

City of Malden

Malden City Hall 215 Pleasant Street Malden. MA 02148

Meeting Minutes - Final Personnel/Appointments Committee

Councillor Amanda Linehan, Chair Councillor Chris Simonelli, Vice-Chair Councillor at Large Carey McDonald Councillor Paul Condon Councillor Jadeane Sica

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

5:30 PM

215 Pleasant Street Room 108 Malden, MA 02148

Roll Call

Also in attendance were Councillor Winslow and Council President Murphy

Councillor Linehan called the meeting to order at 5:38 PM.

Present: 3 - Councillor Amanda Linehan, Carey McDonald and Paul Condon

Absent: 2 - Councillor Chris Simonelli and Jadeane Sica

Minutes to be Approved

186-23 Minutes from the meeting of March 14, 2023

A motion was made by Councillor at Large McDonald, seconded by Councillor Condon, that the Committee Minutes be amended by striking "repeat offenders" and replace with "frequent submitters". The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor Linehan, seconded by Councillor Condon, that the Committee Minutes be approved as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Business

119-23 Mayoral Appointment: Kristen Homeyer, 51 Concord Street, #27, Malden, as a

member of the Conservation Commission, said term to expire on February 7, 2025,

to replace Khalil Kaba who stepped down at the completion of his term due to

moving out of the City. Confirmation required

Sponsors: Amanda Linehan

Kristen started off by introducing herself, stating that she moved to Malden a year ago and is originally from New York. She went on to explain her education background, and how she started a couple different courses of study before settling on her current one: Environmental Planning at Tufts.

Ms. Homeyer also described some of her time in New York with a land trust where she built trails, and learned about invasive species and natural resource management. She also spoke of her time with the Forest Service in Colorado and California during the

pandemic, and how that led to her interest in environmental planning. Further adding, when she came to back to the east coast she worked up in Salem, MA for the Salem Sound Coastwatch where she did education on storm water management, marine invasive species, and water quality issues. This led to her working with the Beverly and Salem Conservation Commissions.

Both Councillors Condon and McDonald complimented her on her great resume and stated she was exceptionally qualified. Both also thanked her for applying.

Councillor McDonald stated he was the chair of the Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Committee and how they, in conjunction with others, are working on a climate action plan for the city. And asked if Ms. Homeyer had any thoughts or reflections about the environmental challenges facing Malden, where the Conservation Commission is concerned, in the coming years.

Ms. Homeyer explained that when she first moved to Malden she joined the Friends of the Malden River group where she learned about the Malden River Works. From her time walking the paths, she has seen storm water management issues and invasive species. And went on to say she hopes to work on sustainable ways to manage development with an environmentally focused attitude.

Councillor Winslow explained his involvement with writing the bylaws for the Conservation Commission and work with the Malden River. He asked Ms. Homeyer if, through her work with the Beverly and Salem, she was familiar with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

Ms. Homeyer stated she was familiar with it through her studies of environmental law.

Councillor Winslow mentioned the Mass Association of Conservation Commissions and how they do trainings for members, and asked if Ms. Homeyer would be willing to take them. Ms. Homeyer responded that she would be interested in order to learn more and help however she can.

Councillor Winslow explained how Malden sits in two water sheds: the Mystic River water shed and the Saugus River. And that there are more conservation issues on the Saugus River side, due to neglect.

Councillor Winslow that mentioned that on May 16th there will be a Resiliency and Sustainability meeting on the results of a study on climate change, water and sewer infrastructure, storm water management and drainage.

Ms. Homeyer stated that she has been working with the MAPC and they've been looking at if storm water flooding from the storms of March 2010 have impacted historical wetlands and current storm water patterns. Currently results show that they haven't.

Councillor Winslow thanked Ms. Homeyer for her interest.

Councillor Murphy spoke about the community garden and bike path and how they are looking to have more native pollinators in the area.

Ms. Homeyer said she is a new gardener in the community garden and very excited to get involved there as well.

Councillor Linehan started off by saying she works with the MAPC and has been involved with the storm water projects as well. She added that she was so happy to see Ms.

Homeyer was plugged into so many things around the community and region. And that she was happy they were able to find time to sit down and meet with her.

A motion was made by Councillor at Large McDonald, seconded by Councillor Condon, that the Appointment be recommended favorably to the City Council. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Tabled Papers

33-23 Order: That the Personnel and Appointments Committee will meet to discuss

resource requirements to comply with ongoing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

requests.

Sponsors: Barbara Murphy

Attachments: Final Paper: 33-23

After taking the paper off the table, Councillor Murphy reported to the committee that she spoke with HR Director Chiccuarelli regarding a job description and that he would reach out to former City Clerk Greg Lucey for a report on all duties and tasks that he has been performing in this position so they could get a framework of what the position entails. She also stated that this does need to be moved up in priority.

Councillor Linehan then asked once they do get a job description, what do they need from this committee.

Councillor Murphy said the job description needs to be voted on.

Councillor McDonald asked why this committee needed to vote on the job description, it is not something the committee does, typically.

Councillor Murphy explained that this person who would be filling the position would be reporting to the City Council. Though, it hasn't been decided on. It may be in Legal or the City Clerk's office, depending on which role the person could fill better in addition to this position. Once the description has been made we will vote on it so we can keep this moving along.

A motion was made by Councillor at Large McDonald, seconded by Councillor Condon, that the Order be taken from the table. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor at Large McDonald, seconded by Councillor Condon, that the Order be tabled. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councillor at Large McDonald, seconded by Councillor Linehan, that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

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