



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES**

November 19, 2018

**REPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS
COMMITTEE**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Chair	Present	
Stephanie Hirsch	Vice Chair	Present	
Wilfred N. Mbah	Alderman at Large	Present	
Lance L. Davis	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Ben Ewen-Campen	Ward Three Alderman	Present	

Others present: Tim Snyder - Mayor's Office, Tom Galligani - SPCD, Ben Somers - SPCD, Doug Kress - Public Health and Human Services, Rositha Durham - Clerk of Committees.

The meeting took place in the Committee Room and was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chairman Scott and adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Approval of the October 15, 2018 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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Approval of the October 18, 2018 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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Approval of the October 29, 2018 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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Approval of the November 5, 2018 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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204021: Requesting the re-appointment of Michael Flynn to the Board of Assessors.

Acting Chairman Francis Golden introduced Mr. Flynn. Mr. Flynn was recently appointed to the state's ethics committee. Mr. Flynn has been on the Board of Assessors since 2006.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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204521: Requesting the appointment of Francis J. Golden as Chief Assessor and Chairman of the Board of Assessors.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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204920: Requesting the re-appointment of Doug Kress as Director of the Board of Health.

RESULT:	KEPT IN COMMITTEE
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205845: Requesting the re-appointment of Dr. Brian Green to the Board of Health.

Mr. Doug Kress introduced Dr. Green. He is a resident of Somerville since 2014 and has been involved in a variety of transitions in the Health Dept. such as: Tobacco Regulations and Vaccine Process. Everyone was very impressed with Dr. Green's qualifications. Dr. Green was asked his thoughts on marijuana. Dr. Green talked about some of the challenges to find the right places to sell marijuana. Marketing is still an issue, as well as, education. There are issues with the edibles that look like gummy bears and can fall into the hands of kids. There were discussions about flavored tobacco not available for purchase in convenience stores, only in specialty stores. In specialty stores, people 21 years of age and older are carded. There will be a public hearing on December 13 to address issues with flavored tobacco. Dr. Green was asked to reflect on the community health system to address the highest risk residents. There were discussions about the tragedy that happen a couple of years ago when a resident died while trying to get into emergency at CHA and how it may have been prevented.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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205846: Requesting the re-appointment of Robert Ciccio to the Board of Health.

Doug Kress introduced Mr. Robert Ciccio who's background is an attorney with a Master's in Public Health. Mr. Ciccio worked in the Attorney General's Office on policy legal actions. Questions were asked about Mr. Ciccio's authority on this board. Some of the responsibilities of this role are to fulfill all state requirements relating to food establishments, housing codes, tobacco and make regulations. Mr. Ciccio was asked about rodents issues in Somerville. He talked about his top issues to be addressed. First was vaping that has a steady increase amongst high school students. He is looking into regulating and restricting vaping. Opioids and marijuana were also discussions as areas of concern.

RESULT:	APPROVED
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206879: Requesting the appointment of Silvana Dinka to the position of Jobs Creation and Retention Trust Board member.

Ben Somer, Economic Development Specialist for workforce development program introduced the candidate. The role for the board is to increase the workforce programs and manage the job linkage funds. They are also responsible for adding more training, job opportunities and support people who really need the jobs. There were questions about how the funds will be spent and the importance on the board remaining in control of the funds.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206880: Requesting the appointment of Vickie Choitz to the position of Jobs Creation and Retention Trust Board member.

Ben Somer introduced this candidate. The candidate stated their role is to work on job retention, work closely with employers, city and community members. There were discussions about the importance and benefits of a living wage strategy. Discussions also included building career ladders, start out with low levels with career pathways for advancements as part of the city's playbook.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206881: Requesting the appointment of Anika Van Eaton to the position of Jobs Creation and Retention Trust Board member.

Ald. Mbah recused himself from this item. Ben Somer introduced this candidate who is a resident in Ward 2. Ms. Van Eaton volunteers her time as a job mentor. The committee was pleased to finally be able to fulfill these positions with a variety of backgrounds. There were discussions about how critical it is to create funds the jobs.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206882: Requesting the appointment of Rand Wilson to the position of Jobs Creation and Retention Trust Board member.

Ben Somer introduced this candidate who is no stranger to the city or the committee members. Mr. Wilson is an experienced organizer. He has worked on getting higher minimum wage, healthcare reform, and collective bargaining. Mr. Wilson stated he campaigned hard for the linkage fee and good job strategy for the city. He is also an advocate for worker organizing, employee ownership, and union strategies.

RESULT:

APPROVED

206883: Requesting the appointment of Josh Grehan to the position of Jobs Creation and Retention Trust Board member.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

206884: Requesting the appointment of Tom Bent to the position of Jobs Creation and Retention Trust Board member.

Tom Bent was introduced by Ben Somer. Mr. Bent is currently on the Chamber of Commerce and involved in the job linkage taskforce. He has been involved in developing opportunities for young people in the trades. Mr. Bent is also the Chair of Somerville high school CTE Advisory Board. He is the president of Bent Electrics. Mr. Bent talked about getting the jobs people need to stay in Somerville and to match the right people for the right job. He talked about making sure the funds are going where it is needed the most. He's a strong advocate for the Somerville High School.

RESULT:

APPROVED

204910: Requesting the re-appointment of Rose Durham as Clerk of Committees.

RESULT:

APPROVED

Handouts:

AAC Recommendation - JCRT_Redacted (with 206879-206884)

Bent, Tom JCRT app (with 206884)

Bent, Tom JCRT CV (with 206884)

Board of Assessors description (with 204021)

BOARD OF HEALTH (with 205845, 205846)

Choitz, Vickie JCRT CV (with 206880)

Choitz, Vickie JRCT app (with 2068800)

Ciccia, Robert BoH CV 11.14.18 (with 205846)

Dinka, Silvana JCRT CV app (with 206879)

Flynn, Michael Bd of Assessors CV (with 204021)

JCRT Board of Trustees Description (with 206879-206884)

Van Eaton, Anika JCRT app (with 206881)

Van Eaton, Anika JCRT CV (with 206881)

Wilson, Rand JCRT app (with 206882)

Wilson, Rand JCRT CV (with 206882)