



Cambridge Human Rights Commission
Thursday, April 3, 2014

Present: Commissioners Chanta Bhan, Bonita Cox, Mercedes Evans, Kerry Gough, Kim Nghiem, Harry Reyes, Brendan St. Amant, Sabrina Selk, and Randa Shedid; City staff Nancy Schlacter, Mariah Freark and Carmen S. Negrón.

Absent: Commissioner Melissa Gonzalez-Brenes.

Guest: Christina Borysthen-Tkacz, member of the public; Police Superintendent Chris Burke; Calvin Lindsay and Dhonyale Jones from 22-CityView.

Documents Used:

- March 2014 minutes

1. Call to order

Chair Bonita Cox called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Ms. Borysthen-Tkacz stated that she was observing the meeting because she applied to be a Commissioner.

3. 22-CityView *Inside*

Mr. Lindsay and Ms. Jones from 22-CityView explained that 22-CityView *Inside* offers different City departments the opportunity to publicize events, ideas or initiatives in a half-hour public service announcement that would air up to twice a month. Mr. Lindsey says that they will work with the department to make the PSA. Mr. Lindsey estimated it takes a few weeks to take an episode from concept to production, and Ms. Jones stated that tapings are scheduled for the end of each month. The Commissioners agreed to discuss this opportunity.

4. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Schlacter updated the Commission on staff activities.

5. Review and approval of March minutes

Commissioner Bhan motioned to approve the March minutes. Commissioner St. Amant seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved. (Commissioners Bhan, Cox, Evans, Nghiem, Gough, Selk and Shedid, with Reyes abstaining.)

6. March meeting follow-up

Commissioners Gonzalez-Brenes and Bhan and E.D. Schlacter met with the GLBT Commission regarding follow-up on the transgender shelter issues. E.D. Schlacter informed Commissioners of upcoming events. E.D. Schlacter and Chair Cox updated the Commissioners on the selection process for the vacant Commissioner position.

7. New business

- Outreach subcommittee: Commissioners Gough and Nghiem will work on the PSA with CCTV and report back.
- Commissioners will look into doing a thirty-minute PSA with 22-CityView *Inside*
- Commissioners Shedid and Selk offered to attend the GLBT Commission's June 14th Pride Breakfast.

8. Outreach Subcommittee

Commissioners requested staff produce an 8.5x11” poster version of the outreach card, laminated and on hard stock paper. There was discussion on events such as the River Festival, and the need for a tent and table. Chair Cox and Commissioners Bhan, Gonzalez-Brenes and Nghiem will staff RiverFest table. Commissioners also suggested getting “freebies” to give out to attract the public. E.D. Schlacter will check with RiverFest organizers to make sure we can give away items like that. Commissioners suggested asking HUD for giveaways such as coloring books. Commissioner Selk stated that the HUD coloring book is available online, and we could download it and make copies.

9. Topics for Future Meetings:

- City demographics by Cliff Cook (maybe in May or June), including housing and diversity, socioeconomics in Cambridge, whether families with young children are leaving Cambridge
- Invite Kahris McLaughlin, Affirmative Action Officer of Schools Department to update Commission on middle schools and how school choice affected that process, as well as population statistics of the schools
- DHSP re: Baby U, new public preschool, other programs.

Commissioner Bhan motioned to adjourn and Commissioner Reyes seconded. (Commissioners Bhan, Cox, Evans, Nghiem, Gough, St. Amant, Reyes, Shedid and Selk).

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Next Commission meeting is Thursday, May 1, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.