

CITY OF NEWTON

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2005

Present: Ald. Johnson (Chair) Ald. Merrill, Fischman, Sangiolo, Johnson, Parker, Coletti

Absent: Ald. Gentile, Hess-Mahan

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#294-05 ELIZABETH WILKINSON, 14 Trowbridge Street, Newton appointed as a member of the LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES. (Ms. Wilkinson is filling the position vacated by Joan Harrington for a five-year term of office to expire on June 30, 2010. (60-day Board action date 11-5-05)

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 4-0 (Parker not voting)**

**NOTE:** Ms. Wilkinson has been active with the League of Women Voters and served as their Legislative Chair from 1999 to 2002. She also was co-anchor of the Legislative Roundtable Cable television program and Member of the Education Committee. She has been active with the Friends of the Newton Free Library as co-chair of Book and Author Luncheon, and liaison for legislation for libraries. She also worked as an editor at Houghton Mifflin. Chairman Johnson questioned what she would like to see as the focus for the library. Ms. Wilkinson has suggested that landscaping be improved around the site. She also has a strong interest in the collections and wants to be sure they continue to grow. Alderman Fischman moved approval and the Committee voted approval 4-0.

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#295-05 ROBERT COWDEN, 21 Waterston Road, Newton, lifetime appointment as a Trustee of the CHAFFIN EDUCATIONAL FUND. (60-day board action date 11-5-05)

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 5-0 (Coletti not voting)**

**NOTE:** Mr. Cowden is a resident of Newton Corner and practices law in Boston. His two children attended Newton Public Schools. He was pleased to be asked to serve as a Trustee and is looking forward to being able to make some contribution to education in Newton. He noted the Chaffin Fund was originally set up by a generous benefactor. There is approximately 5 million dollars currently in the fund. In response to Committee questions, Mr. Cowden indicated these funds are used for financial assistance beyond the secondary level. Recipients must be attending Newton Schools.

Ald. Sangiolo moved his appointment and the Committee voted 5-0

Re-Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#293-05 RHONA SHOUL, 9 Exmoor Road, Newton. reappointed as a member of the ADVISORY COUNCIL OF HEALTH, for a 3-year term to expire February 1, 2008. (60 day Board action date 11-5-05)

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 5-0 (Coletti not voting)**

**NOTE:** It was not necessary for Ms. Shoul; to be present as she had recently been in for a confirmation interview on another Commission. Backup information was provided and the Committee voted to approve 5-0 (Coletti not voting)

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#226-05 MARY CLAFLIN, 247 Linwood Avenue, Newtonville, appointed as a member of the NEWTON COUNCIL ON AGING for a term of office\_expiring June 1, 2008. (60-day Board action date 11-05-05)

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 5-0**

**NOTE:** Ms.Claflin has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Northeastern University and a Master's Degree in Criminal Law from Western New England College as well as a nursing background. . She retired from the Newton Police Department after twenty-nine years of service. As a Police Officer, Ms. Claflin worked out of the Detective Bureau on elder abuse problems and domestic violence. As part of that work, she had been appointed by the Mayor as an Advisory Member and served for three years. She has worked with Jane Colino, Audrey Cooper, and Joan Rome. In her opinion, these women are remarkable and have been an inspiration to her. She has worked on a Seniors Program where the goal was to visit 100 homes of the elderly. Even though they were not able to visit that many homes, findings demonstrated that thankfully many were doing well.

Ald. Fischman noted that he had worked with Ms. Claflin and found her assistance invaluable. Ald. Merrill also told the Committee that Ms. Claflin has helped many people and has contributed a great deal to the City. In conclusion, Ald. Parker said he was pleased to hear that Ms. Claflin would like to continue to serve the community.

The Committee approved 5-0 (Coletti not voting)

Re-Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#227-05 JOAN ROME 280 HARTMAN ROAD, re-appointed as a member of the NEWTON COUNCIL ON AGING for a term of office\_expiring June 1, 2008. (60-day Board action date 10-07-05)

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 5-0**

**NOTE** This is a reappointment for Ms. Rome. (Backup information was available to the Committee.). Ald. Sangiolo served with Ms. Rome on the Board of Springwell and said she has been very active with seniors and moved her appointment.

The Committee voted 5-0 to approve (Coletti not voting)

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#280-05 MYRA TATTENBAUM, 210 Upland Avenue, Newton Highlands, appointed as a member from Ward 8 (filling the position vacated by Robert Platt) to the PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION for a 3-year term to expire on January 1, 2008 (60 days 10/7/05).

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 6-0**

**NOTE:** Ms. Tattenbaum told the Committee that she enjoys so much of what Parks and Recreation provides for the City and would like to contribute. Chairman Johnson asked what Ms. Tattenbaum thinks about a public/private partnership around the parks. (Adopt a Park) Ms. Tattenbaum would like to approach businesses within the community, corporations, etc. for help. There is a park in Newton Highlands that needs work and Ms. Tattenbaum expects that there will be a CPC request for a strategic plan for the whole field. Ald. Fischman moved approval and the Committee approved 6-0.

#197-05(2) PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE submitting a RESOLUTION to our Congressional Delegation requesting that the *No Child Left Behind Act* be fully funded and if not provide an exemption for those areas that they (states and communities) cannot fully fund.

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 5-0**

**NOTE:** Ald. Sangiolo noted that a resolution has been sent to the state. and felt the item could be approved by Committee.

#548-03(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE seeking consideration of an ordinance relative to benefits for city employees who are called into active military service, in order to provide benefits similar to those provided under Chap. 137 of the Acts of 2003, in the event that such state law is not extended beyond its expiration date of September 11, 2005.

**ACTION:** **NAN 5-0**

**NOTE:** This Act was adopted but had expired. This item is no longer necessary as it has been adopted again by the legislature. The Committee voted NAN 5-0.

#242-05      ALD. SANGIOLO requesting the Executive Department and IT Departments post all city board and commission meeting agendas and minutes on to the City Website.

**ACTION:**      **HELD 5-0 (Parker not voting)**

**NOTE:**      Ald. Sangiolo and Johnson would like to be sure that all agendas and reports appear in a timely manner. and agreed to hold the

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Johnson, Chairman