

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: June 22, 2022  
TIME: 9:45 AM

Belmont Youth Commission Notes

March 10, 2022

1. Call to Order - 8:05 pm
  1. Attendees: Gavin Farrell, Zhenzhen Zhang, Chris Bauge, Ellie Lesser, Heidi Wickersham, Anya Chen, Claire Svetkey
2. Approval of February 10, 2022 minutes - motion by Chris, second by Claire
3. There is no public attendance
4. Community survey
  1. Gavin shared that the survey has been out, got 18 responses thus far, with good quality responses
  2. Ellie asked if there are response numbers as a target. Gavin and Heidi mentioned that it is good to have a minimum of 30 people, more is better.
  3. We have a few weeks left and commission thinking of ways to publicize the survey for more responses:
    1. Anya is going to pick up the fliers from town hall and distribute at the center
    2. Through the recreation department or weekly school letters: Gavin will follow-up and reach out to Brendon to distribute through recreation department
    3. Through public school superintendents, Chris will follow-up on this.
    4. Through belmont high channel: Anya, Ellie, Chris and Clarie offered many ways to distribute such as belmont high have weekly show(Anya), high point (Claire is the editor-in-chief)
    5. Heidi noticed that we have not getting responses from under 18 years olds, distribute through weekly school newsletter would help
    6. Gavin noticed that the responses thus far have majority from high income families and plan to reach out to belmont housing services for responses from low income families through the town. Belmont youth have done activities in the past to help and support particularly for low income families.
    7. Heidi shared the survey link and QR code through chat and email again.
5. Youth Commission annual report:
  - . The Commission's annual report is due on March 18th.
  - a. Gavin shared the draft through the email, followed the format from prior, the contents include no major change in purpose and duties, a summary of activities, this year so far has been focusing on transitioning from a large turnover of staff to recruit and wait for full-time youth coordinator on board
  - b. Heidi made a comment to distinguish the differences of goals versus activities. suggested to put support belmont times to activities, and survey as activities.
  - c. Gavin asked members to review and send feedback before the end of next week to meet the deadline
6. Grant from mount auburn hospital (MAH)
  - . Gavin shared that the grant was \$5000 in total, after sponsoring the activities we hold, we have about half of the grant left. MAH has extended the deadline of using the grant to April.
  - a. Wesley Chin from the Belmont Health Department} asked if Belmont Human Rights commission could use the grant for their events related to anti-bullying.

b. Gavin then shared the details of the description of the events that they are planning through the chat. [information copied below] and noted that this is the type of the events the youth commission would do, challenging right now as we don't have a youth coordinator.

c. Zhenzhen suggested whether we could collaborate and partner with the human rights commission on this event, or as a sponsor for the event. Gavin and Heidi agreed this is potentially a good opportunity to collaborate and publicize the youth commission. Heidi suggested starting the collaboration by asking the Human Rights commission chair to join our next meeting, or we will join their meeting. Gavin agreed and will follow up with the Human Rights commission chair.

## 7. Belmont Time

a. Anya asked how much budget left, 2000\$ originally from town this year ( when do HS tours)

b. Anya asked, for the new issue(publishing at the end of the march), like to offer 20\$ for three prizes (an increase from \$15 from past). Gavin agreed and will contact the health department to proceed from process wise.

Anya calculated is roughly \$90 this month, and possibly monthly funding for issues later. Gavin asked if could send the details in email, and will create a budget for it. Process wise will consult the health department to see how to provide the funding to the Belmont Times.

c. Gavin supported that when the issue is published, would like to share through the youth commission channel as well.

8. Chris made a motion to adjourn, Zhenzhen second.

FROM THE CHAT:

The chat is working!

Here is the notes

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rdZqnbXPJq1UA2RXjesZEz62QH-gNfx3hTISwp3Qv4/edit>

left a message with your office but thought I would send you and email to let you know that the Belmont Human Rights Commission reached out to me and they were looking for support/speakers and possibly funding for some programming they are interested in doing. They are looking to provide some educational programs and information to parents and/or students regarding LGBTQ+ inclusion, language education, anti bullying and/or planning an event for PRIDE month in June. I think anyone one of these. They thought that partnering with the schools would be a good start. I am sure they would be able to articulate their interest better than me!

One thought I had is if you still have some of that funding from MAH we discussed earlier in the year that they might be able to access it for the purposes of helping out their "campaign" or some of the work they are looking to do.

It was just a thought I had while I was meeting with them.

Any thoughts on this?