MA LGBTQ Aging Commission

 Quarterly Meeting

 March 8, 2022

 Minutes

Attendance: Rep. Thomas Stanley, Joe Russo, Vicki Halal, Lenny Alberts, Barrie Atkin, Sean Cahill, Betsy Connell, Kevin Cranston, Chris Erchull, Val Frias, Paul Glass, Dave Gott, Lisa Krinsky, Michelle LaPointe, Margaux LeClair, Bob Linscott, Carole Malone, Tanya Neslusan, Lynn Vidler,

Guests: Hayley Flott

Commission Business: Administrative/Organizational

* Gratitude to departing Commissioners: DHCD Karen Bresnehan; MCOA David Stevens. Welcome to new Commissioners: DHCD -Margaux LeClair, Counsel, Fair Housing Specialist; MCOA - Stacey Minchello, Director, Melrose COA/MCOA Board Member.
* Review of December 2021 minutes; approved; Betsy Connell/MCOA and Margaux LeClair/DHCD abstained as they were not in attendance December 2021.
* FY 23 budget: Will finalize language for funding request of $50,000 and to formally change Commission from LGBT to LGBTQ

Workgroup Reports and Priorities:

* Housing : present on LGBTQ+ aging at housing conferences to raise awareness/interest; develop/pilot training for senior housing staff (needs funding); explore LGBTQ+ friendly congregate housing with EOEA.
* Legal Issues: continue to explore legislative vs. regulatory avenues for LTC LGBTQ+ bill of rights in MA. Are public guardians LGBTQ+ friendly?
* Long Term Services and Supports: “LGBT Aging in Massachusetts” – state mandated training is due for completion by June 30, 2022. How will new HHS DEI officer impact LGBTQ inclusion in HHS/EOEA programs?
* Public Health: HIV/STI prevention campaign for older adults (LGBTQ included) Draft request to DPH Commissioner.
* Senior Centers/Engagement: Need for centralized, interactive map and resource listing for LGBTQ inclusive COA programs as well as community programs.

Open Meeting/Discussion:

* Other Items: Overarching issue for LGBTQ older adults include – transportation, dementia, healthcare. Outstanding Life: LGBTQ online community will launch in June 2022.

**Upcoming 2022 meeting schedules for Commission**

2nd Tuesday of the month 11am -1pm ALL MEETINGS REMAIN ON ZOOM

 **June 14, 2022**

 **September 13,2022**

 **December 13, 2022**