

**September 22, 2016 meeting minutes
Cambridge GLBT Commission**

The NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, October 27, 2016

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

Agenda for the September 22 meeting was accepted.

The minutes of the July 28 meeting were approved.

Commissioners Present: John Gintell, Rachel Oppenheimer, Aren Stone, Kevin Shpritzer, Anna Weick, Kimm Topping, Mal Malme, Bill Barnert, Maya Escobar, Linda Daniels, Bob Parlin, Ted Waechter, Steven Lee, Lesley Phillips, Mason Weintraub

Commissioners Absent: (excused) Jessica Daniels, Sylvia Guerra, Susan Bernstein

Guests: Detective Brian O'Connor (Cambridge Police), Frank Rubino (Quincy resident) and Nina Liang (Quincy City Councilor), McMillan I. Gaither (Social Work intern for Vice Mayor Marc McGovern)

I. Welcome

- a. Commissioners and guests introduced themselves.
- b. Kevin announced that he is moving out of Cambridge and will need to resign from his post on the Commission.

II. Police Report

- a. Detective O'Connor updated the Commission with a police report.
- b. The RFP (Request for Proposal) for the SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) training has been posted on the City's website and other places.
 - i. The RFP closes on 9/29.
 - ii. They have received some proposals.
- c. The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) has reached out to the police. They are sending a group from India that is interested in transgender issues in the US.
 - i. The IVLP group will meet with police on October 6. Lesley and Kimm will represent the Commission.
- d. Cambridge, Boston, Worcester, State, Transit, and FBI police and members of the community will be holding monthly meetings in Boston to discuss issues including those that relate to LGBT residents.

III. Diversity Committee

- a. This committee met in May to establish their purpose.
- b. Their next meeting will be in October.

IV. Communications Committee

- a. Bill reported on the Facebook posting/moderating policy that the committee is developing for our Facebook page.
- b. Aren has received requests for making additions to the Commission's resource list.

- i. Once we are granted editing access to our website, we will add additional resources to the list.
 - ii. In the meantime, Rachel suggested adding resources to our Facebook page.
- c. Anna would like commissioners posting to social media to share links and information directly with the Commission in addition to our respective social media pages.

V. **Queer Friendly Educators Appreciation Event – October 6 – 4-7pm**

- a. This will be at Tavern in the Square in Central Square.
- b. Commissioners are encouraged to spread the word as well as attend the event.

VI. **Oktoberfest – October 9 – 12-6pm**

- a. The Commission will have a table at this event in Harvard Square.
- b. Ted, Kimm, and Rachel (first shift) volunteered to help. Bill said he will help set up then work the final shift to clean up.
- c. Kevin will organize the rest of the staffing over email.

VII. **Transgender Arts Event – 11/17 - YWCA**

- a. Mal and Anna are the lead organizers.
- b. It will be a music- and poetry-based event.
- c. The event is yet-to-be named, so Commissioners are encouraged to send their ideas to Mal and Anna for consideration.

VIII. **LGBTQ+ training**

- a. Kimm and their partner offered to provide a training to the Commission about what the plus sign entails as well as gender identity inclusion.
- b. Ted suggested that we include the general public and we agreed that a public training after the Commission's training was a good idea.

IX. **Name Change**

- a. John reported on the progress of getting the Commission's name changed.
- b. Kimm and John will meet with relevant City staff members to discuss the importance of our choice of a new name.

X. **All-Gender Bathrooms**

- a. Many major cities in the country require all institutions with single-stall bathrooms to use gender neutral signage.
- b. John suggested setting a goal for the city to create an ordinance along these same lines.
- c. The Commission voted to approve this action.

XI. **Senior Housing Report, Youth Report Update**

- a. Elysia Chandler (Commission Intern) has completed the survey with the Cambridge Housing Authority and prepared a report.
- b. The report on the survey was delivered to the City Manager and sent to the Commission for review. It will be finalized and released to the public soon.
- c. The next step is to extend the surveys to other housing organizations as well as the Mayor's Housing Committee that is looking into LGBT Friendly Housing for seniors.
- d. The Youth Project's survey is in development.

XII. Public Comments

- a. Nina and Frank shared their goal of setting up a commission in Quincy to address LGBTQ issues in their community and asked for suggestions to help get it established.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm