

**NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS**  
**DATE: FEBRUARY 22, 2022**  
**TIME: 7:02 P.M.**  
**PLACE: HELD REMOTELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS' MARCH 12, 2020, ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW G. L. C. 30A, SECTION 20 WITH AN EXTENSION SIGNED ON JUNE 16, 2021, AND THE CITY COUNCIL'S VOTE TO WAIVE RULE 21A ON JANUARY 13, 2022**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS NAOMI CARNEY, CHAIRPERSON (REMOTELY); DEREK BAPTISE, VICE CHAIRMAN (REMOTELY); IAN ABREU (REMOTELY); SHANE BURGO (REMOTELY); MARIA GIESTA (REMOTELY); BRIAN GOMES (REMOTELY); SCOTT LIMA (REMOTELY); WILLIAM BRAD MARKEY (REMOTELY); LINDA MORAD (REMOTELY); RYAN PEREIRA (REMOTELY)**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLOR HUGH DUNN**

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Councillor Carney called the Appointments& Briefings Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read Communications from Councillor Dunn explaining his. This Communication was received and placed on file by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Pereira. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Councillor Carney announced the start of Citizen's Input Time, not to exceed the first thirty (30) minutes of this meeting.

Notice, City Clerk of reference on CITIZEN'S INPUT TIME, Soraia Fonseca, 24 Mott Street, New Bedford, speaking on Children's Advocacy relating to Government Agencies (Ref'd 01/26/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Giesta. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (1, 1a)

Soraia Fonseca was present and addressed the Committee. She is a Nurse by profession and expressed that there is a need for a city run child advocacy program.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of CHARLES R. COOPER, II, New Bedford, MA 02740, as a CONSTABLE (Ref'd 11/23/2021) was received and placed on

file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Gomes., This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (2, 2a)

Charles W. Cooper, II was present and addressed the Committee. He explained that he has been a resident of New Bedford for seventeen (17) years and works construction. He expressed an interest in becoming a Constable and decided to take the steps necessary to become one.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Gomes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of CHARLES R. COOPER, II, New Bedford, MA 02740, as a CONSTABLE. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of GENESIS GALAN, New Bedford, MA, to the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION; Ms. Galan will be replacing Reverend Kevin T. Taylor, whose term has expired; this term will expire in December 2022 (Ref'd 12/09/2021) was received and placed on file by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Abreu. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (3)

Genesis Galan was present and addressed the Committee. She explained that she found out about the position when a Community Member reached out to her to see if she would be interested in serving. She decided she would submit her name for consideration. Ms. Galan explained she is a former employee of PACE where she was a Special Project Coordinator. She also revealed that she has watched previous commission meetings and has spoken to members as well.

Councillors Baptiste, Pereira and Burgo, praised Ms. Galan and spoke in favor of her appointment.

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Morad, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of GENESIS GALAN, New Bedford, MA, to the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION; Ms. Galan will be replacing Reverend Kevin T. Taylor, whose term has expired; this term will expire in December 2022. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the REAPPOINTMENT of MELVIN L. DAVIS, New Bedford, MA to the HOUSING AUTHORITY; this term will expire December 2026 (Ref'd

01/13/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lima. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (4)

Melvin Davis was present and addressed the Committee. Mr. Davis was asked about his attendance to the meetings during COVID, and he explained that he attended the meeting in person while other members did so online. He informed the Committee that he enjoyed serving in the past and supporting and advocating for the needs of seniors living within New Bedford Housing.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the REAPPOINTMENT of MELVIN L. DAVIS, New Bedford, MA to the HOUSING AUTHORITY; this term will expire December 2026. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of JOSEPH P. LOPES, New Bedford, MA, to the AIRPORT COMMISSION; Mr. Lopes will be replacing Jeffrey Pelletier, who has resigned; this term will expire in December 2024 (Ref'd 01/27/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lima. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (5)

It was explained that Former Councillor Lopes would not be able to attend this meeting and he was out of state. It was asked that the motion be tabled.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of DEBORAH MIMOSO, New Bedford, MA, to the COUNCIL ON AGING; Ms. Mimoso will be replacing Ms. Virginia Morrison, whose term has expired; this term will expire in November 2024 (Ref'd 01/27/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Pereira. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (6)

Deborah Mimoso was present and addressed the Committee. She explained that when she returned to the city, she wanted to get involved in public service. Her mother had sat on the Council on Aging and when she was no longer serving the Mayor's Office

reached out to her to see if she would be still interested in serving and she said she would. She was asked if she was familiar with the Committee to which she said she was.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Markey, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of DEBORAH MIMOSO, New Bedford, MA, to the COUNCIL ON AGING; Ms. Mimoso will be replacing Ms. Virginia Morrison, whose term has expired; this term will expire in November 2024. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of MANUEL H. SILVA, New Bedford, MA, to the TRAFFIC COMMISSION; Mr. Silva will be replacing Jacob Gonsalves, whose term has expired; this term will expire in December 2024 (Ref'd 01/27/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Burgo. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (7)

Manuel Silva, former Assistant DPI Commissioner, was present and addressed the Committee. He explained, in his capacity as Assistant DPI Commissioner, he had previously held a seat on the Traffic Commission. He is very familiar with the rules and regulations and agreed to serve if appointed. He was asked if he felt he could be fair and impartial in making decisions which at one time may have passed down political decisions. He stated that he has served ten (10) years on the Board as a city employee, but now his role is that of a resident. He has the experience and know how needed to serve the Commission well.

On motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of MANUEL H. SILVA, New Bedford, MA, to the TRAFFIC COMMISSION; Mr. Silva will be replacing Jacob Gonsalves, whose term has expired; this term will expire in December 2024. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a PETITION, Erik Dyson, 14 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA 02739, d/b/a HAND UP US LLC, 127 West Rodney French Boulevard, New Bedford, MA 02744, requesting that he be granted a Waiver of Residency in accordance with Section 15-18 of the City Code, to obtain a LICENSE TO DEAL IN JUNK, OLD METALS OR ANY OTHER SECONDHAND ARTICLES & PAWNBROKER. (Ref'd 12/09/2021) (8)

The Clerk announced that Mr. Dyson contacted the Office and informed them that he would be unable to attend this meeting as he would be out of the country. It was asked that the matter be tabled.

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes, and Gomes, not present for the vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a PETITION, John D. Farley, Manchester, New Hampshire 03103 d/b/a OFF THE SHELF THRIFT, 92-127 West Rodney French Boulevard, New Bedford, MA 02744, requesting that he be granted a Waiver of Residency in accordance with Section 15-18 of the City Code, to obtain a LICENSE TO DEAL IN JUNK, OLD METALS OR ANY OTHER SECONDHAND ARTICLES (Ref'd 01/27/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Pereira. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (9)

The applicant was not present.

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of Flor Pineda, 7 Upton Street, New Bedford, MA 02746 d/b/a BETHEL TRANSPORTATION, 7 UPTON STREET, NEW BEDFORD, MA 02746, hereby submitting a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford (License will expire June 30, 2022.) (Ref'd 10/14/2021) (11/22/2021 – tabled) was removed from the table by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lima. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (10)

The applicant was not present, and the Clerk informed the Committee that this matter has been previously tabled because the applicant did not show up and did not call.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To recommend that the City Council take "No Further Action" on the COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of Flor Pineda, 7 Upton Street, New Bedford, MA 02746 d/b/a BETHEL TRANSPORTATION, 7 UPTON STREET, NEW BEDFORD, MA 02746, hereby submitting a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford. (License will expire June 30, 2022.) This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATIONS, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of Oliver A. Compres, 881 County Street, Apt. 1, New Bedford, MA 02740; William Perez, 66 Pleasant Street, Providence, RI 02906; Juan Reyes-Garcia, 39 Whitman Street, New Bedford, MA 02745 and Sandy D. Joaquin, 92 Libra Drive, New Bedford, MA 02745 d/b/a Ø WAIT TRANSPORTATION, INC. 881 County Street, New Bedford, MA 02740, hereby submitting a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford (License will expire June 30, 2022.) (Ref'd 01/27/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Markey. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (11)

William Perez, President of the Zero Wait Transportation Company was present and addressed the Committee. He explained that the Company primarily focused on medical service runs, but that now they were finding a need for normal livery services. This led them to apply for a new permit to do so. There are no parking issues for their vehicles as each employee has the vehicle at the residence. He was asked how many vehicles and employees the company had. The Committee was told twenty (20) vehicles and twenty (20) employees, all who would be registered properly with the city. He explained that he had met with the City Clerk find out what requirements needed to be met to conduct the business.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL on behalf of Oliver A. Compres, 881 County Street, Apt. 1, New Bedford, MA 02740; William Perez, 66 Pleasant Street, Providence, RI 02906; Juan Reyes-Garcia, 39 Whitman Street, New Bedford, MA 02745 and Sandy D. Joaquin, 92 Libra Drive, New Bedford, MA 02745 d/b/a Ø WAIT TRANSPORTATION, INC. 881 County Street, New Bedford, MA 02740, hereby submitting a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford. (License will expire June 30, 2022.) This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Lima, Morad and Pereira, requesting that Maria Rosario, Executive Director of NorthStar Learning Centers appear before the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, to provide a project overview and update regarding the proposed Early Education and Care Center being constructed in the City's South End (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings.) (Ref'd 01/13/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Pereira. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes. (12)

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Pereira, the Committee VOTED: To receive and place on file a packet/PowerPoint submitted by NorthStar Learning Center. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0,

with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes and Pereira, yes.

Maria Rosario, Executive Director of NorthStar Learning Centers was present and gave an overview and status of the new facility to be constructed off Rivet and County Streets. A video showing the services NorthStar provides throughout the community was shown.

Zoe Hansen-DiBello was introduced by Ms. Rosario, and she gave an overview of the capital campaign and the size of the facility and classrooms it would have. She gave an outline of the costs involved, \$8,500,000 project. \$2,500,000 needed in the capital raising campaign, to which they have already raised \$1,600,000.

Jess Tones, the Senior Project Manager was introduced, and she gave a timeline of the project, and they hope to have shoves in the ground early fall of 2022. Cliff Boehmar was introduced as the Architect, and he gave an overview of the design of the facility.

Many Councillors spoke in praise of the project and wished them well.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To recommend that the City Council take "No Further Action" on the WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Lima, Morad and Pereira, requesting that Maria Rosario, Executive Director of NorthStar Learning Centers appear before the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, to provide a project overview and update regarding the proposed Early Education and Care Center being constructed in the City's South End. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes and Councillor Gomes not present for the vote.

Councillor Burgo made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Baptiste. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes and Councillor Gomes not present for the vote.

This meeting adjourned @ 8:44 p.m.

ATTEST.

  
Denis Lawrence, Jr.,  
Clerk of Committees