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**MINUTES OF THE MEDFORD RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING HELD on
4-29-2021 at 9:30am VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE AS A RESULT OF COVID-19
AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH PERAC MEMO #15/2020**

Retirement Board Meeting Access:

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/MedfordRetirementBoard>

You can participate without video using your phone.

United States: +1 (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 254-798-029

1. 9:30am Call meeting to order.

Roll Call: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES",
"YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin "YES"

Present: Rick Jordan, Patrick Ripley, James Vieira, Robert Maiocco, Aleesha Nunley
Benjamin

Absent: None

Others Present:

9:30am: Scott Driscoll and Kiley Fischer from NEPC

Keith Weigel, Fred Sweeney and Michael Finocchi from Loomis Sayles for Manager
Review

Patrick Ripley motion to suspend the normal order of business for NEPC to present.

Patrick Ripley on the motion informed the Board that Tom Cangiano passed away
and asked for a moment of silence.

Rick Jordan said our previous Board Member, Tom Cangiano, passed away this past
Saturday and we would like to have a moment of silence, with that, take a moment
please.

Motion second by James Vieira. Motion passed by all voting in favor. Roll Call
Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES",
Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES"

Keith Weigel, Fred Sweeney and Michael Finocchi from Loomis Sayles presented to
the Board referencing their handout dated April 29, 2021. Michael Finocchi began
the presentation with introductions, an update on Loomis indicating they have \$345B
undermanagement and growing and said they will review the multi sector and small
cap portfolios today. Fred Sweeney reviewed the investment team, changes in the
team and experience indicating that day-to-day management has not changed. Multi
sector performance reviewed for QTD, 1,2,3 and 5 years and since inception
indicating that the prior 1-year return has been very strong. Performance was
compared to the benchmark. Bond holdings were reviewed, discussion about GM
bonds 35% return and rebound in market. Discussion about "fallen angels" referring
to bonds that go from investment grade to below investment grade, indicating that
they take advantage, such as GM. Discussion about rising rates, inflation, and the
impact on the fund. Patrick asked about the "fallen angels" and if they are companies
that have been doing well and then went into the red? Mr. Sweeney explained the
fallen angels are companies that were rated in investment grade and fell below
becoming high yield. Keith Weigel reviewed the small cap value portfolio reviewing
the investment team and updating the Board with a couple team changes. The
investment philosophy was reviewed indicating that they focus on stocks selling at a
discount and evaluate intrinsic value. Discussion about vaccine and impact on small
cap rebound. Mr. Weigel reviewed the market overview breaking down the Russell
2000 and analyzing stocks with low ROE, non-earners, high ROE, etc. Performance
as compared to the benchmark was compared for QTD, 1,2,3 and 5 years and since
inception indicating that the index was up 97% and is the largest 1-year return in 20
years. Discussion about rotation to value stocks indicating that the portfolio is 225 bs
points ahead of the index today. Review of annual investment results and discussion
about macro driven – results compared to benchmark annually since inception

reviewed and analyzed. Rick Jordan asked if anyone has any questions? Robert Maiocco asked when do you sell? Mr. Weigel answered when individual stocks don't continue as expected and when they feel stocks reach their maximum value. Rick Jordan thanked Loomis for the presentation. 10:00am Loomis left the meeting.

Scott Driscoll from NEPC presented to the Board referencing NEPC's handout dated April 29, 2021. Mr. Driscoll reviewed the market performance for month to date, Q1, YTD, 1, 3, 5 and 10 years. Mr. Driscoll said that March 2020 dropped off the 1 year returns and there is a significant increase. The S&P 500 was up 56.4% and the Russell 2000 was up 94.8%, indicating that the returns are staggering removing March 2020. Discussion about the Fed's stimulus intervention. The equity markets performance was reviewed. Mr. Driscoll continued and reviewed the fixed income markets explaining that the BC US Agg benchmark is compared to Garcia Hamilton and Loomis holdings. Yield rise and bond prices reduced and that's what we are seeing. Mr. Driscoll said NEPC is targeting 2.4% core bond returns over 30 years. Mr. Driscoll reviewed plan performance indicating that the fund's market value as of March 31, 2021 was \$229.4M. The one-year return is up 31.4% and this is a result of March 2020 rolling off the prior one-year return. Fixed income, emerging market equity, equity and PRIM accounts were reviewed. Scott Driscoll left the meeting.

James Vieira motion to return to normal order of business. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Motion passed by all voting in favor. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

2. Reading of notice & certificate – Meeting Notice Posted on April 14, 2021

Patrick Ripley motion to place on file the Board meeting notice and certificate that was posted on April 14, 2021. Motion second by James Vieira. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

3. Reading of Previous Meeting by Secretary

Patrick Ripley motion to waive reading of previous meeting by secretary. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

4. Vote to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on March 31, 2021

Robert Maiocco motion to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on March 31, 2021. Motion second by James Vieira. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

5. Bills, Communications, Refunds, Transfers, Payrolls, Etc.

Warrant S18

Law Offices of Michael Sacco, PC - Legal Services March	\$150.00
Toshiba America - Copier Lease Supplies	\$28.40
Toshiba America - Copies 3/15-4/14/2021	\$10.39
Toshiba Financial Services - Copier Lease Mar - Apr 2021	\$241.00
Toshiba Financial Services - Copier Lease May 2021	\$120.50
People's United - Custodial Services Feb 2021	\$3,858.39
Essex Regional Retirement System - 3(8)c Payment	\$4,586.97
ProShed - March 2021	\$36.75
WB Mason - Office Supplies	\$276.15
Mark Minervini - Reimbursement for Conference Call and GoToMeeting March 2021	\$43.64
Andrew Campbell - Refund - Deduction Error	\$146.89
Andresa Ata - Refund - Trailing Contributions	\$91.28
RhumbLine - Mgmt. Fee - TIPS 1Q2021	\$1,273.00

RhumbLine - Mgmt. Fee - SP500MAP 1Q2021	\$5,019.00
RhumbLine - Mgmt. Fee - SP400P 1Q2021	\$898.00
Garcia Hamilton & Associates - Mgmt. Fee - 1Q2022	\$14,651.33
Total Bills Warrant S18	\$31,431.69
Staff Salaries	4,879.80
Medicare	-
Massachusetts SUI	-
MA Health Ins/EMAC	-
Harpers Payroll Fee	-
Expense Total	\$36,311.49
Pension	1,513,198.38
Annuity	311,343.99
Retiree Payroll Total	1,824,542.37
Warrant S18 Total	\$1,860,853.86
Prior Warrants	
Schedule 15	6,322.56
Schedule 16	4,934.29
Schedule 17	7,952.87
Reference Total	19,209.72
Grand Total Warrant S18 with Prior Warrants	1,880,063.58

A motion was made by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin and second by Patrick Ripley to approve all bills, transfers, refunds, staff payrolls and retirement payroll listed above on schedules S15, S16, S17 and S18. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

6. Report of Chairman:

Letter of Direction to Rhumblin Dated 4/14/2021

Aleesha Nunley Benjamin motion to place on file the Letter of Direction to Rhumblin Dated 4/14/2021 instructing Rhumblin to Transfer \$1,500,000 from the System's S&P 500 account on the next trade date and wire the funds to People's Bank. Motion second by Robert Maiocco. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

Wire Transmittal Letter Dated 4/20/21 Transferring \$1,550,000 From People's Bank to Century Bank. This wire transfer was completed on April 20, 2021 by Mark Minervini to fund April 2021 expenses and pension payroll.

Patrick Ripley motion to place on file the Wire Transmittal Transferring \$1,550,000 from People's Bank to Century Bank on 4/20/2021 to fund April 2021 expenses and pension payroll. Motion second by James Vieira. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

PRIT Confirmation Notice Dated 4/1/2021

James Vieira motion to place on file the PRIT Private Equity Vintage Year Confirmation Dated 4/1/2021 notifying the Board PRIM wired a redemption of \$33,034.02 to People's Bank on 4/1/2021. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

PERAC Memo # 14 / 2021 – Mandatory Retirement Board Member Training - 2nd Quarter 2021

James Vieira motion to place on file PERAC Memo # 14 / 2021 – Mandatory Retirement Board Member Training - 2nd Quarter 2021. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES” James Vieira asked Mark Minervini to check the status of training in PROSPER for all Board members.

PERAC Memo # 15 / 2021 – Implementation of Paid Family Medical Leave ("PFML")
Patrick Ripley questioned PFML and Mark Minervini informed the Board that the city did not adopt the PFML. Aleesha Nunley Benjamin confirmed that the City did not adopt PFML.

Aleesha Nunley Benjamin motion to place on file PERAC Memo # 15 / 2021 – Implementation of Paid Family Medical Leave ("PFML"). Motion second by Robert Maiocco. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES”

Judith Taliaferro Buyback Service Correction

Mark Minervini informed the Board that Judith Taliaferro was given the incorrect information regarding a buyback in process when she terminated in 2010. It was also noticed that the buyback was calculated incorrectly. There is a makeup of 7 months and a buyback of 8 years, 1 month. At termination, the buyback service was prorated, and Ms. Taliaferro was informed that she was vested and could defer retirement. Ms. Taliaferro buyback service should not have been prorated (resulting in not being vested) and instead she should have been given the option to complete the buyback in a lump sum payment or refund the amount paid towards the buyback. Mark Minervini informed the Board that Ms. Taliaferro approached the retirement office with the intention to retire and at that time, the error was discovered. A detailed search of her file indicates that Ms. Taliaferro was not given the option to complete the buyback in a lump sum payment at termination. Mark Minervini received guidance from Attorney Sacco and he advised that the proration of the service be corrected, and the correction could also fall under the “corrections of errors” statute and the interest could be forgiven, and he recommends that the Board get guidance from PERAC prior to completing the buyback. If approved, Ms. Taliaferro would have to immediately remit the balance owed. Ms. Taliaferro indicated that she would like to purchase the buyback in a lump sum and is in a position to do so.

Mark Minervini provided the Board with the amount of service purchased and the lump sum amount to complete buyback – one cost with interest calculated at termination (6/30/2010) compared with the cost with interest until 4/30/2021. Liability accepted by State Retirement Board for Buyback: 8 years, 1 month. Liability accepted by State Retirement Board for Makeup: 7 Months.

Total cost with interest through 6/30/2010: \$27,219.50
Total cost with Interest through 4/30/2021: \$39,871.14
Payments made through termination (6/30/2010) \$7,544.00.

Rick Jordan said the mistake happened back in 2010 and at that time she should have been informed to complete the purchase, correct? Mark Minervini answered yes. Rick Jordan said that since she was told the wrong information back in 2010 and we can lean towards not charging the interest – we have that option - I do not think it is fair that she has to pay additional interest when she was given the wrong information when she terminated. Rick Jordan asked if anyone has any thoughts? Aleesha Nunley Benjamin said she in in agreement with Rick Jordan, I do not think she should be penalized since it was our error. James Vieira said he also agrees with Rick Jordan. Patrick Ripley said he agrees and in the interest of fairness, this sounds like the proper way to do this. Robert Maiocco said we made a mistake and agrees with everyone, it is only fair.

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Aleesha Nunley Benjamin motion to allow Judith Taliaferro to remit the balance owed for the buyback in a lump sum payment in the amount of \$19,675.50, interest through termination date because Ms. Taliaferro was not properly notified of her options and it was the Retirement Board's fault that she was not properly notified.

Patrick Ripley asked what was the reason for the termination? Mark Minervini answered it appears to be an involuntary layoff.

James Vieira asked a question. This motion is to waive the interest? Rick Jordan answered correct. James Vieira said he has a concern about her method and reason for termination. Are we going to look into this or approve or deny the interest? Rick Jordan asked Mark Minervini for the reason of the termination? Mark Minervini answered involuntary layoff. James Vieira asked if she would ordinarily be eligible for retirement or was this a massive layoff? Mark Minervini said he does not know the details of the layoff, however without the prorated buyback service, she is not vested and not eligible for retirement. James Vieira said this leaves something up in the air. Rick Jordan asked if we should table this until next month and get more information? James Vieira said yes, he would like that. Patrick Ripley said he is in agreement to clear this up.

Aleesha Nunley Benjamin rescinds her motion.

Rick Jordan said Aleesha Nunley Benjamin rescinds her motion.

James Vieira motion to table until next month to determine the reason for the termination. Motion second by Patrick Ripley. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

\$250k Israel Bond Matures 5/1/2021 and \$50K Matures on 6/1/2021

Rick Jordan said every 2 years we get a renewal and Mark Minervini said we have 2 Israel Bonds, \$250k matures on 5/1 and \$50k matures on 6/1. Rick Jordan asked if anyone has any feelings on renewing the bonds and asked the interest rate. Mark Minervini answered the 2-year jubilee bond rate is .72%. Robert Maiocco asked what is the intent, to keep rolling it over? Rick Jordan said in the past, that is what happens. Robert Maiocco said he thinks there are better uses for the money. Rick Jordan asked where would you like to put it? Robert Maiocco said give it to our managers. Patrick Ripley said we just got a report that everything is moving along well and feels it's good to have this if things go the other way.

Patrick Ripley motion to rollover the \$250k and \$50k Israel Jubilee Bond for 2 years. Rick Jordan asked if there is a second? Aleesha Nunley Benjamin said she supports what Robert Maiocco is saying and understands Patrick Ripley's position, but it's a small amount of money and feels it's best to put it into equity. James Vieira said when looking at the history and when we first invested in Israel Bonds, it was strongly recommended by the Mayor at that time and asking what are the politics today? James Vieira asked Aleesha Nunley Benjamin if there is any benefit to the city from investing in the bonds? James Vieira recommends tabling this until we get a better feel. Since it originated, we supported it for years. Rick Jordan said motion failed.

James Vieira motions to table for additional information. Motion seconds by Robert Maiocco. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

Rick Jordan asked Mark Minervini to research and see if the investment will be beneficial to the city.

Draft Audit Report for Year End 12/31/2020

James Vieira motion to approve the Audit Report for Year End 12/31/2020. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES”

Audit Response Letter from Attorney Michael Sacco

Aleesha Nunley Benjamin motion to approve the Audit Response Letter from Attorney Michael Sacco. Motion second by James Vieira. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES”

Management Representation Letter to Roselli, Clark and Associates

Patrick Ripley motion to approve the Management Representation Letter to Roselli, Clark and Associates. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES”

GASB 67 & 68 Report for 12/31/2020

Patrick Ripley motion to place GASB 67 & 68 Report for 12/31/2020 on file. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES”

January 2021 Accounting Submitted to PERAC

Aleesha Nunley Benjamin motion to place January 2021 Accounting Submitted to PERAC on file. Motion second by Patrick Ripley. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES”

7. Unfinished Business

PERAC Approved Stephen McAweeney’s Accidental Disability

Patrick Ripley motion to place on file PERAC Approval of Stephen McAweeney’s Accidental Disability retirement. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES”

8. New Business

COVID-19 Public Information Officer Position

Full Time, 35 Hours/week position in Mayor’s office funded through CARES act

James Vieira motion to approve COVID-19 Public Information Officer Position for membership eligibility. Motion second by Patrick Ripley. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: “YES”, Robert Maiocco: “YES”, James Vieira: “YES”, Rick Jordan: “YES”, Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: “YES”

New Employees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u>FT/PT</u>
Lucrecia Theobald	SCH	Parent Information Support Specialist	3/15/2021	FT
Jasmine Bell	SCH	Paraprofessional	2/22/2021	FT
Eve Laden Mauro	SCH	Non-unit Instructional Support Staff	1/15/2021	FT
Erik Bittner	SCH	Non-unit Instructional Support Staff	2/22/2021	FT

Stephen Smirti	CTY	Covid 19 Public/Info Officer	4/12/2021	FT
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Robert Maiocco motion to accept membership for employees as listed above. Motion second by James Vieira. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

New Retirees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Option</u>	<u>Retirement Date</u>
Arlene Carrol	CTY	Superannuation Option A	5/12/2021
Dennis Durham	CTY	Superannuation Option C	6/30/2021

Patrick Ripley motion to approve retirements as listed above. Motion second by Aleesha Nunley Benjamin. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES", Aleesha Nunley-Benjamin: "YES"

9. Executive Session

N/A

10. Adjournment

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday May 25, 2021 at 9:30am

Aleesha Nunley Benjamin motioned to adjourn meeting. Motion second by Robert Maiocco. Motion passed by all members voting in favor. Roll Call Vote: Patrick Ripley: "YES", Robert Maiocco: "YES", James Vieira: "YES", Rick Jordan: "YES"

A true Record by: Mark Minervini On 4-29-2021
Mark Minervini

Rick Jordan Chairman Aleesha Nunley Benjamin Ex-Officio
James Vieira Patrick H. Ripley
Robert Maiocco

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