



MA LGBTQ Aging Commission

Quarterly Meeting

December 10, 2024

Minutes



Welcome and Introductions:

Commissioners Present: Sen. Pat Jehlen, Bill Bogdanovich, Josie Dutil, Lisa Krinsky, Margaux LeClair, Paul Glass, Michelle LaPointe, Tanya Neslusan, Sean Cahill, Lenny Alberts, Barry Callis, Jordina Shanks, Lynn Vidler

Commissioners Absent: Chris Erchull, Julie Watt Faqir, Barrie Atkin, Rep. Kate Lipper-Garabedian

Guests: Whitney Crebase, Gretchen Van Ness, Sarah Gentner, Vicki Halal, Jean Mcguire, Haley Tobin, Deb Winters

Review of Past Minutes:

Lenny motions to approve minutes, Josie seconds, Jordina abstains. All other Commissioners vote to approve.

Guest Speaker: LGBTQIA+ Older Adult Immigrants

Luis R. Alvarez-Hernandez, PhD, LICSW
Assistant Professor, School of Social Work, Clinical Practice Department
Core Faculty, Center on Emerging Infectious Diseases
Boston University
LRAH@bu.edu

Title: Considerations for the Inclusion of Older LGBTQIA+ Immigrants in Massachusetts

Recommendations:

- Compile or gather data about LGBTQ+ immigrants across the Commission's member organizations.
- Add or increase the number of LGBTQ+ immigrants who are members of the Commission.
- Invite LGBTQ+ immigrants to the meetings and hear their experiences.
- Identify people or organizations who are actively working with and advocating for older LGBTQ+ immigrants.

Will share slides in separate email.

SPECIAL
LEGISLATIVE
COMMISSION ON
LESBIAN, GAY,
BISEXUAL AND
TRANSGENDER
AGING



Strategic Planning Update:

Strategic Plan draft is in final stages and will be shared out with the full Commission in the coming few weeks. Workgroup meetings in January will review the plan using the lens of each workgroup to drill down on specifics.

Goal: Share the final plan in February 2025 with full Commission and approve the final strategic plan in March 2025 Commission meeting. Then begin work plan with specific next steps and goals to put the strategic plan into action.

Comments:

Tweak plan with new context of incoming administration

For workplan – Work with legislators to get on the same lists as the Youth Commission, so Aging Commission has a seat in these spaces as well.

Open Meeting/Discussion:

Two-year report is in the works and will be shared out with the full Commission in the coming weeks.

Group working on recruiting new members will meet in January.

Listening session in Western Mass. – recommendation: Northampton, MA in Spring 2025

Jean McGuire: Particular interest in medical aide in dying. Decision making around death and dying, advanced directives, etc. Make sure these are including in strategic planning.

Gretchen Van Ness: Some apartments still available at the Pryde. Link to the application for The Pryde: <https://www.pennrose.com/apartments/massachusetts/pryde-the/> You do not need to be a Boston resident to apply! You can also sign up for the LGBTQ Senior Housing newsletter here: <https://www.lgbtqseniorhousing.org/>

Community needs assessment survey was launched by The Pryde around their Community Center: (link to be sent by Gretchen)

Close and next meeting: Tuesday, March 11, 2025

2025 schedule for Quarterly Commission Meetings

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

March 11, June 9, September 9, December 9