



Monthly Women's Commission Meeting

April 12, 2023

Minutes

Attendees: Pauline, Barbara, Rhonda, Caitlin, Jean, Natalie, Judith

Staff: Kimberly, Emily

Programming Updates

Women in Resistance/Mujeres en La Resistencia

From the past to the present/Del pasado al presente

Friday, May 5, 2023, 6:30-8:30

Cambridge Senior Center, 806 Mass Ave. Central Square

Diana Becerra, U Mass history and gender professor and community organizer, will share her reflections of Salvadoran women active in the resistance during the war against their US funded government forces. Salvadoran Somerville community organizer Irma Flores and Salvadoran Housing Justice organizer Gabriela Cartagena and will make the connections to local organizing in the present.

Co-sponsors: Mass. Peace Action with Arlington Teosinte Sister City, Cambridge Human Rights Commission, Centro Presente, Cambridge Office of Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui, Cambridge Women's Center, CISPES, Enroot, Fuerza Latina, Mass Network to Support Democracy in El Salvador, Somerville Family Learning Collaborative, SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs, YWCA Cambridge

Working Agreements

Current draft of our living document. Updated with the Commission, April 12, 2023:

- 1.) Be Aware of Privilege and Power. How you use it and how it influences your experiences in the world.
- 2.) Be Open to Learning and Growing. Show what you're learning, not what you already know.
- 3.) Be Direct. Share your reactions or opinions during meetings rather than before or after. When processing outside of Commission meetings, lean toward a restorative, positive, and growth-oriented mindset.
- 4.) Be Reliable. Have an awareness of your competencies and limitations. Deliver on commitments.
- 5.) Be Accountable. Own your mistakes, apologize.
- 6.) Respect privacy. "What is shared here, stays here. What is learned here, leaves here."
- 7.) Be Patient and Actively Listen. Bring your courage, wisdom, and compassion when ideas differ.

New Business

We discussed meeting format – introductions, programming updates, current topic, new business. We explained new business is for commissioners to bring ideas and/or information forward about what they're hearing in the spaces they occupy or communities they are part of as well as for programming ideas.

Barbara shared her participation with Friends of Jerry's Pond Clean Up through her work with NoCA.

Friends of Jerry's Pond invites you to our 7th Earth Day Jerry's Pond Fest!

Sunday, April 23rd, 1:30–5:00

[**Rain date only if it's pouring, Sunday, May 7th 1:30-5:00; check our Facebook page**]

Barbara asked if there was any feminist/women's centered history related to Jerry's Pond. Pauline is going to ask the Cambridge Historical Commission for any pertinent history.