



# 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*

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Tuesday, June 27, 2023

5:30 PM

City Hall, Room #105  
215 Pleasant Street

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### Roll Call

**Present:** 4 - Councillor Chris Simonelli, Carey McDonald, Paul Condon and Jadeane Sica

**Absent:** 1 - Councillor Amanda Linehan

*Councillor Simonelli, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM.*

### Minutes to be Approved

[265-23](#)

Minutes of June 20, 2023 to be approved.

**A motion was made by Councillor Sica, seconded by Councillor at Large McDonald, that the Committee Minutes of June 30, 2023 be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

### Business

[250-23](#)

Mayoral Appointment: Lisa Kipnis Shwartz, 60 Harvard Street, Malden, as a resident member of the Council on Aging, said term to commence upon confirmation by the City Council and expire June 12, 2025. (Confirmation Required)

**Sponsors:** Amanda Linehan

**Attachments:** [Mayor's Appointment Letter - Lisa Kipnis Shwartz](#)

*Paper #250-23 Lisa Kipnis-Shwartz as a resident member of the Council on Aging is a lifelong resident of Malden. She is a retired Dental Hygienist. She likes to garden and collect shells. She is taking a course in Spanish online. She also worked in the City Clerk's office with the Senior Employment Program.*

*Councillor Colon-Hayes said one of the things is that the Senior Center is very diverse and asked how would you go about including everybody?*

*Lisa said that is a goal of hers to make the Malden Senior Center welcoming for all. She met a new friend in Melrose who was from Malden and she did not feel the center was very friendly or welcoming and went to the Melrose Center instead. She grew up on Harvard Street in a very diverse neighborhood with every religion, race etc. A second goal is to make it computer friendly and include having a monthly brochure with language access available.*

*Councillor Sica said she hears that a lot that the center is not welcoming in Malden and it*

is discouraging that our seniors don't feel welcomed which has been happening for years. She knows a constituent that goes to Saugus instead of our center. It would be great to have our Malden residents come back to our Senior Center and she would be happy to help to get them to do whatever they need to improve this.

Councillor Simonelli spoke to the Mayor this morning about this meeting tonight he had concern about senior residents going to the center. He picked these three people because he wanted to see some change in the center. He also wanted to see how by putting the teen center in the senior center to see how that is working.

Councillor Sica doesn't think that by putting the teen center in the senior center that is why seniors are not going. She agreed to having the teen center in the senior center to intertwine the two.

Councillor McDonald asked what her thinking was on this relationship with the teen center and how it is working

Lisa said she does not know how well it is working but she feels it could be a good thing with having them do programs together. She thinks they could complement each other. She will check it out if she is appointed.

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

### 251-23

Mayoral Appointment: Diane LeBlanc, 26 Irving Street, Unit 303, Malden, as a resident member of the Council on Aging, said term to commence upon her confirmation by the City Council and to expire June 12, 2024. (Confirmation Required)

**Sponsors:** Amanda Linehan

**Attachments:** [Mayor's Appointment Letter - Diane LeBlanc](#)

The committee continued questioning with the second candidate: Paper #251-23 Diane LeBlanc moved to Malden in 2019. She is employed at Mass General Hospital as a Community Resource Specialist she supports nurses and social workers in a program for people who are high utilizers which began with only seniors on medicare but now it reached out to medicaid. She uses alot of websites for the Council on Aging but when she looked at the Malden Council on Aging website she didn't see anything. She graduated from Mass College of Art and was looking for an art studio and she knew MHA has some available and was chosen for the unit she wanted and she moved to Malden in 2009. She thinks about bringing the teens and the seniors together by having programs and activities are important. We have a big group of people from different countries and it would be nice to have them speak to the teens about that. She feels that having young people around older people really helps the mental health a lot socially and that it is a great thing to do. Diane said to the question about diversity she feels the website and flyers in different languages would be helpful. She also suggests having workshops in their own language with someone in the community. Councillor McDonald asked how she would engage folks and make them feel like they are reflected in the decision making. She said she would reach out to interpreters and try to help them to feel welcomed. She doesn't know right this moment how to make them feel welcomed but by bringing in people who are committed to the community who is bilingual to help. Councillor Simonelli said the senior center is beautiful and is big enough to house both the seniors and the teens. Diane said being able to give them options would be more comforting. Some people are shy so giving them the choice would be better. She also said she works with a lot of seniors that have language barriers and have a hard time with paperwork and said that is something else she would like to work on. Councillor Murphy makes a statement saying the Council on Aging is more than just the

Senior Center. She would like to see as a Council on Aging we need to look at the Senior population in the City. During Covid she picked up the tests from the Housing Authority and she had over 80 people over 80 living in their homes in her Ward and delivered them so they would have them. The Council on Aging is much broader than just the Senior Center.

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

### 252-23

Mayoral Appointment: Mary Anne McGuirk, 59 Wyllis Avenue, Malden, as a resident member of the Council on Aging, said term to commence upon her confirmation by the City Council, to expire June 12, 2026. (Confirmation Required)

**Sponsors:** Amanda Linehan

**Attachments:** [Mayor's Appointment Letter - Mary Ann McGuirk](#)

*Paper #252-23 Mary Anne McGuirk has lived in Malden since 1962 and is a senior herself. She was very active in the City when her daughter growing up. She also worked with the Mayor to get parking stickers as she lived on the Malden, Everett line for Malden residents. She was an activities director at a nursing home from 1984-2007. She went back to Salem State and got her Masters in Geriatric Social Work. She worked at Lawrence Memorial in the Geriatric Psych Unit doing assessments and currently runs a center for the Pace program in Lynn. She is coming at this from a different angle that it is not just the senior center. She spoke with the Mayor and asked how many older adults live in Malden which he replied is 15% of the population in Malden. She guesses 10,000 people do not go to the senior center. She understands working with older adults they like things the same but some like different. Some people want to stay in their home and you are lucky to have Mystic Valley and your Pace program. That is a huge issue for older adults because she feels not many of them know what is available out there for them. There are many of these people out there who if they are not on MassHealth do not qualify for these programs. She thinks the Council on Aging needs to be looking at a more global look at older folks. Her focus would be on other things rather than the senior center. The center she runs has a diverse group in Lynn and face a lot of challenges. She said no matter what culture the people in her center are they all get along. Another focus in her master's program is dementia. She is concerned with the population in Malden suffering with dementia and their children who don't know what to do with those folks. That would be her focus and the way she can give back public service to Malden.*

*Councillor McDonald said we probably need to update the code of what the charges are for the Council on Aging which is fairly narrow. It feels like there needs to be more ways to do more structural outreach. He would be interested in working with anyone who is interested on trying to update that to make it a little broader with the duties of the Council on Aging.*

*Councillor Murphy is not excluding the Senior Center but she feels that the Director of the Senior Center should make programs inhouse or online. They should be for everyone in the City regardless of whether they go to the Senior Center physically or not.*

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

## Other Business

## Adjournment

Motion was made by Councillor at Large McDonald, seconded by Councillor Condon, that this meeting be adjourned. at 6:20 PM. The motion carried unanimously.