



CITY OF MELROSE
HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE COMMITTEE
AGENDA • MARCH 9, 2023

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

7:00 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

Manjula Karamcheti	Chair
John Obremski	Vice Chair
Maya Jamaledine	
Robb Stewart	
Ryan Williams	
Jen Grigoraitis	President, Ex Officio

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Remote Link for Public Comment:
<https://cityofmelrose-org.zoom.us/j/99081483447>

Meeting ID:
990 8148 3447

III. ORDERS

- ORDER-2023-68** : Appointment of Helena Widtfeldt, 44 Briggs Street, to the Melrose Affordable Housing Trust for a one-year term, said term to expire on the last day of January 2024. Ms. Widtfelt's term fills the unexpired term of resigned Affordable Housing Trust member Carolyn Federoff.

Offered by: Mayor Paul Brodeur

From: City Council

ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

- ORDER-2023-71** : Appointment of Elizabeth Reidy, 346 West Emerson Street, to the Commission on Women for a three-year term set to expire on the last day of February 2026. Ms. Reidy's appointment replaces the term of Emily Minton, whose term will expire on the last day of February 2023, and who is not seeking reappointment.

Offered by: Mayor Paul Brodeur

From: City Council

ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

3. **ORDER-2023-69** : Reappointment of Cathryn Mercier, 466 Pleasant Street, to the Melrose Library Board of Trustees for a three-year term, said term to expire the last day of February 2026.

Offered by: Mayor Paul Brodeur

From: City Council

ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

4. **ORDER-2023-74** : Reappointment of George Bibilos, 264 Grove Street, to the Melrose Historical Commission for a three-year term set to expire on the last day of February 2026.

Offered by: Mayor Paul Brodeur

From: City Council

ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

5. **ORDER-2023-73** : Reappointment of Joseph Hunt, 132 Mount Vernon Avenue, to the Melrose Historical Commission for a three-year term set to expire on the last day of February 2026.

Offered by: Mayor Paul Brodeur

From: City Council

ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

IV. ADJOURNMENT



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: Affordable Housing Trust Appointment
Date: January 31, 2023

I respectfully request the Honorable City Council confirm the appointment of Helena Widtfeldt, 44 Briggs Street, to the Melrose Affordable Housing Trust for a one-year term, said term to expire on the last day of January 2024. Ms. Widtfeldt's term fills the unexpired term of resigned Affordable Housing Trust member Carolyn Federoff.

For over a decade, Ms. Widtfeldt has worked for affordable housing industry organizations such as Quaddel, a national leader in providing program management, consulting, and training solutions to the affordable housing industry. I'm confident that her collected experience, in addition to her knowledge of planning and development via her master's degree in community development and planning, will drive forward the City of Melrose's mission to promote greater diversity and racial equity in the community and for the benefit of low- to moderate-income households in accordance with the provisions of MGL c. 44, § 55C.

Thank you for your consideration.

Contact

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

Top Skills

Program Management
Customer Service
Project Management

Certifications

TaCCs
C3P Tax Credit

Helena Widtfeldt

Senior Manager at Quadel
Greater Boston

Summary

Program experience and expertise in LIHTC, Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing, RAD, Neighborhood Stabilization, and Capital Fund Recovery. Supports program and compliance management through designing, implementing and managing new workflow processes. Developed Quality Control and Quality Assurance processes including file reviews and training. She has assisted with developing and updating Standard Operating Procedures, Annual Plans, Administrative Plans and ACOPs.

Experience

Quadel

7 years 6 months

Senior Manager

July 2021 - Present (1 year 7 months)

Manager

October 2018 - July 2021 (2 years 10 months)

Senior Associate

August 2015 - October 2018 (3 years 3 months)

Human Services Research Institute

Project Manager

January 2011 - August 2015 (4 years 8 months)

Center for Social Innovation

Project Assistant

October 2009 - December 2010 (1 year 3 months)

Quadel Consulting Corporation

2 years 1 month

Associate

February 2007 - July 2008 (1 year 6 months)

Program Analyst
July 2006 - February 2007 (8 months)

Education

Clark University
MA, Community Development & Planning · (2008 - 2010)

Providence College
BA, Public & Community Service and Political Science · (2002 - 2006)

EXPERIENCE**Counsel, Robins Kaplan LLP****May 2021 to the Present**

Represent national and global primary and excess insurers in first-party and third-party liability and property disputes with their insureds and third-party claimants, including in litigation, mediation and appraisal proceedings.

- Obtained dismissals on behalf of first-party property insurers in business interruption matters arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Negotiated a successful resolution on behalf of a Lloyd's Syndicate of a claim arising out of two water losses and addressed novel questions as to the applicability of M.G.L. ch. 175, s. 99 to surplus lines insurers.
- Successfully represented insurer against homeowner's claim for coverage for a fire loss, resulting in favorable resolution after filing a motion to dismiss.
- Obtained successful award for insurer in Massachusetts Reference proceeding arising out of a water loss under a builder's risk policy.

Partner, Nystrom, Beckman & Paris, LLP**September 2012 to April 2021**

Extensive civil litigation experience in a wide range of cases, including insurance coverage, complex contract disputes, fiduciary duty claims and other business torts, financial fraud and employment matters.

- Reviewed, analyzed and advised clients with respect to first- and third-party insurance claims under D&O, E&O, fidelity bond and general liability policies.
- Represented over one hundred dairy farmers in antitrust action alleging violations of the Sherman Act in federal court against national dairy cooperative and marketing agency.
- Obtained favorable result in five-day jury trial in breach of fiduciary duty and breach of contract action on behalf of member of limited liability company.
- Granted summary judgment on behalf of trustee in declaratory judgment action, thereby obtaining insurance coverage for tort committed by trustee acting within the scope of his duties.
- Drafted appellate briefs for the Massachusetts Appeals Court in insurance coverage matter against company's excess insurer after underlying settlement, which concerned a matter of first impression.
- Successfully resolved dispute on behalf of medical device company in professional malpractice action against accounting firm, arising from firm's negligent audits.
- Resolved dispute for company and majority shareholder during mediation in matter alleging breaches of fiduciary duty against both the majority and minority shareholders.
- Obtained savings of approximately \$4 million on behalf of property management company in dispute with state housing authority.
- Recovered significant unpaid sales commissions on behalf of sales representative on the eve of trial.

Senior Associate, Reed Smith, LLP, Washington, D.C.**September 2006 to September 2012**

Litigation associate with significant expertise in insurance coverage matters and experience with the retention and management of expert witnesses, the taking and defending of fact and expert depositions, arguing motions and jury instructions, drafting of pre- and post-trial motions, managing all aspects of discovery and client management.

- Represented lenders in coverage disputes with mortgage insurers, arising out of the lenders' alleged fraud, misrepresentation and negligence.

- Lead associate during eight-week jury trial in Florida representing hotel owner against primary insurer arising out of hurricane damage resulting in a \$28 million verdict.
- Part of a trial team in six-week bench trial in Louisiana and obtained award supporting a claim adjustment of over \$60 million against multiple first-party property insurers.
- Pro Bono Matters
 - Successfully represented individual in a family law matter, from initial case investigation through trial.
 - Successfully represented inmate against prison facility and other defendants.

AWARDS

- Named a “Rising Star” by Massachusetts Super Lawyers in 2015 and 2016.
- Received Wiley E. Branton award from the Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs for pro bono matter.

EDUCATION

American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C., Juris Doctor, May 2006

- *Magna cum laude*, Order of the Coif, Cumulative GPA: 3.72
- *Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law*, Publications Editor, 2005-2006
 - *Gonzalez v. United States Air Force: Should Courts Consider Rape to be Incident to Military Service?*, 13 Am. U.J. Gender Soc. Pol’y & L. 635 (2005)

Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C., Bachelor of Arts in English, Minor in Political Science, May 2003

- Dean’s List, Spring 2000-Spring 2003
- Member of *Sigma Tau Delta* (English Honor Society)

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Massachusetts, District of Columbia and Maryland (inactive)
- Federal District Courts for the Districts of Massachusetts, Maryland and District of Columbia



Paul Brodeur
Mayor

CITY OF MELROSE

OFFICE OF THE 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 Commission on Women
Date: February 14, 2023

I respectfully request the Honorable City Council confirm the appointment of Elizabeth Reidy, 346 West Emerson Street, to the Commission on Women for a three-year term set to expire on the last day of February 2026. Ms. Reidy's appointment replaces that of Emily Minton, whose term will expire on the last day of February 2023, and who is not seeking reappointment.

Ms. Reidy has expressed deep concern and interest in the welfare of women and girls in Melrose. As an attorney with practice advocating for others, she is eager to translate her experience, skills, and passion for equality into tangible efforts to improve the quality of life for women and girls here in Melrose. I believe Ms. Reidy will be an adamant supporter of the Commission on Women's mission to represent the interests of women and girls in the community and promote and facilitate equality in all areas of life and more.

Thank you for your consideration and support for Ms. Reidy's appointment to the Melrose Commission on Women.

Attachment: E_Reidy_MCW_Memo (ORDER-2023-71) : Appointment of Elizabeth Reidy to the Commission on Women



PAUL BRODEUR
Mayor

CITY OF MELROSE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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MEMORANDUM

To: Melrose City Council
From: Mayor Paul Brodeur
Re: Library Board of Trustees Reappointment
Date: January 31, 2023

I respectfully request the Honorable City Council confirm the reappointment of Cathryn Mercier, 466 Pleasant Street, to the City of Melrose Library Board of Trustees for a three-year term, said term to expire the last day of February 2026.

My recommendation to reappoint Ms. Mercier, a staunch advocate for our public library who has supported the building, its services, and patrons through a pandemic and now a phase of transition and renovation, comes with the support of Melrose Public Library Director Linda Gardener. I look forward to Ms. Mercier's and our other Library Board of Trustees' continued fulfillment of the trustee's mission and their collaborative dedication to the library.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cathryn M. Mercier

466 Pleasant Street
Melrose MA 02176



January 31 2023

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

Dear Mayor Brodeur,

I write to express my interest in continuing to serve on the Melrose Public Library Board of Trustees. My current appointment expires on the last day of February 2023.

Not only do I find this work on behalf of the city and its people to be valuable in supporting the library's extensive public services to our community, but also I consider it my duty to support the library as a fundamental place for beginning, enhancing, and continuing the development the engaged citizenry essential to democracy.

I have been honored to serve on the library's last strategic planning efforts and to have been part of the collaborative efforts to bring to our city a new library, a gorgeous building that preserves the historic – as the best of Melrose does – even as it anticipates the future needs of our city.

It been my pleasure to serve Melrose in this way and I would welcome reappointment to this position.

My best,

Cathryn M. Mercier



Paul Brodeur
Mayor

CITY OF MELROSE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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MEMORANDUM

To: Melrose City Council
From: Mayor Paul Brodeur
Re: Melrose Historical Commission
Date: February 7, 2023

I respectfully request the Honorable City Council confirm the reappointment of George Bibilos, 264 Grove Street, to the Melrose Historical Commission for a three-year term set to expire on the last day of February 2026.

Thank you for your consideration and support for Mr. Bibilos' reappointment to the Historical Commission.

George J. Bibilos

Experienced and Innovative Human Resources and Government Leader
264 Grove Street, Melrose, MA 02176

Email: [REDACTED]

Summary:

Over 30 years of government and human resources experience, with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts currently serving as the Human Resources Director for the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance.

A leader in the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts (est. 30,000 members), having served as Deputy Grand Master in 2011 and served on the Grand Lodge Board of Directors from 2010 to the 2016. Also have chaired and served on numerous Grand Lodge Committees including Membership Development, Education, and Budget.

In addition, a leader in the Greek Orthodox Community at Annunciation in Woburn serving on the Board of Directors (BOD) most recently since 2013. Served as President 2017-18 & 2020-21. Served as Chairperson for the church's 100th Anniversary in 2017.

Experience:

Human Resources Director, Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance at Comm. of Massachusetts October 2017-present

Manage a team of seven that handles all human resources matters including, \$40 million dollar payroll, labor relations for a workforce that is 95% unionized with multiple unions, recruitment, talent management, leave and benefits and learning and development (including implementing a new LMS system) functions for DCAMM.

Director of Classification & Compensation and Civil Service at Comm. of Massachusetts, Human Resources Division 2010-2017

Manage the Executive Branch of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts classification and compensation plans, oversee Executive Branch hiring policies and procedures, develop and administer public safety civil service exams, the performance recognition program for Executive Branch employees, and the performance management program for managers.

Director of Classification & Compensation, Human Resources Division at Comm. of Massachusetts, 2003-10

Manage the Executive Branch of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts classification and compensation plans, oversee Executive Branch hiring policies and procedures and a number of programs including the statewide performance recognition program.

Deputy Director of the Workforce Management Group at Comm. of Massachusetts, Human Resources Division, 1999-2003

Manage the Executive Branch of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts classification and compensation plans, oversee Executive Branch hiring policies and procedures, as well as administer physical abilities exams for entry level police officers and firefighters.

Director of Human Resources at Comm. of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Public Safety, 1998

Managed all the human resources and payroll transactions for the Executive Office of Public Safety working closely with the Undersecretaries, Chief of Staff and Chief Financial Officer. Additionally, provided oversight for all human resources activities in the public safety agencies.

Senior Classification & Compensation Analyst, Human Resources Division, 1996-1998

Human Resources Generalist/Recruiter, Massachusetts Department of Public Works 1991-1996
(now the Massachusetts Department of Transportation – MassDOT)

Education:

Northeastern University, Bachelor's degree, *cum laude*, Political Science, 1985–1990

Tufts University, Fletcher School of Diplomacy, Strategic Leadership and Transformative Action Program, 2021

Franklin Covey, Leadership for the Public Sector, 2006

Bentley University, Human Resources Certificate Program, 1997

Melrose High School, Diploma, 1982–1985

Honors and Awards:

Comm. of Massachusetts Citation for Outstanding Performance, (multiple years)

Comm. of Massachusetts Manual Carballo Governor's Award for Excellence in Public Service Awarded to the Civil Service Unit Police Exam Rescheduling Team, for rescheduling the police exam for 12,000+ police applicants in two months (and all of the logistics to pull it off) after the Boston Marathon Attacks of April 2013.

Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts, Henry Price Medal for Distinguished Service 2011

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Boston Ministry Award Recipient, for dedicated service to one's parish, 2021

Volunteering:

Member, Board of Directors, Congregational Retirement Homes

General Secretary (Past President) Annunciation Woburn Greek Orthodox Church Parish Council

Secretary, Golden Rule Lodge of Masons

Member, Friends of the Public Garden

Member, Northeastern University Loyalty Society

Sponsor, Hellenic College

Member, Melrose Historical Commission

Member, Friends of the Melrose Public Library

Member, Massachusetts Facilities Management Association (MAFMA)



264 GROVE STREET
MELROSE, MA

January 23, 2023

The Honorable Paul Brodeur
Mayor of Melrose
Melrose City Hall – 2nd Floor
562 Main Street
Melrose, MA 02176

Dear Mayor Brodeur,

I am writing to you to let you know that I have enjoyed my brief time on the Melrose Historical Commission. It is a wonderful group of people that I serve with. Preliminary plans are underway to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Commission later this year.

My term is coming to a close (it was a 1-year remainder to a term) and I would like to be considered for re-appointed for a full term to the Melrose Historical Commission. Having lived in the city over 50 years I find the work we do very interesting.

I hope you look positively upon this request and will forward my name to the City Council for their approval. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

George J. Bibilos



CITY OF MELROSE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Paul Brodeur
Mayor

City Hall, 562 Main Street
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Telephone - (781) 979-4440
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MEMORANDUM

To: Melrose City Council
From: Mayor Paul Brodeur
Re: Melrose Historical Commission
Date: February 7, 2023

I respectfully request the Honorable City Council confirm the reappointment of Joseph Hunt, 132 Mount Vernon Avenue, to the Melrose Historical Commission for a three-year term set to expire on the last day of February 2026.

Thank you for your consideration and support for Mr. Hunt's reappointment to the Historical Commission.

23 January 2023

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

Mayor Brodeur:

My name is Joseph Hunt and I have been a member of the Melrose Historical Commission for 10 years. As my present commission is about to expire (February this year), I request that you consider a renewal of my commission for another three years.

As a longtime resident of Melrose (since 1947) I've provided the Commission with a lived and mature perspective of an historic period of Melrose development. I have observed both beneficial historical preservation efforts (e.g., the current Library expansion project) as well as some regrettable ones (e.g., the destruction of the Ensign Thomas Lynde house once at Pine Banks Park). However, these lived experiences coupled with my practical engineering background makes me envision a bright Melrose future. A future enhanced by inclusionary and balanced historical preservation efforts that safeguard what is historically valuable without turning our city into a sterile time capsule.

With my Commission renewed, I'm excited and looking forward to continuing my contributions to this Commission's important work as a valuable advisory resource.

Sincerely,

C. Joseph Hunt

C. Joseph Hunt
132 Mount Vernon Avenue
Melrose, Massachusetts
781 665 6458