ Youth- Working group trying to meet and having challenges moving forward.

## 8. Old Business

## 9. New Business

- a. Electing co-chairs

## 10. Report from Rainbows Across Communities

## 11. Public Comments / Announcements

- a. Vincent Daveed Monrreal shared personal experience, as a non-binary Latinx Pharmacist. .

## 12. Next Commission Meeting: Thursday, March 28, 2024, Hybrid (51 Inman & Zoom)