

RECEIVED

By City Clerk's Office at 5:05 pm, 9/7/21

Personnel Action Committee

Minutes for meeting date 09/02/2021 Meeting at City Hall - Starting time 6:15pm

Committee Members – Cindy Harris, chair (present), Ralph Figy (present), Richard Sullivan (present)

The Law Dept. has requested we ask if anyone is recording or live streaming this meeting – none.

We have 2 appointments and 4 reappointments.

Agenda Item #1

Submitting the appointment of Mary Ann Scognamiglio, 31 Union Street, as a member of the Cultural Council for a term to expire the first Monday of August, 2024.

Discussion:

Ms. Scognamiglio attended the meeting. With 30+ years involved in the Arts, she brings much experience and insight into the various components of volunteer organizations including seeking people to work on projects involving building theater sets, publicity, musicians, funding, producing shows, running craft programs and working with writers of all genres and publishers.

That extensive background includes the Westfield Theater group being on the Board of Directors for many years serving as Chairperson, and being part of the Straw Dogs Writers Guild Board

She understands the challenges many arts organizations face. In addition her background includes over 30 years in the Financial Service Industry.

She would be a definite asset to our Cultural Council's Mission of discerning appropriate projects qualified for grant funding.

Councilor Figy stated she sounds well-qualified and Councilor Sullivan added 'absolutely'.

Councilor Figy made a motion to recommend the reappointment, Councilor Sullivan 2nd.

All those in favor – Chair/Councilor Harris – Yes

Councilor Figy – Yes

Councilor Sullivan – Yes

Motion passes on a 3-0 Vote

Agenda Item #2

Submitting the appointment of Jason Polan, 52 Janelle Drive, as a member of the Cultural Council for a term set to expire the first Monday of August 2024.

Discussion:

Mr. Polan attended the meeting. Mr. Polan has a B.S. from UMass and has over 15 years' experience in Event Operations and Stage Production. As a Senior Account Director with the Company CSM he was responsible for overseeing all pre-event and on-site execution for large and small scale clients such as World Wrestling Entertainment, NASCAR, Stamford Hospital Foundation, Major League Baseball, Microsoft, Coca-Cola and Stonyfield Yogurt. As Technical Producer and Stage Manager he was involved in working in a high-pace environment with a Million Dollar Revenue from Agency Fees.

He is with our Westfield on Weekends Board of Directors as the Marketing Chair and

Pumpkin Fest Co-Chair. The New York Times wrote an article on his producing a 300+ person Virtual Wedding linking 4 Continents in a live marriage ceremony in June 2020.

With his background he would be an asset to the Cultural Council's mission to help all forms of the Arts with grant funding.

Councilor Sullivan stated, I enthusiastically move Approval – and Councilor Figy stated and I will enthusiastically 2nd that.

Councilor Sullivan made a motion to recommend the reappointment, Councilor Figy 2nd.

All those in favor – Chair/Councilor Harris – Yes

Councilor Figy – Yes

Councilor Sullivan – Yes

Motion passes on a 3-0 Vote

Agenda Item #3

Submitting the reappointment of Michael Ingraham, 147 Russellville Road, Southampton, as a member of the Historical Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2024.

Discussion:

He graduated from Westfield High School and Westfield State and has a historical connection to Westfield in the fact that his family was among the first settlers in 1636.

He has been on this Commission since September 2019 attending all meetings and participated in many of their events including portraying his 9th great grandfather, Isaac Phelps at the Ghost Tour in Old Burial Ground. He developed the Virtual Tour of City Hall to support Civic Instruction in Local Government in our Schools.

He taught in Westfield Middle School and High School including being Chair for Social Studies at Westfield High. He served 27 years in the Army and Army National Guard in Leadership positions including service in Bosnia, Kosovo and Afghanistan – and rescue and relief operations in New Orleans, Post – Hurricane Katrina.

We thank him for his dedicated and long service to our country. He has a deep interest for local history and is looking forward to continuing serving on this Commission.

Councilor Figy made a motion to recommend the reappointment and Councilor Sullivan 2nd.

All those in favor – Chair/Councilor Harris – Yes

Councilor Figy – Yes

Councilor Sullivan – Yes

Motion passes on a 3-0 Vote.

Agenda Item #4

Submitting the reappointment of Crystal Hollister, 110 Holyoke Road, as a member of the Historical Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of June, 2024.

Discussion:

Just a year ago, September 2020 she was appointed to this Commission to replace Amanda Goodheart who departed. Our intent was for her to be appointed for a full term, which for Administrative Purposes needed by the City Clerk's Office, we must vote again for her to continue on so she may fulfil a Full-Term.

Very briefly, reviewing her information, she has been deeply involved in this Commission's activities like the Ghost Tours, Holiday Home Tour, Westfield 350th Anniversary,

and Lecturing Series associated with that event even before being appointed.

She has been teaching for over 16 years and in 2019 was selected as a recipient of the Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award.

She states she has a deep passion for History and Historic Preservation.

Councilor Sullivan made a motion to recommend the reappointment and Councilor Figy 2nd.

All those in favor – Chair/Councilor Harris – Yes

Councilor Figy – Yes

Councilor Sullivan – Yes

Motion passes on a 3-0 Vote.

Agenda Item #5

Submitting the reappointment of Joanne Tirrell, 419 Southwick Road as a member of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities for a term to expire the first Monday of June, 2023.

Discussion:

She was first appointed to this Commission in 2014, was reappointed and would like to continue serving by being reappointed once again.

She worked in our City's Purchasing Department and then worked at the Airport in the Manager's Offices for over 20 years, retiring in 2014.

She is a Lifetime Member of the Marine Corps League Auxiliary serving as president and secretary, is involved with the Western Hampden Historical Society including assisting with recording names on the graves in our Mechanic Street Cemetery, and she is very involved in the projects discussed in this Commission.

Councilor Sullivan stated she is a wonderful person and a great Civic Service Employee and recommended the reappointment - Councilor Figy 2nd.

All those in favor – Chair/Councilor Harris – Yes

Councilor Figy – Yes

Councilor Sullivan – Yes

Motion passes on a 3-0 Vote.

Agenda Item #6

Submitting the reappointment of William Gonet, 29 Cardinal Lane, as a member of the Airport Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2024.

Discussion:

First appointed in 2016 and reappointed in 2019, Mr. Gonet is the epitome of a Commissioner who not only has extensive knowledge and passion for the Aerospace Industry, but truly believes the Sky is the Limit for Barnes Airport and its success. He states that these past few years we have had new additions to the Airport, record grant money to improve the Airport, added Air Methods Air Service which provides Air Ambulance Services to Western MA, many capital improvements like runways, plans for the near future to further improve the Taxiways – and that the Airport provides great paying positions for our citizens, has a great management team under Manager Chris Willenborg, and provides revenue for our City.

Mr. Gonet has over 30 years in the Aircraft Industry in various capacities from technical support to negotiating major agreements with companies such as General Electric, Rolls Royce and International Airlines, and is on the Board of Directors of New England Air Museum. Former

