



WATERTOWN

MASSACHUSETTS

Residents' Advisory Committee
Wednesday, May 6, 2026
Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Kathryn Madden, Liz Cremens, Sam Ling, Michael Merullo. Dan D'Amico was not present.

Administrative:

The meeting started at 5:00. The next RAC meeting is Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 5 PM.

The June meeting will be on Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 5 PM in order to ensure a quorum of members.

Approval of Minutes:

Review of the Minutes for the May 3, 2026. Sam moved to approve the Minutes, seconded by Michael and unanimously approved by vote of RAC member.

RAC Statistics in the Budget Report Book:

Kathryn reported on the statistics she provided on RAC activity for the Budget Report Book. In 2024, 85 persons were appointed by the City. In 2025, RAC has interviewed 58 candidates. The City appointed 63 persons of which 32 were new candidates and 31 were reappointments.

Outreach:

Board Video

Kathryn reported that she has received two videos. She will follow up with those who have not provided a video. Sam will be working with the representative from Community Preservation Committee to prepare his video.

Participation at Eco-Fest

Liz reported that she was told there is no table space available for RAC at the Eco-Fest which is scheduled for Saturday May 9, 2026 11AM-2PM at the Commander's Mansion. It was decided that RAC members will walk around interact with attendees and persons staffing tables, will gather names of persons interested in applying for Boards/Commissions/Committees

("Boards) and explain ways to participate-- attend meetings of the Boards, watch recordings of the meetings, and how to apply for a Board.

For Eco-Fest and future outreach, we are having T Shirts made with the following on the front "MAKE A DIFFERENCE..." and on the back "JOIN A CITY OF WATERTOWN BOARD COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE Residents' Advisory Committee." Sarah Burns did the design work and JoAnna is handling the ordering of the T Shirts to be available May 8.

Kathryn, Liz, and Michael will be available for some or all the Eco-Fest on May 9.

Participation in Watertown Pride

Watertown Pride is Saturday June 6—10AM go 11AM Parade; 12Noon to 4PM activities at Saltonstall Park and the Library. Michael and Kathryn are able to attend will work on RAC 's participation.

Participation in Watertown Farmers' Market

Watertown Farmers Market is every Wednesday from June 10-October 21, 2:30 PM to 6:30 PM. Liz will look into obtaining a Community Table date. In addition, may be good idea to have RAC members walk around interacting with the Community Tables of City Boards and other Community groups on other dates of the Farmers' Market. Will further discuss participation at future RAC meeting.

Participation in the Watertown Arts Fair

The Watertown Arts Fair is scheduled for Saturday August 8 from 12-5PM in the Arsenal Yards Park. The Arts Fair is sponsored by the City and the Watertown Business Coalition. Liz will look into obtaining a space.

Participation in Faire in the Square

Watertown Faire in the Square is scheduled for Saturday September 19, 12-5 PM. In future we will discuss the RAC participation. Will work with JoAnna to register and obtain a space.

Executive Session

At 5:30 Michael made a Motion to move into Executive Session to interview and consider applicants and not reconvene as a public meeting, seconded by Sam and unanimously approved. the RAC went into Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – MGL 30A, Section 21(a), Subsection (8): to consider or interview applicants for employment or appointment by a preliminary screening committee if an open meeting will have a detrimental effect in obtaining qualified applicants; provided, however, that this clause shall not apply to any meeting, including meetings of a preliminary screening committee, to consider and interview applicants who have passed a preliminary screening.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

Draft Minutes submitted by Liz Cremens May 25, 2026

Minutes Approved, with edits, at the June 10, 2026 RAC Meeting. Submitted June 11, 2026.

