



CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Sumbul Siddiqui
City Councillor

To: Paula M. Crane, Interim City Clerk
From: Sumbul Siddiqui, City Councillor
Date: June 6, 2019
Subject: Submission – *Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement* May 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Madame Clerk:

Please place the attached minutes from the fifth meeting of the Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement on the City Council Agenda as "Communications and Reports from Other City Officials" for the June 10th meeting.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sumbul Siddiqui".

Councillor Sumbul Siddiqui
Cambridge City Council



Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement

Working Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 2019, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Sullivan Chamber, City Hall

795 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge MA 02139

MEETING MINUTES

<i>Task Force Members in Attendance:</i>	<i>Task Force Members Absent:</i>	<i>City of Cambridge Staff in Attendance:</i>	<i>City of Cambridge Staff Absent:</i>
Sonia Andujar Patrick Barrett Teresa Cardoso Jessica Drew Betsy Eichel	Iram Farooq Larry Field Beth Huang Kuong Lee Maura Pensak	Sean Hope Alexandra Markiewicz Sarah Stillman, Aide to Councillor Siddiqui	Wilford Durbin, Mayor's Chief of Staff and Task Force Representative

The Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement remembers its esteemed honorary member, Cheryl-Ann Pizza-Zeoli (1957-2019), with gratitude for her life of dedicated advocacy and service to the Cambridge community.

The Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement convened for an informal, working meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, in the Sullivan Chamber at City Hall, 795 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Councillor Sumbul Siddiqui, Chair of the Task Force, convened the working meeting at 5:32 pm with 10 members present.

The Task Force members broke out in to Working Groups to discuss updates and continue making progress on their respective action areas. Chair Siddiqui and Sarah Stillman discussed with Funding Working Group members Teresa Cardoso, Kuong Lee and Jessica Drew some of the current challenges Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services is facing, such as funding cuts to services for elders in private housing, ideas for flexible funding options (e.g. a fundraising "Walk Fund"), limitations of the Richard Rossi Fund, and the need for crafting broad language around stabilization of tenancies vs. rental arrears. Maura Pensak and Sonia Andujar of the Tenant Education Working Group checked in briefly with Chair Siddiqui on the status of the group's workplan, to be translated in to the Task Force's final recommendations; Chair Siddiqui noted a report from a Philadelphia task force on eviction response, which Ms. Pensak and Ms. Andujar then left to review. Larry Field, Beth Huang and Betsy Eichel of the Legislative & Policy Agenda Working Group, along with Chair Siddiqui, met to discuss the group's work on developing recommended updates to the City's 1983 Condo Conversion Ordinance. They were joined by Iram Farooq, Task Force member and Assistant City

Manager for Community Development, and Chris Cotter, Housing Director at the Cambridge Community Development Department, who offered insight and answered questions from Working Group members. The working meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

The next scheduled meeting of the *Mayor's Blue-Ribbon Task Force on Tenant Displacement*—the last before the Council takes summer recess—will be on Tuesday, June 18th, from 5:30 – 7:30 PM in the City Hall's Sullivan Chamber.