



City of Melrose

Boards & Commissions Committee

Monday, August 10, 2026, 7:00 PM
City Council Chamber, 1st Floor
562 Main Street, Melrose, MA 02176

AGENDA

NOTE:

To watch this meeting live visit mmtv3.org or local cable station MMTV (Channels 3, 15, 22 on Comcast or Channels 37, 38, 39 on Verizon)

Some Board and Commission meetings meet via zoom. Information on how to enable closed captioning for online commission meetings can be found by clicking [here](#).

I. CALL TO ORDER

Kimberly Vandiver	Vice Chair
Cal Finocchiaro	
Elizabeth Kowal	
Christopher Park	
William Bradley Freeman	President, Ex Officio Member
Ryan Williams	Chair

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

A. Boards & Commissions Meeting May 21, 2026 6:45 PM

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

When: Aug 10, 2026 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Boards & Commission Committee Meeting

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:

<https://cityofmelrose-org.zoom.us/j/91494962042?pwd=2r6Th3Jt3R4JbQABmpCTIW84jTFmrk.1>
Passcode: 947646
Webinar ID: 914 9496 2042
Passcode: 947646

IV. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

A. (ID # 2026-1415): Appointment of Dionysios Kaskarelis, 116 Walton Park, to the Human Rights Commission for a three-year term, said term to expire on the last day of February 2029.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The City of Melrose does not discriminate based on disability and is committed to hosting accessible meetings and events. Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Melrose or to attend meetings, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator, Polina Latta platta@cityofmelrose.org.

June 9, 2026

Dear Josh and Members of the Melrose Human Rights Commission,

Thank you for considering my application to serve on the Melrose Human Rights Commission. I would be honored to contribute to the Commission's work.

My interest in human rights and inclusion comes from my own experiences. I grew up in a Greek foreign service family, living in nine countries across Europe and the United States by the age of twenty-four. Some of my earliest memories are from Cyprus, where I witnessed a society divided by conflict. Later, I lived in Berlin while the Wall still stood. As a child, I saw how governments could either separate people or bring them together. I came to admire the role the United States played in creating a more united Europe.

My perspective was also shaped by my Greek values: eleftheria (freedom), demokratia (democracy), filotimo (honor), and filoxenia (hospitality). Through our extended Ethiopian family, I learned about Ethiopian history and culture and came to appreciate the many similarities between our cultures. Meaningful connections begin when we approach each other with openness.

My own immigration journey further strengthened these beliefs. After arriving in the United States as a student, it took over six years to become a citizen. While I was fortunate to have resources and support, the process was often stressful, uncertain, and at times embarrassing. It gave me a deeper appreciation for the challenges many of my peers face while supporting families, learning a new culture, and building a life in a language that is not their own.

America's story is, in many ways, a story of immigration. Generations of newcomers crossed oceans, took extraordinary risks, and worked under difficult conditions to build better lives for themselves and their families. In doing so, they helped build the communities, businesses, institutions, and infrastructure that continue to strengthen our country today. Ultimately, we all play a role in shaping our country's future, whether directly or indirectly, and that is one of the reasons I feel a responsibility to contribute to the institutions that serve our community.

My wife and I moved to Melrose in 2023 to raise our family. We were drawn by the schools and quality of life, but what convinced us to stay were the people. Neighbors welcomed us. Our children play together. Melrose became home because of its sense of community.

If appointed, I hope to contribute my experiences to the Commission's work and help strengthen the sense of inclusion, belonging, and community that makes Melrose such a special place to live. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Dionysios Kaskarelis

DIONYSIOS KASKARELIS

Melrose MA • [REDACTED] • [REDACTED] • [LinkedIn Profile](#)

PROFILE

Finance professional with over 20 years of experience across private, public, and international roles. Registered as an Investment Adviser Representative in Massachusetts under fiduciary obligations and regulatory oversight. Currently manages a real estate advisory, investment, and operating platform active in Greater Boston. Additional experience includes development finance and investment banking.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Access Properties — Melrose, MA

Founder & Chief Executive Officer | 2022 – Present

- Lead investment management activities including capital formation, analysis, financing, and asset management through a Massachusetts-registered investment advisory practice.
- Oversee the operations of a private real estate investment vehicle.
- Advise clients on acquisitions, dispositions, and leasing transactions and provide project management services for renovation, new construction, and development activities.
- Develop and manage a technology-enabled investment platform designed to expand access to real estate opportunities through simple and transparent processes.

European Investment Bank (EIB) — Luxembourg

Senior Banking & Strategy Officer | 2018 – 2019

- Advised management regarding strategic planning and institutional lending initiatives.

Head of Trust Funds & Donor Relations Unit | 2016 – 2018

- Managed grant-funded investment programs exceeding €1 billion supporting infrastructure, economic development, and technical assistance initiatives.
- Directed fundraising activities resulting in over €100 million in donor commitments.
- Led relationships with governments, international organizations, development institutions, and private-sector stakeholders across Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa.
- Chaired investment committees responsible for project selection and resource allocation.

Global Relationship Manager | 2008 – 2016

- Managed relationships with financial institutions participating in intermediated lending programs supporting small and medium-sized businesses in Greece and Cyprus.
- Structured and negotiated financing agreements with governments, international organizations, and commercial banks, expanding access to finance from €250 million to more than €1 billion.
- Supported financial-sector stabilization initiatives during the European sovereign debt crisis.
- Conducted financial due diligence and risk assessment for investment operations.

Funding Officer | 2005 – 2008

- Led international capital market bond issuances across multiple currencies, supporting local market development in emerging European economies and annual borrowing programs measured in the tens of billions of euros.

Investor Relations Office Assistant | 2004 – 2005

- Supported investor communications, reporting, and stakeholder engagement activities.

Earlier Career

- Held financial advisory positions with Atlantic Bank and Prudential Securities in New York.

PUBLIC SERVICE

- Public Diplomacy Volunteer, Consulate General of Greece — Boston, MA | 2020-2021
- Member, Joint Committee on Equal Opportunities, EIB — Luxembourg | 2011 – 2014
- Aircraftman, Hellenic Air Force – Tripoli, Greece | 2002

EDUCATION

Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University — Medford, MA

- M.A. International Relations

Bayes Business School, City University of London — London, UK

- M.Sc. Finance, Shipping, and Trade

Carroll School of Management, Boston College — Newton, MA

- B.S. Finance

LICENSES & LANGUAGES

- Investment Adviser Representative (Series 65)
- Massachusetts Real Estate Salesperson
- Languages:
 - Fluent — English & Greek
 - Conversational — Italian & French