



LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes

Date: December 21, 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: Fiona Perry, Helene Newberg, Susan Ryan-Vollmar, Lisa Krinsky, Andy Rubinson, Paloma Cotton-Herman, Molly Gillis, Kym Goldsmith, Kari Sasportas

Absent: n/a

Guests: Jillian Harvey (DEI), Len Diggins (Select Board)

Minutes

Meeting called to order at: 6:35pm

1. Remote Participation Statement and Guidelines
 - a. HN pointed us to the statement in the notes
2. Land Acknowledgement- HN read
3. Review and approval of Nov 2023 Minutes
 - a. SRV moved to approve; LK seconded
4. Approve November minutes
 - a. All approved
5. Approve Consent agenda
 - a. SRV moved to approve, AR seconded. All approved

6. Commissioner update
 - a. Helene resigning effective Jan 2024; served as a founding Commissioner in 2017
 - b. Helene noted the high quality of Commissioners joining the RC
 - c. Helene instrumental in turning the RC into a great place for LGBTQ+ people in Arlington to come together
 - d. Susan also stepping down as Co-Chair
 - e. Paloma and Molly as incoming Co-Chairs will address the open Commission role
7. Working Group Updates
 - a. Communications
 - i. Will publicize upcoming town events in Jan
 - b. Town Systems & Policies
 - i. Kari to send out a Doodle poll in the new year to meet
 - c. Community Engagement
 - i. Met Dec 8 with Molly
 - ii. Andy sent out a note to potential Pride month volunteers and now set a meeting for Jan 8, 7:30p
 - iii. Andy and Paloma will meet over the winter break to draft the 2024 Events Calendar
 - iv. RC support of Lunar New Year and MLK Celebration confirmed
 - d. Finance
 - i. Shared current budget numbers: \$5003.45 – gift fund and \$2391.55 – RC budget
 - ii. January – Jill will make new budget spreadsheets for all Commissions in the new year
 - iii. Had their quarterly meeting on Nov 27 to look at Events calendar and consider approximate cost to fund events
 - iv. Likely need to readjust the initial allocations in different budgets due to some of “buckets” going over the budgeted amount
 - v. How to increase support of BIPOC events through budget, volunteering, marketing/communication efforts
 - e. Education
 - i. Met last week
 - ii. 3 events: 2 Community Conversations (Jan 24 – Inclusive classrooms, panel of educators/high school students, March 13 – 6 - 730pm; guest speaker)
 - iii. APS Pride event May 18 – located at AHS
 - iv. Day of Learning – HRC and RC collaborative event; will send out flyer when finalized
8. Liaison Updates
 - a. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)
 - i. MLK event – Jan 15
 - ii. Lunar New Year – Jan 25
 - b. Police Department (APD)- None
 - c. GSA/QSA-AHS/Ottoson/Gibbs- None
 - d. Library- None
 - e. Select Board- None
 - f. Council on Aging- None
9. Public Engagement and Open Commentary- None
10. Close and Next Meeting. January 18 2024. 6:30pm Hybrid.
 - a. AR moved to adjourn; SRV seconded. All approved.