



City of Cambridge

In the Year One Thousand, Nine Hundred Seventy-Seven

AN ORDINANCE

In amendment to an ordinance formerly entitled: "The General Ordinances of the City of Cambridge" as revised in 1972 and now designated as "The Code of the City of Cambridge."

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Cambridge as follows:

Chapter 2, entitled: "Administration" is hereby amended by adding a new ordinance at the end thereof entitled: "ARTICLE XXVI. CAMBRIDGE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN" which will read as follows:

ARTICLE XXVI. CAMBRIDGE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Section 2-222. Establishment.

There shall be a Commission on the Status of Women in the City of Cambridge.

Section 2-223. Function.

It shall be the function of the Commission to:

a) Act as a centralizing force in the City of Cambridge and the community which will deal with all women's issues providing information, referral, guidance, recommendation and technical assistance to other public agencies and private persons, organizations and institutions engaged in activities and programs intended to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against women because of their status as women or as minority women.

b) Take appropriate action, consistent with this ordinance and statutory law to improve the status of women residing in Cambridge of every race, creed, color, national origin, age and sexual preference.

Section 2-224. Powers and Duties.

The powers and duties of the Commission shall include the following:

- a) To insure the equal status of women of every race, creed, color, national origin, age and sexual preference in the educational, economical, political, health, legal and social spheres.
- b). To design and implement programs that promote equality for all citizens in the City.
- c) To recommend policies to all departments and divisions of City government affecting issues of women, and to develop specific recommendations relating to methods for eliminating discrimination against women.
- d) To initiate and coordinate the enactment of legislation which promotes equal status of women on the City, State and Federal level, and to assure that appropriate regulations are enacted and enforced pursuant to such legislation.
- e) To investigate, at the request of an aggrieved party and within the limitations of both statutory authority and available resources, all incidents of discrimination against women who principally reside in the City of Cambridge. Pursuant to this subsection, the Commission shall have the power to appoint taskforces to assist in said investigations.
- f) To initiate public exhibits and media events in City Hall, City libraries, and other City owned property as well as in other locations within and without the City provided such locations are first approved by the City Manager.
- g) To accept money, gifts and services for its exclusive use and expend or use the same, and subject to appropriation or receipt of such gifts, employ clerical and technical assistants or consultants.
- h) To be a member of the National Association of Commissions on Women.
- i) To be provided with office space, telephone service and all other supplies deemed necessary and appropriate by the City Manager.
- j) Such other powers and duties as the City Manager may prescribe.

Section 2-225. Membership, Appointment, Term, Removal.

a) The Commission shall consist of twenty persons, all of whom shall initially be appointed by the City Manager. The initial appointments shall serve for the following terms: (1) six members shall serve for a one year term; (2) seven members shall serve for a two year term; (3) seven members shall serve for a three year term. After that, all Commissioners shall serve for a term of three years.

b) Subsequent members of the Commission shall be appointed by the City Manager.

c) Present Commissioners may seek re-appointment when their term expires.

d) Any Commissioner missing three unexcused meetings of the Commission during a calendar year will be automatically removed at the next meeting of the Commission. The vacancy will be filled by the City Manager not later than thirty days after the date of the removal.

Section 2-226. Appointment of Chairperson.

The members of the Commission shall elect the Chairperson from among its members.

Section 2-227. Qualifications of Commissioners.

a) All prospective Commissioners shall have demonstrated evidence of having advanced the equal rights of women and of having helped women of every race, creed, color, national origin, age and sexual preference to realize their potential.

b) Prospective Commissioners including the Commission Staff must be residents of the City of Cambridge.

Section 2-228. Appointment and Term of Executive Director.

a) There shall be an Executive Director of the Commission on the Status of Women who shall be appointed by the City Manager and shall serve for such term as designated by the City Manager.

b) The Executive Director may seek re-appointment when the term of appointment expires.

c) The prospective Executive Director of the Commission shall have demonstrated administrative expertise, a background of direct participation in women's advancement and the ability to work cooperatively with women of various socio-economic backgrounds and of every race, creed, color, national origin, age and sexual preference.

4. 5-38/
Comm. from C. Ackermann, Clem, Duehay and
Graham transmitting a proposed amendment to
the General Ordinances re: establishment of
a Cambridge Commission on the Status of
Women.

In City Council,
June 20, 1977

6/20/77
Referred to the Com.
on Ordinances.
Copy sent 6-22-77