



## Committee on Community Resources and the Northampton City Council

### Committee Members:

*Chair: Councilor Garrick Perry*

*Vice-Chair: Councilor Marissa Elkins*

*Councilor Alex Jarrett*

*Councilor Rachel Maiore*

### Meeting Minutes

**Date: February 28, 2022**

**Time: 5:30 p.m.**

**Virtual Meeting Via Zoom**

1. **Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call.** At 5:30 p.m. Councilor Garrick Perry called the meeting to order. Present were Councilors Garrick Perry (Chair) Marissa Elkins (Vice Chair); Alex Jarrett and Rachel Maiore. Also present was Administrative Assistant Laura Krutzler.
2. **Announcement of Audio/Video Recording**  
Councilor Perry announced that the meeting was being audio and video recorded.
3. **Public Comment**  
There being no members of the public present, Councilor Perry moved on to the next agenda item.
4. **Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2022 Organizational Meeting**  
Councilor Maiore moved to approve the minutes of January 28, 2022. Councilor Jarrett seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.
5. **Updates and Announcements from Committee Members**  
None
6. **Items Referred to Committee**  
None.
7. **New Business**  
**Ideas for future meeting topics.**  
Councilor Perry said he would like to bring in Barbara Devlin from the Rotary Club of Northampton. The Rotary Club has scheduled a Day of Service for Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> on which they are going to come in and plant some trees, and she would like to share plans and information related to that.

And, they are planning to bring in Sean Donovan of the Department of Community Care for a basic update on the work that's going on and a check-in with them and the community.

Also, he mentioned that Brian Foote will be meeting with City Services and asked how members would feel about bringing him in to Community Resources too. City Services will be focusing on replenishing the Arts Councils' membership, but he would like to talk about some activities for the Arts Council and ways that they might be able to further the arts in Northampton.

Members brainstormed additional ideas. Councilor Maiore suggested bringing in Amy Cahillane of the Downtown Northampton Association (DNA) for a check-in on how businesses are doing, particularly as the city prepares to implement the ban on food establishments using plastic containers to serve prepared food. Members also talked about being interested in expanding on and encouraging private initiatives like 'Summer on Strong' elsewhere in the city. Councilor Jarrett expressed the opinion that it would be appropriate to reach out to the mayor's office on this subject since the mayor's office has been given the authority to designate areas where the use of public space for outdoor dining is allowed.

Councilor Perry invited members to talk about subjects they might be interested in exploring through the committee. Councilor Jarrett said he came up with a whole list when he first joined Community Resources several years ago, some of which they have already tackled and others that they found other places to talk about. Although the environment is under the jurisdiction of Community Resources, the Northampton Energy and Sustainability Commission (NESC) ends up dealing with many of the environmental subjects. Other topics of interest which are also discussed in other forums are issues around zoning, housing and transportation as it relates to the environment. He suggested continuing to think about pulling in these in as the situation warrants to create additional space for discussion.

Other topics suggested were industrial composting, public transportation and shared-use transportation such as Zip cars. Members also had a general discussion about the role of the committee and its ability to initiate topics for discussion as opposed to simply considering items referred to it.

8. **Adjourn.** Councilor Maiore moved to adjourn; Councilor Elkins seconded. The motion was approved on a roll call vote of 4 Yes, 0 No. The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Prepared By:  
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