

## Minutes of the Peace Commission Meeting • February 19, 2025

**Commission Members Present:** Co-Chair Larry Kim, Co-Chair Elka Kuhlman, Annie Brown, Sarah DeMott, Kaza Fraley, David Seeman, Bonnie Talbert

**City Staff Present:** Administrative and Project Coordinator Ryan Welsh

**Call to Order:** Co-Chair Kim called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** On a motion from Commission Member DeMott, Member Seeman, the minutes of the January 15, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.

### Checking In

- People shared brief personal and professional updates from the last month.

### Staff Updates for the Commission

#### MLK Day Report

- Staff shared that 110 people attended. All agreed that the event ran smoothly.
- There were some sound issues but they were resolved near the start of the event.
- Jeremy Battle, the keynote speaker, told Co-Chair Kim that he enjoyed the event and appreciated being involved.

#### Additional Updates

- Interfaith Gathering continues to happen and has been a great moment for leaders in the faith community to pause and take some time together.
- Social Resilience working group on Block Parties has found many resources throughout the Commonwealth, shared with the Commission to inform approaches to Meet Your Neighbor Day
- CHIP working group will continue to meet, where Nancy Rihan-Porter and Admin Coord Welsh are co-chairs. Will build an action plan to promote interconnectivity within Cambridge.
- Staff would like to collaborate with the Citizens' Civic Unity Committee on an event to bring together various Public Bodies focused on identity.
- Co-Chair Kuhlman suggested looking into Active Bystander Training for the City.

### Updates from the Co-Chairs

- The Commission discussed how to proceed without a Director and expressed a strong desire to wait for a director before bringing in new members.

### Holocaust Remembrance Event

- Commission members shared insights about the past Commemoration events.
- The Commission was interested in clarity from the City Manager before continuing to plan the event.

### **Public Comment**

- No members of the public were present to comment.

### **Next Steps**

- Commission members will meet again March 19.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM on a motion from Commission Member Seeman, seconded by Co-Chair Kim, approved by unanimous vote.

*The next meeting of the Peace Commission is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 51 Inman St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.*