

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
INTERVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES – June 7, 2022**

5:25 p.m. - Introduction to Remote Meeting

Selectman Hirsh stated that this Open Meeting of the Board of Selectmen Interview Subcommittee was being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of June 16, 2021, an Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency and that all members of the Board of Selectmen Interview Subcommittee are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

Selectman Hirsh noted that the Order allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. She added that ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. She noted that this meeting will be livestreamed, but will not allow for public comment. She indicated the various ways that the public may view this meeting as listed on the posted agenda.

Selectman Hirsh stated that any votes taken this evening will be by roll call vote. She confirmed that the following persons were remotely present and could be heard.

Board of Selectmen Interview Subcommittee

Julianne Hirsh  
Kristen Wixted

Former Board of Selectmen Interview Subcommittee

T. Scott Rogers – For acceptance of meeting minutes only

**ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES – MAY 3, 2022**

Selectman Rogers moved the Subcommittee vote to accept the minutes of the May 3, 2022 meeting; Selectman Wixted seconded the motion; Selectman Hirsh stated that she will abstain as she hadn’t had a chance to read them; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Selectman Rogers      “aye”  
Selectman Wixted      “aye”  
Selectman Hirsh      “abstain”

**INTERVIEWS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Remotely present:

Selectman Julianne Hirsh  
Selectman Kristen Wixted  
Scholarship Committee Member Elizabeth Nolan  
Chandra Vora – for his interview only  
Christina Renzullo – for her interview only

Chandra Vora

Chandra Vora has been a resident of Northborough for 42 years. He has worked in the high tech industry for many years and is now retired. He described his passion to help and encourage students to continue their education. He noted his experience working with other scholarship groups and feels that he can bring many ideas regarding marketing and raising awareness for the students.

Ms. Nolan reviewed the scope and responsibilities of the Scholarship Committee, the current application process and the Committee's goals to increase awareness and fundraising efforts. She also reviewed the anticipated meeting schedule.

Selectman Wixted explained that following tonight's interviews, the Interview Committee will vote on their recommendation for appointments for the Board of Selectmen's consideration at their meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### Christina Renzullo

Ms. Renzullo has been a resident of Northborough for 5 years. She is very involved with the Zeh School PTO and loves the idea of helping students fund their continued education. She added that she benefitted from scholarships and wants to help others who have the same need. She has experience in reading applications and making tough decisions. She also has experience in fundraising. She looks forward to helping bring awareness and fundraising efforts to the Scholarship Committee

Ms. Nolan reviewed the scope and responsibilities of the Scholarship Committee, the current application process and the Committee's goals to increase awareness and fundraising efforts. She also reviewed the anticipated meeting schedule.

Selectman Wixted explained that following tonight's interviews, the Interview Committee will vote on their recommendation for appointments for the Board of Selectmen's consideration at their meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **INTERVIEW FOR THE COUNCIL ON AGING**

#### Remotely present:

Selectman Julianne Hirsh  
Selectman Kristen Wixted  
Council on Aging Member Muriel Swenor  
Fran Bakstran – for her interview only

#### Fran Bakstran

Ms. Bakstran has been a resident of Northborough for 35 years. She works in the elder service industry and would like to be more involved in the interests and needs of the older adult residents in Town. She has previously served on the Council on Aging and has extensive experience serving on various other Town Boards and Committees. She also spoke about her experience as it relates to Aging In Place, adding how important walkability, transportation and affordability is for the older population.

As Ms. Bakstran is already familiar with the Council on Aging, Ms. Swenor briefly reviewed the scope and responsibilities of the Council on Aging and the Council's meeting schedule.

Selectman Wixted explained that following tonight's interviews, the Interview Committee will vote on their recommendation for appointments for the Board of Selectmen's consideration at their meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **INTERVIEWS FOR THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

### Remotely present:

Selectman Julianne Hirsh

Selectman Kristen Wixted

Board of Library Trustees Chair Michelle Rehill

Jocelyn McElhiney – for her interview only

Bethany Tsamis – for her interview only

### Jocelyn McElhiney

Ms. McElhiney has been a resident of Northborough for 45 years. She works in corporate philanthropy and has extensive experience in fundraising. As a funder of grant applications, she can share her perspective of what funders look for in grant application submissions. She is a strong advocate for early literacy and since she has previously served on the Board of Library Trustees for 5 years with just one year off the Board, she understands how important their work is in keeping the Library a vital resource for the Town. Also with her experience, she would be able to contribute to their efforts immediately.

Ms. Rehill stated that since she worked with Ms. McElhiney while she served on the Board of Library Trustees, she is already familiar with their scope and responsibilities.

Selectman Wixted explained that following tonight's interviews, the Interview Committee will vote on their recommendation for appointments for the Board of Selectmen's consideration at their meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Bethany Tsamis

Ms. Tsamis has been a resident of Northborough for 5 years. She works at the American Antiquarian Society and has served as their Head of Acquisitions for 7 years. She is very engaged in the community and feels it is a good time to give back. Given her skills, interests and passion about public libraries, the Board of Library Trustees is a place where she could be most useful. She shared her experience with creating a finals week student stress-relief program while she worked at Fordham University Libraries.

Ms. Rehill reviewed the scope of the Library Trustees and the meeting schedule. She stated that the Library Trustees provide fiscal oversight for the Library Budget and vested Trust Funds. There are also subcommittees who work on administrative policies and procedures, long-range planning, as well as planning and maintenance of the building and grounds.

Selectman Wixted explained that following tonight's interviews, the Interview Committee will vote on their recommendation for appointments for the Board of Selectmen's consideration at their meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT**

Selectmen Hirsh and Wixted agreed that all the candidates interviewed this evening were fantastic and the Town is lucky that they are offering to serve. They briefly discussed which candidates should be recommended for which term length, noting that the decisions are not based on the qualifications of the candidates themselves, but more by random.

Selectman Wixted moved the Interview Committee vote to recommend Fran Bakstran for appointment to the Council on Aging for a three-year term at the June 13, 2022 Selectmen's Meeting; Selectman Hirsh seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Selectman Wixted "aye"  
Selectman Hirsh "aye"

Selectman Wixted moved the Interview Committee vote to recommend Jocelyn McElhiney for appointment to the Board of Library Trustees for a two-year term at the June 13, 2022 Selectmen's Meeting; Selectman Hirsh seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Selectman Wixted "aye"  
Selectman Hirsh "aye"

Selectman Wixted moved the Interview Committee vote to recommend Bethany Tsamis for appointment to the Board of Library Trustees for a three-year term at the June 13, 2022 Selectmen's Meeting; Selectman Hirsh seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Selectman Wixted "aye"  
Selectman Hirsh "aye"

Selectman Wixted moved the Interview Committee vote to recommend Chandra Vora for appointment to the Scholarship Committee for a two-year term at the June 13, 2022 Selectmen's Meeting; Selectman Hirsh seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Selectman Wixted "aye"  
Selectman Hirsh "aye"

Selectman Wixted moved the Interview Committee vote to recommend Christina Renzullo for appointment to the Scholarship Committee for a three-year term at the June 13, 2022 Selectmen's Meeting; Selectman Hirsh seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Selectman Wixted "aye"  
Selectman Hirsh "aye"

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Selectman Hirsh moved the Interview Committee vote to adjourn; Selectman Wixted seconded the motion; the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Selectman Wixted     “aye”  
Selectman Hirsh     “aye”

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Wackell  
Executive Assistant to the  
Board of Selectmen

### Documents used during meeting:

1. June 7, 2022 Meeting Agenda
2. May 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes
3. Applications to the Scholarship Committee
4. Application to the Council on Aging
5. Applications to the Board of Library Trustees