

Cambridge GLBT Commission

Minutes for Meeting on May 21, 2007

1. Administrative:

Call to Order

Present: Colby Berger, Jeff Walker, John Gintell, Beth Damsky, Bob Parlin, Priscilla Lee, Leslie Phillips

Not Present: Nancy Alach

Minute taker: Beth Damsky (typist John Gintell)

Holocaust Remembrance Event: Colby and Beth represented Commission

Beacon Press event – May 16th No-one attended.

2. City Ordinance:

April 9 City Council Meeting sent Ordinance to City Solicitor for rewording. John followed up and Solicitor reported revised Ordinance will be submitted back to June 4 City Council meeting. That meeting is expected to send it to Ordinance Committee for review and public hearing (possibly on June 20). After that it will be returned to City Council for passage. It is believed it has to be voted on by Council in two separate meetings. John will follow up and get copy of revised ordinance as soon as it is available and keep commission informed about it and any schedule information. The appointment process for new commissioners will follow passage. We may need to meet with City Manager to help with process of recruitment.

ACTION ITEM: Chairs should try to meet with City Manager

ACTION ITEM: John will get copy of Ordinance before meeting with City Manager.

3. Cambridge Police Department:

Jeff, Colby, and Katherine went to last Police Training by GOAL (Gay Officers Action League) New England for 1st hour. Trainers were Officers and Funded by Police Dept and GOAL (donated time). Brought transgender G->M to respond to questions about Trans issues.

ACTION ITEM: Jeff will check with Joanne Shapiro to see about feedback on training; Colby will check with Steve Ahern (CPD GLBT liaison) for feedback.

Update on Hate Crimes Policy – still on hold.

Jeff met with new Police Commissioner (Robert Haas) as follow up to Citizen's Advisory Panel for Selection of the PC

ACTION ITEM: Commissioners should meet with new Police Commissioner

No update on press release about trainings.

Intern Katherine's semester is done. She did a GLBT PSA for Cambridge TV. She is writing final report.

ACTION ITEM: The Commission will revisit whether we have another intern.

11th Annual International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Criminal Justice Professionals in Providence Jun 12-17.

ACTION ITEM: Colby will talk to Steve and Joanne about this conference to see about/encourage attendance.

4. Cambridge Rindge and Latin School

What do Guidance Counselors need from us for training? Do kids know about resources? Military Recruitment may occur after someone leaves school.

ACTION ITEMS: Will talk to Kathy Keegan / Lynn Williams (head of Guidance) in fall

5. Pride Brunch:

Mayor organized planning meeting – He will get message out. Lesley went to meeting, discussed awards. Jeff is doing electronic flyer. Flyer will be sent via Mass Equality listserv, some of Mayors's distribution lists (Jeff has about 10 such lists). Next Brunch meeting is May 24 @ 10 am in Mayor's office. Lesley and Priscilla will attend. Bob, John, Priscilla willing to volunteer, Bob will say a few words at Brunch to capture interest for Commission recruitment.

Establishing Official City Web page

Current one still says we meet at Sr. Center, not listed in today's calendar although City Home page has correct date.

ACTION ITEM: John will get location fixed, new minutes posted, and enquire about new system (again).

6. Community Outreach:

Future Town Meeting? How do we communicate with others and others with us? Can Executive Director or intern take this on?

ACTION ITEM: Priscilla will get in touch w/Seth and ask to become moderator of our public Yahoo group.

7. Senior Housing Issues:

Mary Leno called Jeff to see if we can get GLBT info to her. People on board and need larger task force.

There is an Aging in Place project to help seniors stay at home.

ACTION ITEM: Jeff will check on status of Task Force

Maxine Schuster contacted John about GLBT community for seniors (Stonewall Communities (<http://www.stonewallcommunities.com>) in Boston which includes Housing and a Lifelong Learning Institute in Partnership with Wheelock College. Should we participate in this? – whoever is running that program may be interested in meeting with us – not yet.

John would like to participate in a project on Assisted Living Programs and Nursing Homes in Cambridge – get into policies on GLBT issues. Should “task force” happen 1st. Great idea – not yet.

ACTION ITEM: Beth will contact LGBT Aging Project to follow up on meeting with Cambridge Housing Authority around training.

8. Miscellaneous Items:

Seth and Ian's leaving the Commission. Will acknowledge them at Pride Brunch.

ACTION ITEM: Jeff will create Certificate for them to be displayed@ Pride Brunch

For Next Meeting: Outfest