

Cambridge LGBTQ+ Commission

MINUTES: July 27, 2023

Tonight's Chair: Bill Barnert

Attendance (X = Here, LOA = Leave of Absence, *Blank* = Absent):

COMMISSIONERS	Pre-sent?	COMMISSIONERS	Pre-sent?	STAFF	Pre-sent?
Badriyyah Alsabah		Linden Huhmann	X	Jennifer Mathews	LOA
Bill Barnert	X	M. Joyce-Anderson	X	Amelia Joselow	
Bob Bordone	X	Mary Gardner	X	Phoebe Hallahan	X
Cindy Telingator	X	Noelani Kamelamela	X	Sarah Binney	X
Frank Arce		Olivia Sevey		GUESTS	
Gregory MacDonough	X	Warner Santiago			
Jason Doo	X	Zack Dresser	X		
Kat Long	X				
Lauryn McNair	X				
Lesley Phillips					

1. **Welcome**
2. **Assign Minute Taker:** Zachary Dresser
3. **Approve / Modify Agenda**
4. **Approve Previous Minutes**
5. **Introductions**
6. Special early report from **Public Health & Safety Working Group**, so Zack can leave early.
 - a. Zach presented the following proposal from the Public Health and Safety Working Group:

- There will be no standing invitation for the police to attend commission meetings.
- In the case that the police have some type of data (hate crimes report etc.) to share, they can send that information to staff/ commissioners to present at meetings.
- In the case that the following situations arise, the working group would convene to discuss if/ how a police commissioner attends the meeting, or other community safety alternatives:
 - A request from a community member for police contact
 - A request from police for training, feedback, etc.
 - A more acute safety concern.
- If it is decided that a police commissioner will attend the meeting, there will be a clear warning in advance to commissioners and a note on the agenda (including the reason for the attendance) with an invitation for commissioners to opt out, and potential for police commissioner to only invited to section of the meeting. This will be an excused absence for commissioners.

7. **Project Updates** (current actions, and plans) including reports from Sarah, Amelia, & Phoebe

- a. Update on ED search: No updates.
- b. **Sarah:**
 - i. Working with OneDrive person in City to support commissioners with IT questions.
 - ii. Community resources on website - requesting resources through form from commissioners. Hoping to turn PDF of resources into up-to-date interactive webpage.
- c. **Phoebe:**
 - i. Thanks to Longfellow picnic volunteers

8. **Working Group Reports**

- All-Gender Bathrooms
- Budget
- City Forms
- Communications – We have started designing the new brochure.
- Community Center
- Diversity ^[L]_[SEP]
- Events
- Handbook
- Housing – Update from Amelia on how things are going with getting approval to send out the survey (Survey not approved officially but is in queue)
- Public Health & Safety
- Pride Brunch
- Recruitment
- Strategic Planning

- Youth – The Youth WG currently consists of Noe Kamelamela, Amelia Joselow, Frank Arce, & Bill Barnert. We will be starting up again soon if anyone wants to join us.

9. Old Business

- We have shortened our incoming email address from LGBTQPlusCommission@CambridgeMA.gov to LGBTQ@CambridgeMA.gov. The old one will still work, but we will start publicizing the new one.
- The **Multi-Town LGBTQ+ BYO picnic** is this Saturday in Arlington. Hope to see you there! Do we wish to host a smaller Cambridge BYO picnic?
- Danehy Park Day** will be September 17, 2022, from 11 – 3. Who from the commission wants to table?
 - Bill, Phoebe to follow up via email

10. New Business

- Let Trans Athletes Play 2023:** In the past we have co-sponsored (helped publicize & assist day of) an event called **Let Trans Athletes Play**. This year, it is on Saturday, August 19th from 12-4, and they could use some help setting up tents at 11am, if anyone wants to go. We will publicize this in our newsletter & social media.
 - (M. JA tentative yes)
- Trans Day of Remembrance (TDoR)** is Monday, Nov 20, 2023. Who wants to help plan something?
 - (M. JA, Lauryn, Bill) - Lauryn asked questions about resources (do we have budget, etc.)
- In lieu of an August meeting, new Commissioner Jason Doo will be hosting an LGBTQ+ Commission dinner at Wusong Road, Thursday, Aug. 24th.
- Cambridge Carnival:** Do we want to participate? Who from the commission wants to table? Sunday, Sept. 10th, 2023 11-5 at University Park Common.
 - Danahey (who is planning volunteers?)
- Vote whether to send a letter of support of the updated sex education framework.
 - Voted YES to send letter of support
- There has been a suggestion that we move public comment closer to the beginning of the meeting, in case anyone visiting the meeting doesn't want to stay for the full duration of the meeting. Let's decide tonight.
 - Conversation around public comment.
 - Voted NOT to move public comment section
- Are we ready to start meeting again in person? Do we have a hybrid meeting space if we do?
 - Sarah will research and get back to commission on hybrid meetings

11. Report from Rainbows Across Communities

- The **Multi-Town LGBTQ+ BYO picnic** is this Saturday in Arlington:

RAINBOWS ACROSS COMMUNITIES

**First Annual Multi-Town LGBTQ+ Community Outdoor Lunch Gathering
Saturday, July 29, 2023 12:30 PM**

Spy Pond Park, 56 Pond Lane, Arlington, MA 02474

Come join many other LGBTQ+ folks from many communities for a BYO Lunch!
And bring your friends!

No agenda -- no cover -- no RSVP -- just SHOW UP!

Bring your own food & (non-alcoholic) drink.

Bring a blanket & chair if you want them.

Parking Lot: <http://bit.ly/SpyPondPicnicArea>

Located on the north shore of Spy Pond (near the Arlington Boys & Girls Club),
just off the Minuteman Bike Path. Parking is available in the parking lot. Portable
restrooms.

12. Public Comments / Announcements

13. Next Commission Meeting: Thursday, September 28, 6-7:30 (Zoom or Location TBA)

- a. Discuss hybrid meetings moving forward. Sarah to update on any city requirements.