



Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Sullivan Chamber, City Hall

795 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge MA 02139

MEETING MINUTES

The *Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement* convened for a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, in the Sullivan Chamber at City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Councillor Sumbul Siddiqui, Chair of the Task Force, called the meeting to order at 5:42 pm with seven members present at the meeting's start. In attendance as presenters were Chris Cotter and Cliff Cook. Present as members of the public were Ellen Semonoff, Maria Melo, and Bailey Werner.

<i>Task Force Members in Attendance:</i> Councillor Sumbul Siddiqui, Chair		<i>Task Force Members Absent:</i>	<i>City of Cambridge Staff in Attendance:</i>	<i>City of Cambridge Staff Absent:</i>
Sonia Andujar Jessica Drew Betsy Eichel Iram Farooq Larry Field	Beth Huang Alexandra Markiewicz Maura Pensak (<i>arrived before 6:00 pm</i>)	Patrick Barrett Teresa Cardosi Sean Hope Kuong Lee Maura Pensak Cheryl-Ann Pizza-Zeoli	Sarah Stillman	Wilford Durbin

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 5:42 pm by Sumbul Siddiqui, Chair.	Procedural	Sumbul Siddiqui
Overview of Meeting Agenda	An overview of the agenda for the meeting was given by Sumbul Siddiqui, Chair.	Informational	Sumbul Siddiqui

	<p>a very strong collaborator, and with broad enough experience to both properly address policy issues and deal with emergency situations. The person who steps in to this role will need to understand what’s happening and do some best-fit work between all the departments that touch on housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Siddiqui said that she will share the description with the Task Force. <p>Chair Siddiqui requested Mr. Cotter share the City’s plan for its upcoming “2019 Affordable Housing Action Week of Action”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year, the CDD decided to shift to a month of events as opposed to one week in May - starting this Saturday, April 27th, with the “Affordable Housing Fair” at the Community Arts Center on Windsor St, 11:00 am - 2:30 pm. This is also in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Cambridge Affordable Housing Trust. • Chair Siddiqui said that she will share out the calendar of events for the “2019 Affordable Housing Action Month of Action.” 	<p>Action</p> <p>Informational</p> <p>Action</p>	<p>Sumbul Siddiqui</p> <p>Chris Cotter</p> <p>Sumbul Siddiqui</p>
Updates from Task Force Action Area Working Groups	Chair Siddiqui introduced the following Task Force Working groups—Tenant Education Legislative and Policy Agenda and Funding—to provide progress updates to the Task Force at large and present any pending questions or needs.	Informational	Sumbul Siddiqui
	<p><u>Tenant Education Working Group</u></p> <p>Plan for a series of workshops on different topics is laid out (resources for tenants, familiarity with fair housing laws, preparing for inspections, etc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main question: would this plan be led by Task Force, or would it be passed off to someone from City to implement and institutionalize? • Chair Siddiqui confirmed the latter (would make sense to have this passed to Liaison once hired). <p>Other ideas discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force “Open House” –holding open house to invite residents into space, highlight what we’re collecting and the work we’re doing on displacement. • City of Cambridge ordinance to protect tenants – a “Tenant Organizing Ordinance” – what would this look like for Cambridge, what will be the process- is this a home rule situation? • Tenant Association / inclusionary tenant advisory group - TBD (Chris Cotter said CDD is looking at coming up with better process for residents to give us input). 	Informational	Alexandra Markiewicz, Sonia Andujar, Maura Pensak

Action Area Working Group Break Out	<p>Chair Siddiqui thanked all the Task Force members for their updates and announced that for the last 15-20 minutes of the meeting the Task Force would break out in to these Working Groups and discuss next action steps.</p> <p>Chair Siddiqui and her legislative aide, Ms. Sarah Stillman, met with each of the groups during this time.</p>	Action	ALL
Adjournment	Chair Siddiqui adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm.	Procedural	Sumbul Siddiqui