



LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes

Date: *Thursday, November 21, 2019*

Time: *6:30 pm*

Location: *Robbins Library, 4th Floor Conference Room*

Attendance:

Commissioners present: Mel Goldsipe (Chair), Julia Forsythe (Vice Chair), Lisa Krinsky, Helene Newberg, Bill Gardiner, Brooks Harrelson, Andy Rubinson

Liaisons: N/A

Visitors: Em Phillips, Sam Hoyo (APS Science Director), Matthew Janger (AHS Principal)

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:39 pm. AR assigned as minute-taker.

Announcements: MG sitting in on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Coordinator interviews and plans to join Police Chief interviews when they take place.

Open Forum: None.

Consent Agenda: LK moves to approve; BG seconds; passed.

Events: RC should look into adding Instagram account to further promote our activities via social media. Recapped the following RC events since the September meeting:

- Oct. 12 Coming Out Day Crafts – Need to buy new button maker, maybe two different sizes.
- Oct. 17 discussion about LGBTQIA+ issues in APS
- Oct. 23 Parent Forum – LexPride may be interested in repeating it in Lexington
- Nov. 14 SAGE Table
- Nov. 17 Transgender Day of Remembrance

Future events discussion – No events planned for December. Looking at lower effort options for 1st quarter of 2020, to focus on recruiting new commissioners. Discussed anime event as a possibility (must prescreen & speak with Rob at library for help planning), karaoke & pizza, or crafts day. Will discuss further at Dec meeting. Pride stage for Porchfest in June, targeting Pride event on Sat

June 20 at Robbins House (\$300 registration fee), and also celebrating LexPride rather than having events overlap as in the past.

Budget: Reviewed past expenses and expected expenditures. Group recommended maintaining level funding at \$4,000 for next year with some redistribution, including:

- Move \$500 from Strategic Planning budget to Pride, for new total of \$1,000.
- Explore cosponsoring/funding of community groups and school LGBTQIA+ initiatives for approximately \$500.

BG moved to accept budget recommendations; HN seconded; passed by Commission.

Determined not ready to apply for another Boston Pride grant; may reapply in future year.

Membership: AL has left and AW is also resigning. Need to investigate other places to publish ads for new commissioners, especially outreach to diverse communities. Chair asked for volunteer interested in taking on the responsibility.

Subcommittees: Subcommittee meeting agendas need to be published 72 hours in advance and meetings held in accessible locations for any guests. Send to Laura Munsey (or new DEI Coordinator) and Janice Weber (Asst. Town Clerk) to meeting to post ahead of deadline.

Liaisons and Partnerships: Schools

- Sam Hoyo is Science Director for Arlington Public Schools, working on her PhD. She shared information on project for dissertation on gender-expansive youth. Hoping to find people 14-22 to work on project and/or be subjects, but primarily targeting high schoolers as subjects. A number of recommendations were made by the commission, including reaching out to First Parish UU, Rose Sawyer group, LexPride, Winchester Multicultural Network, and IRB. Targeting 6-month window for study.
- AHS Principal Matthew Janger presented bathroom layout at current high school and floor plans and sketches for bathrooms in the new building. They will have male, female, and universal facilities throughout the school. He also noted that there is an Inclusion Day, tentatively scheduled for April 14, 2020, and that RC is invited to participate.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm (BG moves; NH seconds; passed).

Next meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2019 @ 6:30 pm (Robbins Library, 4th Floor Conference Room).

Respectfully submitted, Andy Rubinson, Commissioner