



Cambridge Human Services Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2018
5:30 – 7:30 PM
Citywide Senior Center
806 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Commissioners present: Christine Elow, Christopher Hall, Anna Leslie, Khari Milner, Bran Shim

Regrets: Julie Asher, Nan Stone, Rev. Lorraine Thornhill

Presenter: Nancy Schlacter, Executive Director of the City's Human Rights Commission (HRC)

Department of Human Service Programs (DHSP) staff present: Mike Payack (recorder), Ellen Semonoff

I. Welcome, Networking, and Dinner

- Ellen Semonoff welcomed members of the Commission and introduced Nancy Schlacter, Executive Director of the City's Human Rights Commission (HRC)
- In addition to the HRC, Nancy also oversees the City's Commission on Immigrant Rights and Citizenship (CIRC)

II. Overview and Discussion of CIRC

- CIRC has coordinated "Know Your Rights" training sessions for immigrants in conjunction with local and regional legal aid organizations specializing in immigration law
 - To date, CIRC has coordinated 18 of these training sessions, with more scheduled in the future
- CIRC has partnered with Community Legal Services and Counseling Center (CLSSACC) to host monthly legal clinics for immigrants
- CIRC has partnered with the City's LGBTQ+ Commission for an event focused on LGBTQ+ Asylum Seekers
- CIRC provides information & referral services to Cambridge immigrant residents
- CIRC provides outreach materials on immigrant rights distributed throughout the city and online

III. Announcements

- Ellen Semonoff and Mike Payack announced that we will be doing some planning for FY2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Services funding at the Commission's next meeting

IV. Upcoming Schedule:

- Mike Payack announced that the next meeting of the Human Services Commission is scheduled for Thursday, April 12, 2018

V. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Payack, DHSP/Planning & Development