Town of Needham
Select Board
Minutes for Tuesday, September 26, 2023
Select Board's Chamber
and
Via ZOOM
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89068374046

6:00 p.m. Call to Order:
A meeting of the Select Board was convened by Vice Chair Kevin Keane. Those present were Chair Marianne Cooley (via Zoom), Cathy Dowd, Heidi Frail, and Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick. Marcus Nelson was not in attendance. Dave Davison, ATM/Finance, Katie King, ATM/Operations (via Zoom), and Susan Metropol, Recording Secretary, were also in attendance.

6:00 p.m. Mr. Keane introduced new Recording Secretary Susan Metropol.

6:01 p.m. Public Comment Period:
David Sherman (via Zoom), 100 Rosemary Way, spoke to the Board about the sectarian nature of the prayer offered at the Town's recent 9/11 Memorial. He noted his communication regarding the issue with Ms. Fitzpatrick, Ms. King, and the Fire ChiefP. Mr. Sherman expressed his view that all prayers at Town events, including Fire and Police departments events, Town Meeting, and other meetings should be non-sectarian.

6:04 p.m. Certificate of Appreciation – Jon Schneider:
Ms. Frail read a Certificate of Appreciation recognizing Jon Schneider for 30 years of service to the Town of Needham Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board thanked Mr. Schneider for his leadership and dedication to quality work in the town. Mr. Schneider expressed his thanks for the recognition. Mr. Keane recognized the extent of Mr. Schneider's commitment to the town for the past 30 years. Ms. Fitzpatrick also expressed her thanks for Mr. Schneider's professionalism and grace during his service.

6:08 p.m. Proclamation – Hispanic Heritage Month:
Ms. Frail read a proclamation recognizing September 15 – October 15, 2023, as Hispanic Heritage Month in Needham.

6:09 p.m. Public Hearing – Application for a Fuel Storage License at 360 1st Avenue:
Presenters: Ronald Gavel, Fire Inspector, Jay Steeves, Fire Inspector, Gerald Topping, Assistant Director of Building Construction, Boston Children's Hospital, Greg Lynch, Construction Manager, Brian Tatarczuk, Engineer. Mr. Topping presented the hospital's application to store 8,000 gallons of number two diesel fuel to run the emergency generator providing electrical supply for approximately two and a half days. He noted that this is not a 24/7 operation as an ambulatory surgical

center but requires reserve capacity. He confirmed that the Fire Chief had endorsed the application. Mr. Gavel and Mr. Steeves were also present.

Mr. Keane opened to the Board for questions. Ms. Frail asked about the consideration of cleaner energy and of any plans to diversify back up energy moving forward. Mr. Topping responded that gas would rely on gas line and not be a guaranteed fuel source and that operating theatres would require emergency power. Boston Children's Hospital as an institution is moving in the direction of clean energy. This particular facility will use diesel so that power is available and guaranteed. Ms. Frail asked if the building would have any solar array. Mr. Topping responded that the building does not, as the power demand of the building exceeds the space available for arrays. The building itself is more efficient than the energy efficiency standard. Geothermal energy was explored, not considered due to geology. Battery backup is available to start the generator, but amount of power consumed would exceed ability to use battery power onsite. Kevin Keane asked about safety concerns about the underground tank. Mr. Topping responded that the tank is double-walled and made of steel, any leak into the external shell would trigger alarms, which are tested monthly. Ms. Cooley noted that this is a standard request and that people should feel confident in the safety and inspection mechanisms for this type of application.

Motion by Ms. Frail that the Select Board approve and authorize the Chair to sign a license for Boston Children's Hospital Corporation to install an 8,000-gallon underground diesel storage tank to serve the emergency generator on the property of 260 1st Avenue in Needham.
Second: Ms. Dowd. Unanimously approved 4-0.

6:17 p.m. Public Hearing – Application for a Transfer of an All-Alcohol License – Latin-A Group, LLC d/b/a Latina Kitchen and Bar:

Motion by Ms. Frail that the Select Board move this public hearing to the Select Board Meeting on Tuesday, October 10, 2023.
Second: Ms. Dowd. Unanimously approved 4-0.

6:18 p.m. Appointments and Consent Agenda:
Motion by Ms. Dowd that the Select Board vote to approve the Appointments and Consent Agenda as presented.
Second: Ms. Frail. Unanimously approved 4-0.

APPOINTMENT CALENDAR

1.	Marianne Cooley	Future School Needs Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2026
2.	Kevin Keane	Future School Needs Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2026
3.	Catherine Dowd	Subcommittee to Study the Minuteman School Term Exp: 6/30/2026

4.	Gloria Greis	Needham Branding and Town Seal Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2024
5.	Maureen Callahan	Community Preservation Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2026
6.	Keith LaFace	Human Rights Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2026
7.	Lynn Rodman	Commission on Disabilities Term Exp: 6/30/2025
8.	Cynthia Ganung	Needham Branding and Town Seal Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2024
9.	James Goldstein	Mobility Planning and Coordination Committee Term Exp: 6/30/2026

CONSENT AGENDA

1.	Approve open session minutes of September 11, 2023 and September 12, 2023
2.	Accept the following donations to the Needham Free Public Library: • From the Friends of the Needham Free Public Library, $7,500 • From the Library Foundation of Needham, $7,432.12 • From Rebecca and Michael Turner, $100 in memory of Frances Josephine Pascucci • From Karen Kajmo, *The Collector*, by Daniel Silva (estimated value $32) • From Nancy Agler on behalf of the Needham Garden Club, $25 in memory of Kathleen Lewis
3.	Approve a request from the Charles River Chamber to place Fall Harvest Fair signs at the following locations through one day following the conclusion of the Fall Harvest Fair: • In front of Town Common along the fence on Great Plain Ave. • Avery Square • Entrance to the Recycling Transfer Station at 1421 Central Ave. • Outside Public Service Administrative Building at 500 Dedham Ave. • Needham Library front lawn at 1130 Highland Ave. • Along Harris Street green near Pollard Middle School • Next to the "Entering Needham" signs on Dedham Ave., Webster St., Kendrick St., and Great Plain Ave.
4.	Accept the following donations made to the Needham Community Revitalization Trust Fund: $100 from the Charles River Center, $1500 from the Needham Public Library, and $100 from Randal & Denise Murdza.

NOTICE OF APPROVED BLOCK PARTIES

Name	Address	Party Location	Date	Time	Rain Date
Lisa Bello	124 Gayland Road	Gayland Road	9/30/23	4pm-6pm	10/1/23

Mark Pantridge	102 Lexington Avenue	Burnside Road, between Lexington Avenue and Concord Street	10/14/23	5:30pm-9pm	N/A
Melissa Emond	15 Prospect Street	Meadowbrook Road	10/28/23	3pm-5pm	10/29/23
Yakov Shapiro	208 Valley Road	208 to 222 Valley Road	10/29/23	2pm to 5pm	11/4/23

NOTICE OF APPROVED ONE-DAY SPECIAL ALCOHOL LICENSES

Hosting Organization	Primary Contact	Location	Date
Charles River Center	Hilary Ryan	59 East Militia Heights Drive	09/24/23
Newman Parent Teacher Council	Stefanie Forman	1147 Central Ave	10/21/23

6:19 p.m. Legislative Update:

Denise Garlick, State Representative, expressed her thanks to the members of the Select Board for their commitment to civil discourse in our community. Rep. Garlick commented on the difficulty for local officials to facilitate civil discourse and her respect for each member of the Select Board for their commitment to the town. As the House Chair of the Joint Committee of Education, Rep. Garlick noted her role as Chair of a permanently funded commission on the status of individuals with disabilities.

<u>FY24 Budget:</u>

Rep. Garlick then presented the Massachusetts State FY24 Budget Funding Initiatives as follows: Clean Energy, Mental Health, Public Education, Early Education and Care, and Public Health. A special focus has been placed on Early Education and Care and Public Health. The SAFE (State Action Public Health for Excellence) Bill, which Rep. Garlick has worked on since 2014 has been approved in the public health committee and is moving to the floor. Rep. Garlick also highlighted the FY24 Budget Policy Initiatives as follows: Preventative Services, Operation House Call, Universal School Meals, Evictions Protections, and No Cost Calls.

<u>Needham Local Aid:</u>

State is continually supporting communities as demonstrated by each increase each year. METCO budget has been held stable. Rep. Garlick is hoping that the House will move on overriding the governor’s veto of a portion of the METCO budget. Dr. Dan Gutenkanst, superintendent of Needham Public Schools has advocated for METCO. Special Education Circuit Breaker to be calculated but is fully funded. Ms. Garlick reported that $75K has been secured for Needham Housing Authority Community Center upgrades as well as $100,000 for Charles River Center accessibility adaptations. Finally, $40,000 has been secured for Community

Behavioral Health Services at BID Needham in its third year of pilot program. Rep. Garlick emphasized the need for a strong connection between the hospital and community resources.

<u>FY23 Revenue Picture:</u>
Rep. Garlick reported that the FY23 revenues were $39.796B, which was $605M (1.5%) below projections. The total FY23 Budget Impact was $39M.

<u>Education Committee:</u>
The Education Committee has focused on the following areas: Special Education, Early Education, Assessments, Students' Mental Health, Curriculum & Instruction, School Personnel, School Finance, Early Literacy, and College & Career Readiness. Rep. Garlick highlighted that the need is great in early education and during COVID-19 this became evident. Federal aid supporting early education has ceased since the end of the COVID-19 emergency, but Massachusetts continues to focus on this.

<u>Session Priorities:</u>
Rep. Garlick listed the following areas as Session Priorities: Public Health, Tax Relief, Hybrid Public Meetings, Housing, Healthcare Worker Safety, Transportation, Early Education and Care, Climate Change, Firearm Safety, and Human Services Workforce.

Mr. Keane expressed his thanks for meeting with individuals around the Commonwealth and for her commitment to the Commonwealth. Ms. Dowd as a former teacher thanked Rep. Garlick for her service especially securing METCO funding and Universal School Meals.

Ms. Frail also thanked Rep. Garlick for her work in the healthcare workforce. She also asked about how Early Education funding translates from the state to local level. Rep. Garlick discussed the importance of advocating for Early Education and Childcare for young families.

6:49 p.m. Public Hearing – EV Charging Station Rates:
Presenters: David Davison, Deputy Town Manager/Director of Finance, Carys Lustig, Director of Public Works, and Cecilia Simchak, Director of Finance/Administration for Public Services. Mr. Davison presented that the proposed policy for EV rates and noted that the policy adopted by the Board can be amended by the Board at any time. The policy identifies three types of charging stations available to differing audiences. Proposal in terms of rates is rate per kilowatt hour charge at $0.25 per hour. An additional charge included in this policy is to be incurred once a vehicle stops charging at $3/hour to encourage turnover (with a 30-minute grace period). Discussion ensued about the demand for electric vehicle chargers, providing an incentive to move vehicles that are fully charged, and the goal of adding additional chargers in town while taking into consideration

the maintenance required necessitating a funding mechanism for maintenance as inventory expands.

Ms. Dowd asked about research conducted on the $3 charge. Ms. Simchik responded that other communities charge varying amounts ranging from $1-$3. Discussion followed on how the committee decided on $3.

Ms. Frail added her support for this rate and the policy behind it. ChargePoint will be responsible for the $3 charge. Discussion of the 5-hour limit, recommended a 4-hour limit instead.

Ms. Cooley agreed with Ms. Frail's recommendation for 4-hour limit. Ms. Cooley expressed concern that rate does not express cost of maintenance for the chargers. She asked if the fees should be set higher to account for this. Mr. Davison responded that there is currently a premium being added at the rate of $0.25 hour whereas the town's rate is $0.22/hour. The FY 25 budget will include another rate adjustment which can include cost for repairs and maintenance.

Mr. Keane asked if the grace period of 30 minutes is too generous. According to DPW seems necessary for those using although it is generous. Mr. Keane and Ms. Fitzpatrick inquired about town and school employees working outside of regular working hours and Ms. Lustig responded this policy will be revised to create equal access to charging stations during working hours. Mr. Davison informed the Board that they will be asking the Board to vote at their next meeting on October 10.

7:04 p.m. DPW Feasibility Study – Update:
Presenters: Hank Haff, Director Building Design & Construction, Carys Lustig, Director of Public Works, Shane Mark, Assistant Director of Public Works. Mr. Hank Haff reminded the Board of the full presentation at the last Select Board meeting. Mr. Haff identified Option #4 as the recommendation of the DPW. It is a phaseable option and a substantial improvement to the existing facility. Mr. Haff noted the cost escalation depending on how long each phase lasts. Ms. Fitzpatrick noted that the capital plan developed in November/December will include more specific numbers.

Ms. Dowd asked about what soft costs include. Mr. Haff identified architect and engineering costs, borrowing costs, survey costs, and printing costs. These need to be appropriated first to do design and technical work.

Ms. Frail asked about the impact of the opt-in specialized code to be discussed at the fall Town Meeting. Mr. Haff discussed the potential for different design choices specific to DPW buildings. Ms. Frail also asked about anticipated maintenance costs. Ms. Fitzpatrick contributed that this is included in the capital plan. Mr. Haff noted that the Public Services Administration Building is the only public building that is geothermal in Needham and has one of the lower operating and maintenance costs of the public buildings.

Ms. Cooley expressed support for Option #4 with the consideration that there is more to learn about maintenance costs for the town.

Motion by Ms. Dowd that the Select Board designate Option 4 as the preferred design option relative to the 2023 DPW Feasibility Study.
Second: Ms. Frail. Unanimously approved 4-0.

Mr. Keane expressed his thanks to the Committee.

7:13 p.m. DPW: Traffic Safety Committee:
Presenter: Carys Lustig, Director of Public Works and Transportation Safety Committee, and Justin McCullen, Chair, Transportation Safety Committee, presented the Board with an update on the roadway narrowing project and line striping work, reminding the Board that over the past few years the Department of Public Works has reduced the average lane width from a standard 12-foot to 10- of 9-foot lanes. The state is also moving in this direction. The Transportation and Safety Committee identified a potential location for piloting this proposal. The residents at this location were not particularly receptive, leading the Committee to identify two other locations in Needham, High Rock Street and Oak Street, that could be included in a pilot program for updated line striping. The proposal for High Rock Street is two 9-foot lanes with a 6-foot bike lane. The proposal for Oak Street is two 9-foot lanes with a 3-foot shoulder. Traffic counts will be conducted before and after the application in order to assess the effectiveness of reducing the lane width. The Mobility Committee can use the collected information to create more standardized practices around lane striping.

Ms. Frail asked a clarifying question about what work will be completed. Ms. Lustig responded that only painting will be completed, and no pavement work will be conducted.

Ms. Dowd asked how the pilot will be evaluated. Mr. McCullough responded that traffic and speed counts will be conducted before and after the application of the traffic stripes to determine whether there is a measurable change in traffic count and speed.

Ms. Frail asked if the tubing measuring the traffic count and speed will extend across the bike lane. Ms. Lustig responded that she will look into this and other new technologies, such as the use of radar, to conduct bike counts.

Ms. Frail also clarified that there would not be any barriers. Mr. McCullough confirmed that only markings would be implemented in this pilot. Ms. Lustig noted that barriers used to control traffic are challenging in New England due to snow removal and need to be removed during the winter months, which removes any protection they offer as well.

Ms. Cooley asked if the DPW expects to understand if lane widths correlate with speed at the conclusion of this pilot. Mr. McCullough responded that DPW will also need to consider both the type of the road and traffic counts to develop a dataset. Ms. Lustig noted the difference between design speed and reduction in speed, emphasizing that reduction in speed is more significant as a metric. DPW hopes that this pilot will allow them to create design standards that can be more universally applied.

Mr. Keane asked if DPW plans to remove the center line. Ms. Lustig discussed this as an option on local roads with low volumes but expressed concern about higher speeds and crash incidences. In information provided by the state removal of traffic striping was not one of the recommended actions, although striping was a recommended option to reduce speeds. The Board expressed their enthusiasm for this pilot.

7:23 p.m. DPW: Dedham Ave Paving and Markings Improvements:

Presenter: Carys Lustig, Director of Public Works, presented to the Select Board regarding the opportunity from the state for pavement preservation on Dedham Ave. The state initially intended to conduct the work itself but subsequently granted the funds for the project to the town of Needham in order to conduct the project after Eversource completed its work on Dedham Ave between Webster and Harris. Needham discussed with the state, which issued a grant in the amount budgeted for the project. This allowed for more time to examine design of roadway markings and address serious concerns for pedestrian mobility. Residents have brought forward concerns about traffic safety and the DPW is working with the state to reduce speed limits from 35 mph to 30 mph.

DPW Collaboration with Fuss & O'Neill has addressed three main issues:

1. Improving ramps on Dedham Ave which are currently non-compliant
2. Improving Dedham and Webster intersection and creating accessible ramps
3. Adding legal sidewalk under MBTA bridge

This project will focus on a topical paint pilot approach as this project was not originally in the funding queue. Ms. Lustig expressed her hope that this is a starting point for evaluating traffic calming on Dedham Ave. A particular point of concern is a crosswalk between George Aggott Road and Dedham Ave. There is not a clear consensus on adding a crosswalk or not. The goal for the DPW is to calm traffic first and then add a crosswalk. Main changes is a narrowing of the lane to 10 feet, adding a bike amenity towards town center, and narrowing the visual field.

Ms. Frail expressed the need to put a crosswalk between George Aggott Road and Dedham Ave. She raised the possibility of implementing parking restrictions in that area. She raised the idea of painting lines or adding rumble strip to slow traffic. Kate Fitzpatrick added to consult with Fuss & O'Neill further on this.

Ms. Dowd clarified that the lanes will be narrowed from over 12 feet to 10 feet and agreed that adding a crosswalk is a goal.

Ms. Cooley asked about the difference between 10- and 11-foot lanes. Ms. Lustig explained the change between the two discourages passiveness while driving. Ms. Cooley also asked about the ability to add surfaces to paint in future. This is to be explored in future phases of the project following the pilot. Ms. Cooley also commented on how the data from lane narrowing projects will influence traffic calming measures in future. Ms. Cooley proposed this could be a project for the Mobility Committee. Ms. Lustig outlined that the Mobility Committee will meet in October or early November with the goal of looking at the capital plan for this year, the roads in town, the pavement condition index, prioritization list, and sidewalk condition index. DPW will use feedback on current methodology to determine whether to maintain or modify these standards.

The Board thanked Ms. Lustig for her presentation.

7:41 p.m. DPW: Claxton Field:

Presenter: Carys Lustig, Director of Public Works. Ms. Fitzpatrick reminded the Board of the recommendation to withdraw Claxton item from the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Investigation of subsurface materials at Claxton following a resident complaint leading to the discovery of contaminated materials required to be registered with the DEP. This required extensive testing, revealing the contamination extends beyond the field to a stream behind the facility. Further earthwork and mitigation and conservation filing necessary at this point. Additional conditions now placed by DEP, including adding additional topsoil on the parcel (originally 18 inches, now 24 inches of topsoil). Ms. Lustig expressed that DPW now does not feel comfortable to present to Special Town Meeting given the changes made to the original plan. The goal of reopening the field in May 2025 is still the plan while finalizing the plan to present to the Finance Committee and subsequently Town Meeting. Ms. Lustig noted the DPW is recommending an emergency preamble which will allow a contractor to start ordering materials. This will allow DPW to have a contract in place and allow groundbreaking in summer 2024.

Ms. Fitzpatrick noted that Park and Recreation voted to delay until May.

Ms. Cooley asked if this project needs to be worked into funding plan for next year. Ms. Lustig replied that it does.

7:50 p.m. Needham Health and Human Services:

Presenters: Tim McDonald, Director of Health and Human Services, Sara Shine, Director of Youth and Family Services, and Tiffany Zike, Assistant Director of Public Health

Presenter Sara Shine spoke on Behavioral Health Funds and outlined youth health initiatives with Children's Hospital, specifically addressing the increasing acuity and needs as a result of the mental health crisis in the area and how to best support the community. Funds will be utilized for two additional positions: a Community-Based Clinician who is a mental health professional based in the community and a Community Training Coordinator who will train, staff, and manage outreach, train other staff, and be involved in mental health first aid training of adults and high schoolers. Mr. Keane asked whether these positions are permanent. Ms. Fitzpatrick noted that this money must go only to youth and behavioral health initiatives. Positions are tied to Children's Funding.

Ms. Frail asked what is mental health first aid? Ms. Shine responded that it is training adults to respond to other adults in the case of both crisis and non-crisis mental health scenarios. This includes ~seven hours of training. Ms. Dowd also expressed her support as a former Needham High School teacher and commended the creativity of the resources. Ms. Dowd asked about the $200K funding per year and asked about inflation. Mr. Keane noted that it is notable that the town provides mental health care to adolescents free of charge and the importance of this work.

Presenter Tiffany Zike spoke on Opioid Settlement Funds for FY24. Ms. Zike presented a request for $145K out of $217K put into Opioid Stabilization Fund for hiring contractors and SAMBOX resources. HHS will engage third party guidance on what community priorities are and will conduct program evaluation in the creation of the 5-year strategic plan. $52K will be put towards a Peer Recovery Coach who will conduct outreach to local groups.

Ms. Dowd asked who the target audience for the project is. Ms. Zike discussed the importance of past and current lived experiences with this issue and the work on a key stakeholder list. Mr. McDonald emphasized the state's focus on families impacted by addiction, people in recovery, and potentially active users. Broad program areas include harm reduction, harm mitigation, access to treatment and recovery, and access to care and services.

Ms. Frail asked about how broad the opioid issue is in Needham. Ms. Zike replied every year for the past several years, there have been two to three deaths within Needham. Narcan trainings have been open for anyone in the community who wish to be prepared, with 40 people trained in August.

Chair Marianne Cooley and Karen Shannon from the Needham Health and Human Services Department reminded the Board that the Fentanyl Walk will be taking place in Needham on Sunday, October 15, 2023 and encouraged all to participate.

Ms. King reminded the Board that the ongoing revenue from the Children's Hospital funding will continue to come to the town and will need to be appropriated at Town Meeting over time.

8:14 p.m. Town Manager:

Close Warrant:

Ms. Fitzpatrick raised closing the warrant. She noted that Section 3.14 and 3.15 are now permissive. The Select Board may prohibit the use of motorized recreational vehicles or devices on sidewalks.

Ms. Frail asked about Section 3.1.7 and dealing in secondhand merchandise. She asked about regulating any forums dealing in secondhand merchandise. Ms. Fitzpatrick responded this will be explored further.

Ms. Fitzpatrick called for a vote to close the warrant subject to minor technical corrections.

Motion by Ms. Dowd that the Select Board vote to close the warrant for the October 30, 2023, Special Town Meeting subject to minor technical corrections to be made by the Town Manager, Town Council, and Bond Council.
Second: Ms. Frail. Unanimously approved 4-0.

CY 2024 Fee Schedule Discussion:

Myles Tucker, Support Services Manager, presented that there were no changes to certain license fees, including alcohol license fees for restaurants, since they were raised to pre-pandemic levels by the Select Board last year. This will be brought up at the next Select Board Meeting for a vote.

Town Manager Report:

1. Town Application for Community Planning Early Action Grant: town received $70,000 grant for assistance with housing.
2. US Passport Audit conducted annually reported that 376 passports were issued via Needham Town Hall in FY22, a 117.14% increase from FY21. Ms. Fitzpatrick thanked town staff for their diligence in both the inspection and in the work of accepting new passport applications.

8:23 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Select Board Goal Setting FY 2024 – 2025
   Ms. Fitzpatrick reminded the Board of its objectives and workplans and noted communications received about prioritizing the Rail Trail. Ms. Frail expressed her support for this project and asked about when a feasibility study needs to be repeated. Ms. Fitzpatrick noted the geotechnical areas remain constant, but the cost estimate would need to be repeated. Ms. Frail recommended to prioritize reconvening with Dover to evaluate the possibility for the Rail Trail to move from Dover to Needham. Discussion ensued about the possibility of the Rail Trail taking this on. Ms. Cooley noted she has begun discussions with James Goldstein to prioritize the mobility needs of the town, especially a connection to Dover which would create much more usage of the trail and be a more compelling use of town

funds. Ms. Dowd raised an idea of connecting Dover to the Junction for commuters.

Motion by Ms. Frail that the Select Board vote to adopt its goal statement for FY2024-2025.
Second: Ms. Dowd. Unanimously approved 4-0.

2. ADL Open Letter to Combat Antisemitism and Fight Hate for Good
Mr. Keane opened the floor to thoughts and comments. Ms. Frail explained the petition received from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) combating an increase in antisemitic acts and speech. Ms. Frail noted this is an area where the Select Board can contribute positively. Ms. Dowd also expressed support after several constituents bringing this forward and the power of the Board to sign it as a Board especially following incidents in the town. Mr. Keane also expressed his support.

Motion by Ms. Dowd that the Select Board vote to become a signatory to the ADL Open Letter to Combat Antisemitism and Fight Hate for Good.
Second: Ms. Frail. Unanimously approved 4-0.

Ms. Frail thanked the residents who brought this forward and wished a Happy New Year to Needham's Jewish community following the High Holidays.

3. Committee Reports:
Mr. Keane noted that the Housing Needham Advisory Group (HONE) will hold its next meeting on October 8th. No other committee reports were heard.

8:34 p.m. Needham Branding and Town Seal Committee:
Mr. Tucker noted there is one seat on the Needham Branding and Town Seal Committee. Mr. Keane accepted this seat.

8:36 p.m. Adjourn:
Motion by Ms. Frail that the Select Board vote to adjourn the Select Board meeting of Tuesday, September 26, 2023.
Second: Ms. Dowd. Unanimously approved 4-0.

A list of all documents used at this Select Board meeting is available at:
http://www.needhamma.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=99&Type=&ADID

The next Select Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.