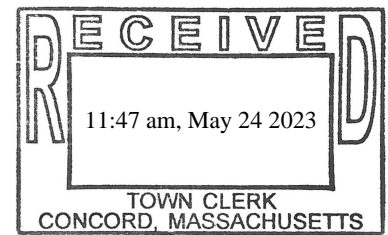


**Town of Concord  
Select Board  
Minutes  
April 10, 2023**



Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, the Concord Select Board convened in a meeting both in-person at 22 Monument Square on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in the Select Board Room and via Zoom at 6:30 PM on April 10, 2023.

Present were: Matthew Johnson, Chair; Henry Dane, Linda Escobedo (via Zoom), and Mary Hartman, Clerk pro-tempore

\*All votes reflect a Roll Call Vote due to the members attending in a hybrid meeting format

**Call to Order**

Select Board Chair Matthew Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY **voted:** to appoint Mary Hartman as Clerk pro-tempore.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Chair Johnson – Aye  
Mr. Dane – Aye  
Ms. Escobedo – Aye  
Ms. Hartman – Aye

**Consent Agenda**

- Meeting Minutes: September 27, 2022
- Executive Session Meeting Minutes for release: June 6, 2022, June 13, 2022, June 16, 2022
- One Day Liquor License for All Alcoholic Beverages for Gaining Ground Incorporated at 341 Virginia Road on Thursday, June 8, 2023 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM for the June Donor Party
- Gift Acceptance from James Terry in the amount of \$100,000.00 to the QCD Gift Account
- Proclamation honoring Ken Miller’s commitment to the Concord trail system
- Proclamation for Days of Remembrance for the victims of the Holocaust

Ms. Hartman asked for clarification on the QCD Gift Account.

Town Manager Kerry Lafleur responded that the account is dedicated to sustainability efforts.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY **voted:** to approve the Consent Agenda.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Chair Johnson – Aye  
Mr. Dane – Aye  
Ms. Escobedo – Aye

**Town of Concord  
Select Board  
Minutes  
April 10, 2023**

Ms. Hartman – Aye

**Town Manager’s Report**

Town Manager Kerry Lafleur introduced the newly hired Deputy Town Manager Megan Zammuto. Ms. Lafleur also highlighted that Thomas Mulcahy was sworn in as Chief of Police, that the Concord Municipal Light Plant is celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and noted two upcoming meetings, On Tuesday, April 11, 2023 the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission will review their survey results and on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, the Regional Housing Services Office will host a Housing Roundtable Discussion.

**Chair’s Report**

Chair Johnson presented a second draft of the Town Manager Evaluation Form, which will be finalized at the Select Board meeting on April 24, 2023. The full form draft is included in the Select Board meeting packet.

**250<sup>th</sup> American Revolution Anniversary Commission  
Update from Mike Lawson**

Mike Lawson of 1695 Lowell Road appeared before the Select Board to provide an update on the 250<sup>th</sup> American Revolution Anniversary Commission. Mr. Lawson noted that the leadership of the Commission recently changed to Representative Mindy Domb of the Hampshire District and Senator Paul Mark of the Berkshire, Hampshire, Hampton, and Franklin Districts. Mr. Lawson continued that the Commission is focused on a “cross-Commonwealth celebration” and promoting underrepresented voices. Mr. Lawson noted that Representatives Simon Cataldo and Michelle Ciccolo are working hard to secure funding for the community and that Senator Mike Barrett has also been working on this as the Chair of the Finance Subcommittee, but it is unclear how funds from the Commonwealth would be administered at this time. Mr. Lawson also noted that the Commission should receive more information soon on whether distinguished people will be invited to events.

Ms. Hartman asked a question about public safety and potential disruptions at upcoming events.

Mr. Dane responded that this is something the Concord 2025 Executive Committee has been considering and that they plan to review presentations in advance so that there are no surprises in the content.

Chair Johnson asked a question regarding the \$500,000.00 that has currently been allocated for public safety.

Mr. Lawson responded that this funding was not routed through the Commission.

Chair Johnson then asked if the \$2,000,000.00 that Senator Barrett mentioned will be used solely for the purpose of hiring consultants to raise money from philanthropic organizations.

**Town of Concord  
Select Board  
Minutes  
April 10, 2023**

Mr. Lawson responded that there are many large philanthropic corporations in Boston that hopefully will be willing to donate to the efforts when contacted.

Chair Johnson asked if other neighboring communities are dedicating Town funds for events.

Town Manager Kerry Lafleur responded that she will check in with other communities.

**Discuss Minute Man National Historic Park Plans for Old North  
Bridge Site with Superintendent Simone Monteleone**

Superintendent Simone Monteleone appeared before the Select Board to provide an update on the plans for the Old North Bridge site. Superintendent Monteleone stated that Phase 1 was contracted in September for buildings and facilities for \$14,000,000.00, Phase 2 was contracted in March for trail improvements for \$5,800,000.00 with the goal to have revised drawings within the next few months and work completed Fall 2024, and that Phase 3 for landscaping is currently in the Request for Proposal process, with the goal to award by the end of Fiscal Year 2023.

Chair Johnson asked about trail closures.

Superintendent Monteleone responded that the boardwalks will have to be replaced, so the work will be performed in sections so that there will only be partial trail closures.

Chair Johnson asked who owns the Old North Bridge.

Superintendent Monteleone responded that the Town owns the bridge, which is to be reviewed by engineers for safety this year, but it is in good condition. Superintendent Monteleone noted that there may be refinements to the drainage around the bridge included in the conceptual drawings. She further notes that any changes to the bridge area and the trails leading to/from the bridge require review by Concord NRC and Concord Selectboard approval.

**Minuteman Technical Update from Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Dawson and Concord  
Representative to the Minuteman District School Committee Steven Ledoux**

Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Dawson and Minuteman District School Committee representative Steven Ledoux appeared before the Select Board to provide an update.

Mr. Ledoux stated that there are 4 towns that are interested in joining the district, which would require all towns' Town Meeting approval.

Dr. Dawson noted that situations have changed and that towns would face much greater costs to build new buildings than joining the district. Dr. Dawson continued and noted that the career-technical education provided by Minuteman Technical is beneficial for students and that the new Minuteman Technical building brought in new students in a fast rate, but that there are a certain number of seats allocated for each district town.

**Town of Concord  
Select Board  
Minutes  
April 10, 2023**

Ms. Hartman asked if Minuteman Technical is already at capacity, why would the district incorporate new towns now.

Dr. Dawson responded that there is an East Campus that could be utilized for about 4 classrooms or 80 students.

Ms. Hartman asked a question regarding out-of-district tuition.

Mr. Ledoux responded that tuition is set by the state, and it does not necessarily cover costs.

Chair Johnson asked about OPEB liability and hopes that previous district towns would inherit the liability, as they were able to get out of their responsibility to contribute.

Dr. Dawson noted that Minuteman Technical is presenting to the district towns but is not ready to proceed. For now, they are looking to keep towns informed should a decision come up down the line. Dr. Dawson also noted that adding a town to the district would lower Concord's assessment.

**Assign Speakers to Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles**

The following Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles were assigned to Select Board members for statements:

- Article 5 – New Classification and Compensation Plan for Regular-Status Positions – Ms. Ackerman
- Article 10 – DEI Director – Chair Johnson (if needed)
- Article 17 – Concord Public Schools Budget – Mr. Dane
- Article 19 – Concord Public Schools Capital Projects – Fields and Landscaping – Chair Johnson (if needed)
- Article 22 – Citizen Petition – Municipal In-Town Solar Generation Task Force – Ms. Hartman
- Article 23 – Adopt Specialized Stretch Energy Code – Chair Johnson
- Article 25 – Appropriation for 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – Mr. Dane
- Article 26 – Community Preservation Commission Appropriation Recommendations – Ms. Escobedo (Chair Johnson as back up)
- Article 34 – Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Mobile Food Establishment – To be determined at Town Meeting
- Article 37 – Citizen Petition – Prohibition of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers – Ms. Hartman

**Schedule May 2023 Select Board Meetings**

The Select Board scheduled Monday, May 15, 2023 and Monday, May 22, 2023 as their May meetings.

**Town of Concord  
Select Board  
Minutes  
April 10, 2023  
Committee Nominations**

There were no Committee Nominations.

**Committee Appointments**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was UNANIMOUSLY **voted:** to appoint Brian Crouse of 49 Indian Pipe Lane for a term to expire May 31, 2026 to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee; Bernice Fousek of 115 Stow Street at Peter Bulkeley Terrace for a first term as the Tenant Member from May 1, 2023 to May 31, 2028 to the Concord Housing Authority; and Robert Munro of 1400 Lowell Road for a second term from May 1, 2023 to May 31, 2026 to the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Chair Johnson – Aye  
Mr. Dane – Aye  
Ms. Escobedo – Aye  
Ms. Hartman – Aye

**Correspondence**

Chair Johnson acknowledged the correspondence in the Select Board meeting packet.

**Select Board Liaison Reports**

Chair Johnson reported on:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission – Will present the Community Survey results on Tuesday, April 11, 2023
- School Committee – Discussion regarding the Food Service program which has had an increase in participants; the Youth Risk Behavior Survey results showed some improvement, but also still reflect struggles with mental health; a new capital plan for the public school suggested that sustainability efforts should be the responsibility of the Town and not the school district

Mr. Dane reported on:

- The first 2025 Executive Committee sponsored event will be held at the Town House on Friday, April 14, 2023 for Ellen Garrison Day
- Public Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee – Will perform a walk through at the Old North Bridge with the Minuteman National Park on Wednesday, April 12, 2023

Ms. Escobedo reported on:

**Town of Concord  
Select Board  
Minutes  
April 10, 2023**

- Concord Housing Authority – Authority has made great progress with getting additional voucher opportunities and the conversion of federal properties to local properties

**Public Comment**

Pamela Dritt of 13 Concord Greene asked a question about the criteria for being permitted to march in the Public Ceremonies and Celebration Committee’s parades.

**Adjournment**

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting.

**Meeting Packet:** <https://concordma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/41766/Select-Board-Meeting-Packet-April-10-2023>

**Meeting Recording:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWWg5u3fRS0&list=PL1TTzrWEKOOkHKXNLQprEz0f0ofHYKj8-&index=2>