

**COMMITTEE ON LIAISON
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
WOBURN CITY HALL**

Voting Members present: President Michael Concannon, Councilor Robert Ferullo, Councilor Joanne Campbell, Councilor Richard Gately, Councilor Jeffrey Dillon, Councilor Darlene Mercer-Bruen, Councilor Lou DiMambro, and Councilor Charles Viola. Absent: Councilor Joseph Demers

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Reading of previous meeting minutes: Motion made by Councilor Mercer-Bruen and seconded by Councilor Ferullo to waive the reading of and to approve the minutes of June 27, 2022, and October 11, 2022. President Concannon said a portion of the June 27, 2022, meeting was held in executive session. He said the matter that prompted the discussion in executive session has been resolved and the minutes can be released. Motion approved, 8-0.

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Request from Jenna Francis to discuss Know Your Neighbor Woburn: Representing Know Your Neighbor Woburn were Christopher DiMeo, 45 Robinson Road, Woburn, MA; and Elissa Milto, 14 Charles Street, Woburn, MA. President Concannon said a group of residents has started a program called “Know Your Neighbor Woburn” and has requested citizens participation time to address the City Council and the public through a broadcast on Woburn Public Media. He said the group’s first event is scheduled for December 4. Ms. Milto said the idea for Know Your Neighbor Woburn came from a gathering at a forum about gun violence and progressed to the concept of holding community events. She said the group’s first event will be held at the Studio Café in downtown Woburn on Sunday, December 4. She said the idea is to get people together from diverse backgrounds to discuss different holiday traditions. Mr. DiMeo said the group has been reaching out to the multi-cultural communities. He said there will be a traditional Middle Eastern dinner available at the event on December 4. He said there will be an exhibit of local artists and music. He said they will be celebrating all the things that make Woburn unique. He said there is no agenda and no issues other than getting to know your neighbor. Mr. DiMeo said he has provided for distribution a flyer describing the December 4 event. Motion made by Councilor Mercer-Bruen and seconded by Councilor DiMambro to accept a copy of the flyer and keep it on file; approved, 8-0. Mr. DiMeo said the event will run from 4-6 p.m. He said they are planning a second event in March. He said the organizing group is wonderful. Ms. Milto said the goal is to have at least three events per year. Councilor Dillon thanked Ms. Milto and Mr. DiMeo for their efforts. He said it takes a lot of work to organize an event like this. He said he is really happy there is an effort to make Woburn more inclusive. He said everyone on the City Council feels this is important. Councilor Viola said he wants to echo what Councilor Dillon just said. He said he thinks this event is a great idea for Woburn residents. He said there should be a good turnout. Councilor Mercer-Bruen thanked Mr. DiMeo and Ms. Milto for their efforts. She said the City Council embraces this wonderful organization. She asked the organizers if they have talked to anyone in the city about publicizing the event on the

city's website or advertising on Woburn Public Media. Mr. DiMeo said the event hasn't been posted on the website. He said he would talk to someone in the mayor's office. Councilor Mercer-Bruen said she is certainly willing to share any information about the event on any of her social media platforms. She asked if the organizers have contacted anyone in the School Dept. Mr. DiMeo said they have teachers from three schools helping with publicity. He said people have been willing to help. Councilor Gately asked if anyone from Know Your Neighbor Woburn went to the Festival on the Common. Mr. DiMeo said he was there briefly at the end. Councilor Gately said the Kiwanis Club and the Lions Club started the Festival on the Common and has kept is going all these years. He said he loves seeing people organize events like this. He said there are a ton of good people in the city. Councilor DiMambro thanked Mr. DiMeo and Ms. Milto for organizing this event. He asked if they have reached out to anyone at the Woburn Senior Center. He said he would like to see the younger crowd mix with the older crowd. He said that type of interaction would be more fulfilling for everyone. Mr. DiMeo said they have been talking with people at the senior center for a couple of months. He said the next event will be either at the senior center or the Woburn Boys & Girls Club. Councilor Dillon suggested reaching out to Samantha Stone about appearing on her program on Woburn Public Media. Ms. Milto said she contacted Ms. Stone last week. Motion made by Councilor Mercer-Bruen and seconded by Councilor Viola to receive the request for citizens participation and place it on file; approved, 8-0.

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Motion made by Councilor Dillon and seconded by Viola to adjourn; approved, 8-0.
President Concannon adjourned the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

Attest: _____
Gordon Vincent
Clerk of Committees