



CITY OF MELROSE
FINANCE COMMITTEE
AGENDA • JULY 18, 2022

Council Chamber, First Floor, Melrose City Hall Committee Meeting
562 Main Street, Melrose, MA 02176

7:10 PM

The public should take notice that the Melrose City Council may, on certain occasions, have a quorum in attendance due to standing committees of the City Council consisting of both voting and non-voting members. Members attending this duly posted meeting are participating and deliberating only in conjunction with the business of the standing committee.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Maya Jamaledine	Chair
Mark Garipay	Vice Chair
Leila Migliorelli	
Manjula Karamcheti	
John Obremski	
Christopher Cinella	President, ex officio

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Remote Link for Public Comment:

<https://cityofmelrose.webex.com/cityofmelrose/onstage/g.php?MTID=e3a6896a8cbb9892f59acd16c39ca31b2>

III. ORDERS

1. **ORDER-2022-152** : Appointment of Julie Delillo, 13 Circuit Street, to the Board of Registrars of Voters for a three-year term; said term to expire on the last day of February 2025

Offered by: Mayor Paul Brodeur

From: City Council

ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/juliedelillo
(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Training
Performance Management
Talent Acquisition

Julie DeLillo

HR Leader looking to make good things happen
Melrose

Summary

Human Resources professional with a demonstrated history of building strong relationships across all layers of an organization. As a member of the leadership team, I help to oversee and communicate operating plans that support the achievement of the overall business strategy and objectives and provide leadership to drive efficiencies and develop key goals and metrics and overall business strategy. I am a strategic business advisor to the Executive Director and senior management team regarding key organizational and management issues.

Experience

Heading Home
Senior Director of HR
April 2022 - Present (3 months)
Boston, Massachusetts, United States

Making Opportunity Count
Vice President Human Resources
February 2021 - April 2022 (1 year 3 months)
Fitchburg, Massachusetts, United States

Responsible for developing and executing the human resource strategy in support of Making Opportunity Count's overall business plan and strategic direction. As a member of the leadership team, help to develop and communicate key goals and metrics of the organizational strategy. Provide overall leadership and guidance to the HR function overseeing talent acquisition, career and leadership development, succession planning, retention, compensation and benefits.

Town of Swampscott
Director of Human Resources
July 2018 - February 2021 (2 years 8 months)
Swampscott, Massachusetts, United States

Hired as the first shared HR position between the Town and Schools, I created and led a professional HR team implementing HR best practices across both organizations. Understanding that people are critical to the success of both organizations, I worked closely with the Town Administrator, Superintendent of Schools and senior leadership to ensure the organization attracted, hired and retained exceptional staff. As a trusted partner to the leadership team, I was able to create synergy between the two organizations through combined policy and practice decisions and creating an overall HR strategy. As a trusted leader, I filled the role of Acting Town Administrator during the Town Administrator's absence.

Perkins School for the Blind

Director of Human Resources

December 2011 - July 2018 (6 years 8 months)

Watertown, MA

An HR Leader trusted to provide HR strategy, guidance and support to senior leadership. Proven ability to lead HR transformation, align HR structure, plans and people with business goals. A professional Human Resources leader with a diverse financial, audit and legal background. My background provides me the ability to manage all aspects of budgeting for the department, interpret and understand legal issues related to Human Resources and develop processes and audit steps to ensure the integrity of data, and the accuracy of billing, benefits and deductions to ensure zero financial waste. All while acting as a strategic partner to our Senior Leadership Team.

Vinfen Corporation

Director of Human Resources

August 2006 - December 2011 (5 years 5 months)

950 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA

As Director of HR I provided leadership during a period of growth and transition to a Community Based Supports Approach to serving clients. Introduced succession planning utilizing career ladders for entry level staff as a retention tool. Realigned compensation program for Residential Counselors based on level of complexity of program. Streamlined processes and documentation management by introducing an electronic document management system. Eliminated duplication of processes within HR by consolidating positions.

Bright Horizons

Benefits Manager
2005 - 2006 (1 year)

Filene's
Benefits Manager
1999 - 2005 (6 years)
Watertown, MA

Education

Suffolk University Law School
Juris Doctorate, Law

Fitchburg State University
Bachelor's degree, Business Administration and Management, General

Fitchburg State University
Master of Business Administration - MBA

May 31, 2022

Mayor Paul Brodeur
Melrose City Hall
562 Main Street
Melrose, MA 02176

Re: Nomination to Board of Registrars

Dear Mayor Brodeur,

As you know, I have been a resident of the City of Melrose for over 12 years and active in the community and within the Melrose Republican City Committee. My interest in becoming a member of the Board of Registrars, stems from my desire to continue to serve the City of Melrose. In addition, I believe my background as an auditor, lawyer and Head of HR provide me the skills necessary to ensure I can uphold with integrity the rules and regulations that apply to voting in MA.

I have worked the last 2 elections and have learned a little about the process, have worked each election with professionalism and have ensured that my part in the process was accurate. While my experience is not vast working the polls, I do understand the overall process and hope to be a part of ensuring our elections run smoothly and ensure our citizens that their votes are counted.

While there is much discussion around voter integrity on both sides of the political parties, as a lawyer and as a Head of HR, I will uphold all laws and regulations related to voting regardless of my personal views. I am excited to move forward in this process and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Julie DeLillo

Julie DeLillo



CITY OF MELROSE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PAUL BRODEUR
Mayor

City Hall, 562 Main Street
Melrose, Massachusetts 02176
Telephone - (781) 979-4440
Fax - (781) 662-2182

MEMORANDUM

To: Melrose City Council
From: Mayor Paul Brodeur
Re: Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters
Date: June 8, 2022

I respectfully request the Honorable City Council confirm the appointment of Julie Delillo, 13 Circuit Street, to the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters for a three-year term, said term to expire on the last day of March 2025.

As the Board of Registrars of Voters is charged with resolving disputes, certifying signatures on nomination papers and petitions, employing poll workers and ballot counters, and more, I am confident Delillo's appointment would strengthen the work of the Board, given her many years of professional experience as a former auditor, a lawyer, and a current leader in the human resources industry.

Throughout her career, Delillo has spent decades upholding the law, following policies that safeguard the rights of others, and has maintained a mission to be fair and accurate in her work and hold herself and others accountable. In turn, I am confident she would play a key role in ensuring our City elections run smoothly, and that those hired to work our City elections and those who participate in them – the voters – are treated fairly.

Finally, Delillo has been a resident of Melrose for over a decade and has maintained an active role in our community as a member of the Melrose Republic City Committee. Through this membership, she has professionally worked the last two elections, gaining hands-on experience in the City's election and vote counting processes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: James Bennett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 9:45 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Appointment of Julie DeLillo

Dear Melrose City Council,

I write to you with serious concerns about the appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, order #2022-152 on your agenda this evening. I hope that my concerns are completely unfounded. You can put them to rest tonight by asking her a few simple questions before your vote.

I do not know Ms. DeLillo personally or by reputation. My concern stems from her role as the current chair of the Melrose Republican City Committee, a fact that was not disclosed in her statement of interest or in Mayor Brodeur's letter of support, where she is described simply as "a member." Ms. DeLillo is listed as the chair on the Mass GOP's website, which was presumably updated by the time of the Melrose RCC caucus, which took place in February. I would have liked to confirm her status as chair on the state's OCPF website, but the Melrose RCC apparently has not submitted finance reports for the last two years.

I serve as chair of the Melrose Democratic City Committee, and so I have a great appreciation of the difference between being a member of a local political committee and serving as its head. As chair, I have committed to support the party, its platform, and its endorsed candidates, which means at times suppressing my personal fancies and opinions in the name of ensuring institutional stability. I imagine it is the same for my Republican counterpart. Under normal circumstances, that commitment to the wellbeing of the party would not be in a conflict of interest with serving a nonpartisan role as a registrar of voters.

Unfortunately, there is nothing normal about the current circumstances of the Massachusetts GOP. Under the leadership of its chair, Jim Lyons, it has continuously repeated the lie that the 2020 presidential election was riddled with fraud and stolen from former president Trump. At the Mass GOP's convention in May, delegates endorsed Rayla Campbell for Secretary of State—our Commonwealth's chief elections officer—after she gave a speech in which she claimed that Republicans "watched our elections be stolen." Delegates likewise nominated Geoff Diehl for governor, a candidate who has repeatedly questioned the integrity of the 2020 election.

Ms. DeLillo may well now disagree with everything that her party believes about the 2020 election. If so, that would be a reversal of her beliefs in the immediate wake of that election, when she made two financial contributions totaling \$272 to the campaign of Kelly Loeffler, a candidate for Senate in Georgia who at that time was alleging fraud in Georgia election results and had called for the resignation of Republican Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, a public official whose defense of the integrity of Georgia's elections laws had led to threats against his life.

Ms. DeLillo stated in her letter of interest that she "will uphold all laws and regulations related to voting," but given that she has chosen to support and maintain people who pose grave threats to our democracy, I think the public is owed greater scrutiny about her commitments. I would challenge one or more among you to ask questions along these lines: Do you accept the results of the 2020 election? Do you believe that President Biden obtained his office through fraudulent manipulation of the elections system? Do you condemn members of your own party now running for office who repeat lies about the 2020 election, including Rayla Campbell and Geoff Diehl?

If Ms. DeLillo can answer those questions satisfactorily, then I would support her and wish her all the best in her new

Attachment: Bennett_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

role. If she cannot, then she should not serve. If you fail to ask her such questions, then doubt will be cast on her appointment, and that in itself would damage the integrity of our elections in Melrose.

I thank you for your attention. In closing, I must aver that while I serve as chair of the Melrose DCC, I have represented only my own opinions in this letter and consulted no one aside from my own conscience before penning it.

Yours Sincerely,

Jim Bennett


****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Bennett_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie Delillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Beth Hampson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 4:11 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Concern About Julie DeLillo's Nomination for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters

Dear City Council,

I am concerned that Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, will not be able to safeguard voting in Melrose. I ask that when she appears before you on Monday night, you ask her whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes in Voter ID, and whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen. Receiving answers to these questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo will be able to maintain our voting rights in Melrose.

Signed,

Elizabeth Hampson
[REDACTED]

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Hampson_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Carolyn Cronin <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 12:10 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Nominee for Board of Registrars

Dear City Council,

I am writing about my concerns regarding a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars, Julie DeLillo. Given her past support of candidates who deny the outcome of the 2020 Presidential election, i question whether she will uphold voting rights in Melrose.

I ask that when she appears before you on Monday night, you ask her whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes in Voter ID, and whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen. Please press her on these points and only vote for her if you are confident that Ms. DeLillo will work to maintain our voting rights in Melrose.

Further, my concern is not partisan as I understand the rules for nominees to the Board of Registrars calls for a Republican Nominee. But within that limitation, i urge you to be diligent in only voting for a nominee who supports the voting as it stands in Melrose now.

And who demonstrates a willingness and capacity to be objective.

Thank you for reading and considering this email,

Carolyn Cronin
 [REDACTED]

Melrose MA 02176

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Cronin_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Janna Jackson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2022 4:02 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Board of Registrars

Dear City Council,

I am concerned that Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, will not be able to safeguard voting in Melrose due to her positions on voting rights. I ask that when she appears before you on Monday night, you ask her whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen, whether she believes that voting fraud is a widespread problem, whether she believes that this job entails making sure that as many voters as possible are able to vote safely, and whether or not she believes that voters should be required to show ID even if that means it will disenfranchise some voters. Receiving answers to these questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo will be able to maintain our voting rights in Melrose.

Signed,

Janna Kellinger
[REDACTED]

Melrose

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Kellinger_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Austin Frakt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 10:17 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Julie DeLillo's nomination for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters

Dear City Council,

I am concerned that Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, will not be able to safeguard voting in Melrose. I ask that when she appears before you on Monday night, you ask her whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes in Voter ID, and whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen. Receiving answers to these questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo will be able to maintain our voting rights in Melrose.

Austin Frakt, PhD
 Health Economist, Department of Veterans Affairs
 Professor, Boston University School of Public Health
 Principal Research Scientist, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
 Editor-in-Chief, *Health Services Research*

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Frakt_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Scott Lefton <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 11:54 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Concerns about Julie DeLillo as a member of the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters

Dear City Council,

I am concerned that Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, will not be able to safeguard voting in Melrose. I ask that when she appears before you on Monday night, you ask her whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes in Voter ID, and whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen. Receiving answers to these questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo will be able to maintain our voting rights in Melrose.

Specifically, please ask her:

Do you support your party's lawsuit to stop mail-in and early voting in Massachusetts?

Do you support your party's initiative to demand mandatory Voter ID?

Do you believe that mail-in and early voting without Voter ID leads to voter fraud? If you do, how can you impartially discharge duties that would require you to enable such fraud?

Do you support your party's candidate for Secretary of State, Rayla Campbell, who continues to promote the lie that the 2020 election was stolen?

Do you believe that the 2020 election was stolen?

If you do not believe the 2020 election was stolen, do you now regret your campaign contributions to Kelly Loeffler?

I also look forward to the meeting on Monday night.

Regards,
 Scott Lefton

[REDACTED]
 Melrose

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Lefton_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Rachel Silber [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2022 12:25 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Fwd: Concerns about Julie DeLillo as a member of the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters

Dear City Council,

I have been active in supporting voting rights in states across the country and it is concerning to me when there is a possibility of voter suppression in the state of Massachusetts.

Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, has at least the appearance of a background of conflict of interest with measures that safeguard broad exercise of voting rights. I am concerned that she will not safeguard voting in Melrose if appointed to that position. When she appears before you on Monday night, hard questions must be asked. Please ask her whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes in Voter ID, and whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen. Receiving answers to these questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo will be able to maintain our voting rights in Melrose.

Specifically, please ask her:

Do you support your party's lawsuit to stop mail-in and early voting in Massachusetts?

Do you support your party's initiative to demand mandatory Voter ID?

Do you believe that mail-in and early voting without Voter ID leads to voter fraud? If you do, how can you impartially discharge duties that would require you to enable such fraud?

Do you support your party's candidate for Secretary of State, Rayla Campbell, who continues to promote the lie that the 2020 election was stolen?

Do you believe that the 2020 election was stolen?

If you do not believe the 2020 election was stolen, do you now regret your campaign contributions to Kelly Loeffler?

Regards,
 Rachel Silber
 [REDACTED]
 Melrose

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Silber_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: GRETCHEN BOWDER <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 8:56 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Grave concerns about Julie DeLillo's candidacy

Dear City Council,

I am deeply concerned that Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, will not safeguard voting in Melrose. I ask that when she appears before you tonight, you ask her the following questions:

Do you support your party's lawsuit to stop mail-in and early voting in Massachusetts?
 Do you support your party's initiative to demand mandatory Voter ID?
 Do you believe that mail-in and early voting without Voter ID leads to voter fraud? If you do, how can you impartially discharge duties that would require you to enable such fraud?
 Do you support your party's candidate for Secretary of State, Rayla Campbell, who continues to promote the lie that the 2020 election was stolen?
 Do you believe that the 2020 election was stolen?
 If you do not believe the 2020 election was stolen, do you now regret your campaign contributions to Kelly Loeffler?

American democracy is in danger. We must ensure that those tasked with maintaining elections in Melrose share our common democratic values. I hope that Ms. DeLillo is such a person, and that she emerges from the appointment process with the full confidence of the poll workers she will oversee and of the greater Melrose community. Receiving answers to the above questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo is able and willing to maintain our voting rights in Melrose, and uphold the fundamental principles of democracy.

Signed,
 Gretchen Bowder
 Melrose, MA

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Bowder_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Kelly Thome <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 11:52 AM
To: City Council
Subject: Concern on tonight's vote on Board of Registrars of Voters

Dear members of the Melrose City Council,

I am concerned that Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, will not be able to safeguard free and fair voting in Melrose. As chair of the Melrose Republican City Committee, she is the official voice of support for both the Massachusetts Republican Party and National Republican party platform, both of which deny the fundamental fairness of mail-in voting, and which perpetuate the lie that voter fraud is rampant and invalidated the 2020 Presidential Election. In addition, in post-election 2020 she made personal campaign contributions to former GA Senator Kelly Loeffler, a vocal proponent of the falsehood that the 2020 Presidential Election was "stolen".

I am a resident of our city and since 2020 have been a poll worker (a Precinct Clerk) here. My reasons for becoming a poll worker is a fundamental belief that everyone who IS eligible to vote, should be ABLE to vote. I fear that Ms. DeLillo will not be willing to carry out that task. I therefore ask that when she appears before you on Monday night, you ask her directly whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes in Voter ID, whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen, and if no does she regret her campaign support of a known proponent of the Big Lie.

Receiving answers to these questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo will be able to maintain our voting rights in Melrose. Please act with all due diligence before placing a person on our Board of Registrars of Voters that could undermine the very transparent and fair elections process we have.

Sincerely,

Kelly Thome PhD

[REDACTED]

--

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
<https://www.avast.com/antivirus>

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Thome_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Nandini Talwar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 9:47 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Re: Nominee for Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters

Dear City Council,

I am concerned that Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, will not be able to safeguard voting in Melrose. I ask that when she appears before you on Monday night, you ask her whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes in Voter ID, and whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen. Receiving answers to these questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo will be able to maintain our voting rights in Melrose.

Signed,
Nandini Talwar and Madeline Albert

[REDACTED]
Melrose, MA 02176

Sent from my iPhone

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Talwar and Albert_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: Marcia Sullivan via Melrose MA <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 6:50 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Form submission from: Contact the City Council

Submitted on Monday, July 18, 2022 - 6:50pm

Submitted values are:

Message:

Dear City Council,

I am concerned that Julie DeLillo, a nominee for the Melrose Board of Registrars of Voters, will not be able to safeguard voting in Melrose. I ask that when she appears before you tonight, you ask her whether she believes in the validity of mail-in and early voting, whether she believes in Voter ID, and whether she believes that the 2020 election was stolen. Receiving answers to these questions will reveal whether Ms. DeLillo will be able to maintain our voting rights in Melrose.

Signed,

Marcia Sullivan

==Please provide the following information==

Your Name: Marcia Sullivan

Your E-mail Address: [REDACTED]

Organization:

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

==Address==

Street: [REDACTED]

City: Melrose

State: Massachusetts

Zipcode: 02176

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.cityofmelrose.org/node/15943/submission/43886>

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Sullivan_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)

Ghobrial, Andrew

From: James Bennett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2022 6:54 AM
To: *Mayor Brodeur
Cc: City Council
Subject: Composition of the Board of Registrars of Voters

Dear Mayor Brodeur,

I thank you for your candid words last night regarding the unusual appointment process prescribed by the state for candidates to the Board of Registrars of Voters, which in your own words "disenfranchises" the majority of Melrosians.

At the close of my public comments, I asserted that Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 51, § 15 does not require the appointment of two Republicans to the board, which was based on my interpretation of this clause: "the members of the board shall represent the two leading political parties, as defined in section one of chapter fifty; provided, that a city or town clerk need not be enrolled in a political party; and provided further, that in no case shall an appointment be made as to cause a board to have more than two members, including the city or town clerk, of the same political party."

You responded that in your informal communication with the state (I cannot recall whether it was with the Secretary of State's office or the Attorney General), you were advised that any appointment to the BRV must be a member of the same party vacating the office, which in the case of Melrose means that there will forever be two Republicans and one Democrat on the BRV, yet there is no stricture to that effect in the text above. It merely states that at any given time no more than two members of the BRV shall be of the same political party. It does not specify that the BRV must permanently maintain the same proportion of representation it had at the time of its foundation many decades ago, which is what I interpreted your comments to mean.

I would request that you direct the City Solicitor to make all due inquiries with relevant state agencies to receive a formal ruling on this question before the vote on Ms. DeLillo's appointment before the full council next month. About one-third of Melrose voters are registered Democrats, a proportion that has remained consistent for the past twenty years; only 8%, and falling, are registered Republicans. By right of that simple demography, the majority of appointees to the BRV should be Democrats.

I thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Bennett
 Chair

Melrose Democratic City Committee

****CITY OF MELROSE PUBLIC RECORDS NOTICE: Please be advised that the Massachusetts Attorney General has determined that email is a public record unless the content of the email falls within one of the stated exemptions under the Massachusetts Public Records Laws.****

Attachment: Bennett 2_Redacted (ORDER-2022-152 : Appointment of Julie DeLillo to the Board of Registrars of Voters)