



MA LGBTQ Aging Commission

Quarterly Meeting

December 13, 2022

Minutes

Commissioners Present: Senator Pat Jehlen, Bill Bogdanovich, Sean Cahill, Kevin Cranston, Chris Erchull, Val Frias, Paul Glass, Dave Gott, Lisa Krinsky, Margaux LeClair, Tanya Neslusan, Lenny Alberts, Michelle LaPointe, Carole Malone, Barrie Atkin, Stacey Minchello, Lynn Vidler

Commissioners Excused: Representative Tom Stanley

Guests: Marc Barrette, Alex Bergson, Whitney Crebase, Julianna Fernandez, Vicki Halal, Amanda Hart, Kristin Moccia, Gabi Morgan, Brianne Olivieri-Mui, Joseph Russo, Susan Trotz, Lynn Vidler, Cynthia Wilkerson, Deb Winters

Commission Business:

- Sept 2022 Minutes: Kevin Cranston motions to approve, Lenny Alberts seconds motion. Barrie Atkin notes being away previous meeting. All other Commissioners approve minutes.
- Biannual Report: 2021-2022 due end of December 2022
- March 2023: Commission operations, procedures, and policies will be drafted and reviewed during March Commission meeting.

Workgroup Reports, Priorities and Discussion:

- Housing: Best Practices presentations for housing providers given at the New England Resident Service Coordinators Conference. Working on presenting to other housing leaders/groups, and creating more dialogue with them about their needs. Also working to find centralized location for fair housing rights information.
- Legal Issues: Working to understand how other states' LGBTQ LTC Bill of rights compares to what is already implemented in MA. Hope to reach out to folks in NJ about their experiences after their own bill was implemented.
- Long Term Services and Supports: Had a thorough conversation about different databases and systems used across the state, and which programs are using which systems. This information can steer best ways to implement SOGIE questions in data collection.

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- Public Health: Worked on joint letter to Public Health Commissioner Cooke for renewed attention to LGBTQ individuals and needs of older LGBTQ adults (including HIV prevention, STI/Hep). Commission votes in favor of sending letter to Commissioner Cooke (DPH and EOEa recuse themselves from this vote).
- Senior Centers/Engagement: Reached out to MCOA to partner in surveying all the Councils on Aging across the state. Then will work to map where the programming is happening. Have worked on framing questions sensitively – will be able to share some of those questions soon.

Recommendations to Governor and Transition Team:

- Raise possibility of an independent Secretary of Aging to serve in the cabinet
 - Will raise through the transition portal and request a meeting with Kate Cook (Chief of Staff)
 - Delegate subgroup to pull together a comment/priority items (ex. SOGI data collection in COVID testing, care and vaccinations) to submit through portal (Sean Cahill & Lisa Krinsky)

Open Meeting/Discussion:

- 2023 Listening Sessions- quorum shows in favor of hybrid model (some virtual, some in person). For geographic, and home-bound reasons.
 - Additional ideas: Coordinate with senior centers for virtual options to avoid technological barriers. Announce sessions in advance, be clear about framing questions in advance, and provide an option for people to email in responses. Split commission members into smaller groups to multiply the sessions and areas sessions can be held.

Upcoming 2023 meeting schedules for Commission

2nd Tuesday of the month 11am -1pm via Zoom

- **March 14th, June 13th, September 12th, December 12th**

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CHAT NOTE RESOURCE:

11:51:29 From Cynthia Wilkerson (she/her), LBFE Boston To Everyone:

MA Healthy Aging Collaborative is planning to send a set of age/dementia friendly principles and recommendations to the Healey-Driscoll transition committees. The Advisory Council completed a “jam-board” exercise to help inform this work, which you can view here.

11:53:14 From Cynthia Wilkerson (she/her), LBFE Boston To Everyone:

https://jamboard.google.com/d/1AXQPd0qEnH4Kb_xU683_2_V5I11cO-eFo3dauXqVqhd8/viewer?pli=1&f=0

11:53:38 From Cynthia Wilkerson (she/her), LBFE Boston To Everyone:

MHAC jamboard link