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Meeting Minutes
Meeting of Human Rights, Fair Housing and Disability Issues Commission
493 Main St. 1st Floor, Malden, MA 02148
February 22, 2018
6:00 PM

Committee Members in Attendance/Absent

✓	Steve Finn	Housing Rep.
✓	Jeff Gentry	Chamber of Commerce Rep.
✓	Karen Lynch	Elder Services Rep.
AB	Richard Petraglia	Mayor's Resident Member
✓	Susan Thomson	City Council Resident Member
✓	Paul Weston	Natl. Assoc. Realtors Rep.
	VACANCY	

GUEST: Elizabeth Scorsello, Malden C.O.R.E
Cassandra Fleurnet, Doctoral Student

MINUTES

1. **February 22nd Meeting** was called to order by Chairwoman Thomson (CT) at 6:03 PM. Quorum sufficient to conduct business. Minutes of the January 18th meeting were accepted unanimously as written. Motion by Commissioner Gentry, second by Commissioner Weston.

2. **New Business**
CT welcomed the two guests. They introduced themselves and their affiliations. Elizabeth Scorsello representing Malden C.O.R.E. (Community Organizing for Racial Equity). Cassandra Fleurnet a Doctoral Student. Ms. Fleurnet was interested in observing the Commission for her studies. Ms. Scorsello was interested in the work and mission of the Commission. A discussion ensued – Ms. Scorsello shared with the Commission the mission and work of C.O.R.E. – a community group of activists.
 - a. **ADA Issues –**
Discussion: Property - Masonic Temple in Malden, 126-150 Pleasant St. – Developers of property informed the Commission via FedEx, they are applying for a waiver from the MA Architectural Access Board regarding minor deviations to the requirements for access to the building. Members of Commission visited the site. Commissioner Lynch observed that at the entrance of the storefront at the corner of Washington and Pleasant Streets the incline to the entrance exceeded the ratio required. The Malden

Building department had no objections to the waiver application, indicating these are routine requests. Commissioner Gentry will visit the site and report his observations. The Commission will take no other action at this time. In the future these issues will be referred to the Commission on Disabilities.

3. Old Business

- a. **Status of Ordinance and Disability Commission** - CT reached out to Council President DeMaria to expedite the status of the Enabling Ordinance. The Council moved the paper to the Ordinance Committee (OC). The Commission reviewed the language that has been sent to the OC. There were some issues the Commission would like to raise with the OC. CT was informed that Maria Luise has been appointed the ADA officer for Malden. The Commission still currently has a vacancy and some members ' terms have expired. – CT reported the Commission on Disabilities enabling language was also sent to OC. CT will attend the next meeting of the OC if our paper is on the agenda.
 - b. **IT Issues** – Commissioner Gentry (CG) reported the HR/FH Commission (“Commission”) will have a single log in to enable any of the Commissioners to send emails from the Commission’s email account. The Commission webpage needs to have a downloadable Complaint form for the public to access if in need of filing a complaint. Other information that will be on the webpage will be: Mission Statement, Contact info for reaching the Commission, Names of the most current members of the Commission, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, Meeting dates and Minutes of meetings. The Commission’s plan for an event to launch public awareness of this Commission and website, as a resource for the public, is on hold until the Ordinance issues are resolved. CG reported he would meet with the IT department to work through the outstanding issues.
 - c. **Commissioner Weston (CW) reported** - the City will be developing guidelines for homeowners regarding accessibility as residents place mobile libraries on their property.
4. **Next Meeting Date.** Next meeting of the Commission will be at **6:00 p.m. on April 26, 2018 at 493 Main Street, First Floor, Malden, MA 02148.**
5. Meeting Adjourned at 7:11 PM. Motion was made by Commissioner Gentry and seconded by Commissioner Lynch.