

Cambridge LGBTQ+ Commission Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2021

PRESENT:

John Gintell, Bill Barnert, Jessica Daniels, Aren Stone, Nefyn Meissner,
Rachel Oppenheimer, Warner Santiago, Greg MacDonough, Kate Grams,
Linden Huhmann, Lauryn McNair, Lesley Phillips

ABSENT:

Bob Bordone, Cameron Van Fossen, Katy Harrison, Noelani Gabriel, Soltan Bryce,
Steven Lee, Susan Bernstein

On LOA:

Noelani Kamelamela

Welcome

Minute Taker – Bill

Introductions – skipped for time, we started late

Approve Minutes from May – Done, with one modification

Approve / Modify Agenda – Approved, as amended.

Events - Starlight Square/Pride Programming Updates & Debrief from Bill Barnert and Amelia Joselow

- It went great. Lots of great feedback.
- Mayor Siddiqui, Councillor Simmons, & Police Commissioner Bard were there.
- The weather & the performers were great.
- Now it's time to start working on the next one, which will be Saturday evening, Sept. 11th.
- Double good news: We were able to change the date of our September Starlight Square event from a Thursday that conflicted with our September meeting, to a Saturday that's, well, a Saturday. Sat. Sept. 11th.
- Doodle poll has been sent to schedule the next meeting.

Police Department Policy Review - Updates from Jessica Daniels

- Tabled.

Strategic Planning Working Group - Pending Policy Updates from Steven Lee

- Tabled.

Report from Amelia

- **LGBTQ+ Community Center** – Working on core values & Mission Statement, reviewed recommendations from other centers that we interviewed. Amelia will request a powerpoint presentation to the City Manager after it has been edited/approved by both the working group and commission as a whole.
- **Ongoing Projects**
 - Amelia is now trained on the (non-intuitive) website. Will need support.
 - Working as part of the mental health team for the public health department's Community Health Improvement Project (CHIP)
Sitting on a team with CPHD and Metropolitan Planning Council to select art projects that reflect CPHD/CHIP health priorities
- **Bathrooms**
 - Reached out to Matt Nelson, City Business Liaison about reaching out to business associations
- Tomorrow: Amelia & Bill will be attending an **LGBT Elders conference**.
- City, based on Open Meeting Law, says we CAN start **meeting in person**, and might be told soon that we HAVE to.

Reports from Working Groups

Bill forgot to mention at the meeting, so he's putting it here: Working Group Email Lists are being created - Google won't let you create many at once, so it's taking some time.

- **City Forms**
 - In process
- **Communications**
 - We tabled at the LGBTQ+ Pride Performances at Starlight Square
 - We did an inventory of the swag we have & what we need
 - We are considering updating the **hand-out** brochure, and printing another one on *An Introduction to Language & Gender*, modeled on NH's Affirming Spaces Project.
 - There is a Doodle Poll out to schedule the next meeting.
- **Diversity**
 - Survey being written based on someone else's, tailored to our needs. Will send Doodle poll tomorrow

- **Events**

- Need to call a meeting
- Kimm Topping wrote us to tell us about a Sports Day for Trans Students, Possibly July 31st. Has written to the Mayor about getting a Cambridge Park. We'd love to be a part of it, but we're not sure what we're being asked for. Bill will contact Kimm, and will report back to co-chairs John & Nefyn to decide if/what we can do. Any financial obligation is limited to \$250. Motion passed.

- **Police**

- Moving along slowly. Had hoped to meet before tonight, but will meet next week (Wednesday, June 30 at 6:00.) If anyone would like to attend the meeting (or join the Working Group), please let Jessica know. One of the agenda items will be thinking about the name of the WG.
- Commissioner Bard will be at the July meeting, so if you have questions for him, send them to Jessica.

[POST-MEETING UPDATE: This has been rescheduled for the Fall.]

- **Strategic Planning**

- Tabled

Future Meetings & Events

- **Exploring Potential Return to In-Person Meetings**

- We will plan on meeting on Zoom, but if we aren't allowed to, Amelia will find us a room. (CHA Windsor Street is not yet open for meetings.)

- **Commissioner Social Events**

- Social gathering in August
 - Thursday, Aug. 26th, 6-8:30 PM
 - Bill will resend invite
 - We will also invite Health & Police liaisons

- **Trans Sports Day**

- Kimm Topping writes: "We are still waiting on confirmation from public works about reserving Danehy Park. We submitted all the required paperwork and just need a decision before we can start advertising. ... The Mayor requested Sunday, August 1st so that is the date we have applied for. Is anyone from the Commission available to speak that day?"

Public Comment / Announcements

Next Meeting: Thursday July 22, 2021