

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2002

Present: Ald. Johnson (Chairman) President Lipsitt, Ald. Merrill, Coletti, Fischman, Sangiolo, Parker

Absent: Ald. Gentile

Also Present: Michael Rourke (Chief Administrative Officer) Dolores Hamilton (Director of Human Resources) Gayle Smalley (Associate City Solicitor)

#203-02(2) PRESIDENT LIPSITT resubmitting on July 9, 2002 appointment of KELLY ANNE WEAVER, 39 Bolton Street, Newtonville to the NEWTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION COMMISSION effective July 1, 2002. Term to expire June 30, 2004 (Board action date October 11, 2002).

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Ms. Weaver appeared before the Committee and stated she was very happy to be offered the opportunity to be part of the Newton Community Education Commission. She moved from Cambridge to Newton one year ago. Her educational background is in psychology and early childhood education. President Lipsitt said it was her pleasure to submit Ms. Weaver's name.

#288-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR appointing on July 17, 2002 BRUCE M. HENDERSON, 52 Vaughn Avenue, Newton Highlands, as a member of the NEWTON COMMUNITY EDUCATION COMMISSION, effective July 15, 2002. Term to expire July 15, 2005 (Board action date October 11, 2002).

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Mr. Henderson has been a Newton resident since 1980 and has a consulting software marketing company. He has a four-year old daughter and is very interested in the school system. Mr. Henderson attended the last commission meeting and found it to be an exciting group of people. He expressed a particular interest in contributing to the marketing side.

#291-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR re-appointing DENA SALZBERG, 65 Kenilworth Street, Newton on July 23, 2002 as a member of the NEWTON COUNCIL ON AGING, effective immediately. Term to expire September 1, 2005. (Board action date October 11, 2002).

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Ms. Salzberg has lived in Newton since 1989 with her husband and two children. She is a graduate of Boston College School of Nursing with professional experience as a public health nurse. Ms. Salzberg was vice-president of an agency in Newton dealing with community elder services for international health specialists. Care Management Consultants is a business recently started by Ms. Salzberg. This involves working with younger, disabled people as well as senior citizens and their families. Her passion for working with older people was her reason for becoming involved with the Council on Aging. She has also been on the board of West Suburban Elder Services and most recently appointed to the Board of Directors at West Suburban as a representative of Newton. During the past year she has been appointed Chairperson of the Outreach Committee for the Council on Aging.

#292-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR re-appointing on July 23, 2002 ADELE HOFFMAN, 80 Greenlawn Avenue as a member and Chairperson of the NEWTON COUNCIL ON AGING effective immediately. Term of office to expire September 1, 2005. (Board action date October 11, 2002).

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Ms. Hoffman worked for many years as a school psychologist, caseworker, and learning disabilities teacher. She has been very active in Human Services. After retiring, Ms. Hoffman returned to school and received a Certificate in Gerontology. The Council on Aging approached her to do an outreach project where she interviews seniors in Newton ages 90 and over. Three years ago, Ms. Hoffman was asked to be the Chair on the Council on Aging. She went on to say that one of the most exciting things accomplished has been the combination of two Boards. In the past there had been a Council on Aging Board as well as a Senior Center Board. In her opinion, the combination of these two boards has been a very positive step. She hopes in the future there will be a position for an outreach social worker. Ms. Hoffman looks forward to serving again.

President Lipsitt asked about elders who are living at home alone, not in any system and are relatively isolated. Often they are hesitant about starting something new or going to the Senior Center. President Lipsitt asked how elders in that situation can be reached and urged that Committee members think about this.

#287-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR appointing on July 24, 2002 NORMAN LAZARUS, 90 High Rock Terrace, Chestnut Hill, as a member of the NEWTON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, effective August 1, 2002. Term to expire July 1, 2005 (Board action date October 11, 2002).

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Mr. Lazarus has lived in Newton for six years and prior to that lived in Lynnfield for 14 years. He served on the Finance Committee overseeing the budgets for Police, Fire and the Lynnfield Town Council. Mr. Lazarus is an attorney who has practiced law for almost thirty years. Originally he worked as a hearings officer in Washington, D.C. His law practice has primarily emphasized litigation, business, employment law, and sexual harassment. He has worked for Prentice Hall and has written a text book chapter on workplace violence.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES & PROG. & SERV. COMMITTEES

#181-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the Board of Aldermen approve a new agreement between the City of Newton and the Town of Wellesley that will allow the Town of Wellesley to continue to pump sewerage through Newton's Cochituate Aqueduct to the MWRA collection system in Brighton.

ACTION: HELD

NOTE: (See Public Facilities Report)

REFERRED TO PROG & SERV & FINANCE COMMITTEES

#163-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR proposing a reorganization of ARTICLE VI., the City Physician, sections 2-241-2-247 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2001.

ACTION: HELD 5-0 (Merill and Sangiolo abstaining)(Public Hearing to be scheduled for October 9th.)

NOTE: Chief Administrative Officer Michael Rourke, Director of Human Resources Dolores Hamilton and Associate City Solicitor Gayle Smalley joined the Committee for this discussion. Mr. Rourke explained that the board supported the change of using specialists rather than a single City Physician appointed by the City for all purposes. During budget sessions, the board was in favor of this change of eliminating the designated City Physician position and going to the concept of using the resources available. Mr. Rourke said that basically the request is to streamline the ordinance and essentially have the Human Resource Department serve as a funnel for information around the various areas that the City Physician has played in the past, specifically sick leave, worker's comp, and injured on duty leave.

Ms. Smalley said that the City Physician originally was a physician for the employees as well as for the poor of the city. Approximately 20 or 30 years ago the position was changed to be more of a physician for city

employees. These new modifications to the ordinance would allow for positive changes that would work in current times.

Ald. Lipsitt made a motion that the Programs and Services Chairman be requested to assign a Public Hearing at the full Board on September 18th for the October 9th Programs and Services meeting.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#264-02 ALD. SALVUCCI AND LUCKY STAR GROUP requesting policy discussion regarding the feasibility of allowing taxpayers to voluntarily make donations to establish an Aid to the Elderly Taxation Fund for the purpose of defraying the real estate taxes of elderly citizens in Newton.

ACTION: HELD 7-0

REFERRED TO PROG&SERV AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#221-02 ALD. COLETTI et al requesting home rule legislation or any other legal instrument that would allow the City a maximum of \$350,000 to be set aside in overlay reserve to provide tax relief for eligible senior homeowners.

ACTION: HELD 7-0

#289-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR reappointing on July 24, 2002 JACOB L. JACOBSON, 91 Exeter Street, West Newton, as a member of the NEWTON URBAN TREE COMMISSION, effective August 1, 2002. Term to expire August 1, 2004 (Board action date October 11, 2002).

ACTION: HELD 7-0

#290-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR re-appointing on July 23, 2002 RUTH FITZGERALD, 34 Harrison Ave. Newton as a member of the NEWTON COUNCIL ON AGING, effective immediately. Term to expire on September 1, 2005. (Board action date October 11, 2002).

ACTION: HELD 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Ald. Marcia Johnson