



LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes

Date: Thursday May 18, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Conducted by Hybrid Participation -Arlington Community Center HHS Conference Room and via Zoom

This will be a hybrid meeting. Individuals may choose one of the following in-person or virtual options:

1. Attend in person in the 2nd Floor HHS Conference Room at the Community Center (Senior Center), 20 Academy Street/27 Maple Street. Registration not required for in-person attendance.

2. ***Notice to the Public on meeting privacy*** In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial in information provided.

Please read Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provision of Open Meeting Law for more information regarding virtual public hearings and meetings:
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Present: Susan Ryan-Vollmar, Kym Goldsmith, Molly Blaauw-Gillis, Andy Rubinson, Paloma Cotton-Herman, Lisa Krinsky

Absent: Kari Sasportas, Helene Newberg

Guests: Michael Cunningham, Arlington Deputy Town Council; Teresa Marzilli, DEI; Jill Harvey, DEI; Lenard Diggins, Select Board; Julia Starkey, Library; Chief Julie Flaherty, APD; Hilla Snyder, Arlington resident; Maniel, identified self as "from Alexandria"

Minutes

Meeting called to order at: 6:30pm

1. Remote Participation Statement and Guidelines
 - a. Read
2. Land Acknowledgement
 - a. Read
3. Review and approval of April 2023 Minutes
 - a. SRV motioned to approve, MG seconded the motion; all approved
4. Overview of guidance from town DEI department on outreach and engagement and policies and procedures for town commissions
 - a. JH reviewed how to schedule a meeting either remote or in person for monthly public meetings including time/date, need to cc DEI staff, registration requirement for remote meetings, create agenda, and post on town website expectations, and need to book rooms in advance especially w/ hybrid capacity needed due to legal requirements as part of a town commission
5. Overview of Commission/Commissioner expectations under state's Open Meeting Law by Deputy Town Counsel Michael Cunningham
 - a. MC reported that this info is specifically just an overview of the basics
 - b. MC shared that "transparency" is the most important concept in order to maintain town members' faith in commission based meetings
 - c. MC shared notice, public deliberation, and minutes as essential to Open Meeting Law
 - d. MC shared specific resources and statutes to refer to w/ OML questions
 - e. MC reported need to stick to agenda so that public knows in advance what to anticipate
 - f. MC reported minutes requirements and that current template should be adequate
 - g. MC reported definitions on quorum amounts, what constitutes a "deliberation," and what is in the body's jurisdiction
6. Update from Budget Working Group and vote on new guidance for spending
 - a. KG reported that the Budget Working Group began meeting in Dec 2022, w/ Laura Gitelson leading the group, and other members are KG, MBG, and PCH; KG reported that with LG's resignation from the RC, KG will now be leading the BWG
 - b. KG reported that as the lead of the BWG, they will make a verbal report at each Open Meeting about what we have spent money on and what our balance is both for the balance of the gift fund (donations to the RC; currently at approx. \$4000; can be rolled over from year to year unlike the yearly allocation) and the \$4000 yearly allocation from the town
 - c. SRV reported request to vote on BWG recs, SRV motioned to approve and MBG seconded the motion; all approved
7. Working Group Updates
 - a. Education -
 - i. MBG reported Community Pride event run by MBG, KG, and PCH was successful, that the RC received some donations from the community during the event, and that the EWG will meet in the near future w/ Dr. MacNeal's replacement

- b. Community Engagement
 - i. AR reported outreach to volunteers made for help in upcoming Pride events and shared a flyer that details dates/times/locations of these events, include request to JH for best locations to put up flyers, and HS reported will assist w/ flyers
 - ii. AR presented the design for the Pride based décor for the APD “Mule” vehicle wrapping in June with some possible design modifications
 - c. Town Systems & Policies
 - i. SRV reported that KS reported no updates at this time
 - d. Communications
 - i. SRV reported no updates at this time
8. Liaison Updates
- a. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)
 - i. Received via email: May Update
Thursday, May 25, 7pm - 8:30pm: Stories of People with Invisible Disabilities or Neurodiversity (Arlington Community Center) True Story Theatre

MBTA Communities Community Meeting Thursday June 8th 7:30-9 pm. Reviewing the first draft MBTA Communities zoning map- details about how the map was developed will be shared, and opportunities for public comment and discussion of alternatives will be provided.

Juneteenth Observance Monday June 19th, DEI & Black Joy Arlington are hosting an event from 11-2 in the Town Hall garden featuring the Arlington High School Performing Arts Students & renowned Jazz musician, Jacques Schwarz-Bart, as well as members of Black Joy

Working through equity audit implementation
 - b. Police Department (APD)
 - i. JH reported that CF reported that on May 30 the Narrative for Change event at AHS will be happening, and that APD will be providing security from a distance for Pride Prom and that the Mule will be wrapped in Pride décor soon in time for June
 - c. GSA/QSA-AHS/Ottoson/Gibbs
 - i. None received via email; no representatives in attendance to provide reports
 - d. Library
 - i. Received via email:
 - “Reel Queer
June 8, 7:00-8:45pm

"Reel in the Closet"

This documentary features LGBT home movies, videos, and other archival footage from the 1930s to 1980s. Discussion to follow.

Not an announcement but the Pride Prom preparations are going great! Stephen Toropov has things well in hand and is excited to see it all come together. I've overheard excited teens which is fantastic.

- e. Select Board
 - i. LD reported that registration for Town Meeting is now open
 - f. Council on Aging
 - i. Received via email: To recap, the upcoming month+ looks like this:
(All programs open to all & all ages!!)

May 13 (Sat) 11AM lunch and listening session re LGBTQ+ events and meal sites, IN BEDFORD, see attached flyer and details below
May 16 (Tues) zoom only 2pm
May 30 in person 2PM ARL Senior Center, craft making/social hour
June 6 on zoom only 2PM
June 8 (Thurs) Reel Queer, 7 PM, Robbins Library
June 13 NO GROUP
June 17 (Sat) Arlington PRIDE celebration in person only 2-5 PM
June 20 (Tues) OUR PRIDE Celebration, 2PM, in person only, ARL Senior Center
9. Public Engagement and Open Commentary
- a. No comments received
10. Close and Next Meeting. Thursday, July 15, 2023. 6:30pm Hybrid.
11. Move to adjourn by LK and seconded by KG – all approve at 8:10pm

Commission members not able to attend please email dei@town.arlington.ma.us prior to the scheduled meeting.

Anyone needing accessibility information or other assistance in order to attend this meeting should contact dei@town.arlington.ma.us. This meeting is open to all interested individuals.