

Cambridge Commission on the Status of Women

September 11, 2019

Commission Meeting

Minutes

19th Amendment – 100 Years

The Women's Commission has been part of a group, meeting since April 2019, who are helping to bring a public art piece to Cambridge, commemorating the 100th anniversary. All the City Councilors are in support of this initiative. There is currently an RFQ out to artists. The location of the art has been narrowed down to 3 sites in the area – Joan Lorenz Park, Cambridge Common, and Tubman Square. The goal is to unveil the prototype for the piece in August of 2020.

The Commission is also working with two CRLS History teachers on a project called #hervote. This project will collect women's stories about voting, in a digital archive at Schlesinger.

Mapping Feminist Cambridge

There was considerable enthusiasm for the launch this summer. It was a resounding success! About 70 people attended the tours and Kimm is giving a tour to a class from CRLS next week, as well as three more autumn tours. We are currently working with Gilda Bruckner on business outreach to promote the guide to the Inman Square business community. Phyllis and Pamela will help with this push.

Racism and Feminism: Follow Up Discussion

Our packed Rachel Cargle event took place June 18th. What can CCSW do to engage in conversation and process racism, as it relates to feminism? Some Commissioners felt that the talk should have been better: more learning, more "in your face" discussions, felt too safe. Where should the commission go with this? The Commission wants to make sure that this discussion is not a "one shot deal." Additionally, we need to include more voices from Cambridge – not just bring in facilitators from New York and other states. How to keep this conversation going?