



Cambridge Peace Commission

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes of the Peace Commission Meeting • March 15, 2023

Commission Members Present: Co-Chair Larry Kim, Co-Chair Elka Kuhlman, Kaleb Abebe, Annie Brown, Yasmine Hung, Kaza Fraley, David Seeman, Bonnie Talbert

City Staff Present: Executive Director Brian Corr

Call to Order: Co-Chair Kim called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion from Commission Member Seeman, seconded by Commission Member Hung, the minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously.

Checking In

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

Executive Director's Report

- Exec. Dir. Corr provided an update on planning for the 2023 Annual Commemoration of the Holocaust.
 - After much work, the date has not been confirmed but the synagogue, the Tremont Street Shul (also known as Temple Beth Shalom) is available on Thursday, April 27, Wednesday, May 3, or Thursday, May 4.
 - He has communicated by email with Karen Frostig, a local professor and artist who recently spoke before the UN General Assembly about her parents who were survivors and her grandparents who perished in the Holocaust. She may be available to speak at the commemoration.
 - Both choruses that usually participate – A Besere Velt from Workman's Circle and the Cambridge Community Chorus – are interested and checking to see if they will have enough people available to perform.
 - The final date will depend on the availability of a speaker, choruses, and the Mayor.
- Exec. Dir. Corr. also noted that in both his Peace Commission and Police Review & Advisory Board roles he has been deeply engaged in the City's ongoing response to the fatal police shooting of Arif Syed Faisal.

Final Planning for Race: the Power of an Illusion

- The Commission spent time doing detailed planning of *RACE: The Power of an Illusion*, scheduled for March 30th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Cambridge Public Library. The event will include opening remarks, the video screening, snacks, and small-group discussions. Peace Commission members and at least one member of the Citizens Committee on Civic Unity will volunteer in various roles, including speaking and facilitation. While registration is not required, the event has been posted on Eventbrite as a way to gauge interest and to

spread the word – in addition to the City of Cambridge calendar and being sent by email to about 1,000 people.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM on a motion from Commission Member Brown, seconded by Commission Member Hung, approved by unanimous vote.

The next meeting of the Peace Commission is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 via Zoom.