

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Committee on Community Services Committee - 22 January, 2024

Meeting Recording: [here](#)

Members Present:

Cllr. Connie Preston, Chair - present
Cllr. Ben Harman - present
Cllr. Jennie Donahue - Zoom

Other Participants Present:

Christine Chapman
Charles Griffin
Kimberly Emmons

Agenda:

- APPT00447 Christine Chapman 28 Dorothy Lucey Dr. Council on Aging 2/15/2027
- APPT00456 Charles Griffin 3 Vernon St. Parks Commission 2/15/2027
- APPT00457 Charles Griffin 3 Vernon St. CPC rep/Parks Comm. 2/15/2027
- APPT00458 Kimberly Emmons 9 Doe Run Dr. Waterfront Trust 2/15/2027

Meeting started at 5:30pm

APPT00447 Christine Chapman Council on Aging 2/15/2027

Ms. Chapman and her husband moved to Newburyport over 20 years ago but she was very busy with a demanding career and a lot of international travel. She recently retired and has been interested in getting more active in the community. She recently joined a class at the Senior Community Center and in a discussion with the Director, she learned that there is an opening on the Council on Aging. Her previous career was in tech for a healthcare company so she has a keen interest analyzing the data from the CoA to use data trends to better tailor the services and offerings and get residents even more engaged.

Public Comment: None

Cllr. Harman moved to approve the appointment. Cllr. Donahue was the second.

Committee voted 3-0 to approve APPT0447 to the full council.

APPT00456 & APPT 00457 Charles Griffin APPT00456: Parks Commission 2/15/2027 & APPT00457: CPC rep/Parks Comm. 2/15/2027

Mr. Griffin explained that he became interested in the Parks Commission due to his passion for the Bartlett Mall but has found a great interest in all the parks and work that CPC does along the way. Cllr Harman asked about Atkinson and working with the various groups that contribute to the park. Mr. Griffin expressed a willingness to work with everyone to get the best results for the park. Mr. Griffin also mentioned that dogs can be the “nemesis” for the PC which set us

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down a path to discuss dogs. Cllr Donahue commented on the problems with dogs in the playground at Moseley Woods and Mr. Griffin pointed out that there is signage that makes it clear that dogs aren't allowed in the area. Cllr. Preston asked about the possibility of considering a fenced-in dog park in the city. He feels that could be a good idea but we all agreed that cost and resources to maintain are an issue. Mr. Griffin also mentioned that the CPC has a lot more requests than funds this year (likely first time) so it will be more challenging

Public Comment: None

Cllr. Harman moved to approve appointments 456 & 457 collectively. Cllr. Donahue was the second.

Committee voted 3-0 to approve APPT 456 & 457 collectively to the full council.

APPT00458 Kimberly Emmons Waterfront Trust 2/15/2026

Ms. Emmons has lived in NBPT for 15 years and is raising twin young girls. She currently serves on the Water & Sewer Commission but will be leaving for WFT. Ms. Emmons utilizes Market Landing Park and feels it's an amazing resource so wants to get more involved to protect the park. She has worked in mergers and acquisitions so she knows how to create paths to find common goals in diverse groups.

Public Comment: None

Cllr. Harman moved to approve the appointment. Cllr. Donahue was the second.

Committee voted 3-0 to approve APPT0458 to the full council.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm