

Cambridge Commission on the Status of Women

June 4, 2014

Commission Meeting - Minutes

Upcoming Events

June 5 – Women and Words: Women Powered Transportation
7-8:30pm – City Hall Annex Community Room

June 18 – Women’s History Walk
12pm – City Hall

Sept 4 – Women and Words: Jacki Morisi (Women and the Restaurant Industry/food)
7pm – City Hall Annex

Sept 10 – Sept CCSW Meeting
6pm dinner, 6:30pm meeting

In attendance: Srin, Phyllis, Golnaz, Johanne, Lisa, Marjorie, Laura
Staff: Kimberly, Emily

Girls Sports Day

We had a picture perfect day for our 17th annual Girls Sports Day. Everything ran very smooth. We started the day with some dancing and stretching. Watch a video of the girls dancing on the Women’s Commission’s Facebook page. Approximately 200 girls from all Cambridge elementary schools came. Given the expense of this popular program, the Women’s Commission will have discussions this summer with the Recreation Dept and the School Dept about the budget for this program going forward.

Women in Prison: Screening of *The Grey Area*

Approximately 80 people attended our documentary viewing of *The Grey Area* and discussion on May 21. We will be meeting with co-sponsors and table facilitators on June 10 to discuss follow up steps. There was a lot of momentum in the room after the event and we want to capitalize on the energy.

Golnaz mentioned that she was struck about how often women must go to jail to get safety, shelter, food and education – sometimes for the first time in their life. Johanne remarked how in the US, going to prison has such a stigma and changes life so dramatically, that it’s almost impossible to have a regular life again after.

Since a number of commissioners were unable to attend, but expressed interest in seeing the movie, the Women’s Commission will look into having a screening for commission members one evening this summer.

Cambridge Initiative Against Domestic Violence

As a direct result of the 21/365 Campaign Against Domestic Violence, which has been meeting since the summer of 2011, the city is going to hire a Coordinator of the Cambridge Initiative on

Domestic and Gender-Based Violence Prevention this summer. This position is currently being advertised on the City's website. We are publicizing through our networks and in addition if commissioners know of any potential candidates, we encourage commissioners to please forward the job description on.