

40 Summer St. Fitchburg MA 01420 Ph. (978) 345-2531 www.ncmar.com

Volume 43, Issue 11

News & Views

November 2020

### President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Wow 2020 is almost over but the hits just keep on coming! I have not had a curfew since I was in high school, and now we have to be home by before 10, thank you COVID. The Governor has pulled in the reins a little because of the spikes we have been having, so it is time to tighten up our own ships.

We can do our part as REALTORS to keep our communities safe. Many of the communities we work in are in the red zone now, or close to it. If you have been a little relaxed in your social distancing for open houses I would encourage everyone to go back to stricter protocols like we saw this spring and summer.

I would also encourage everyone to take as many precautions as possible if you have an in-person meeting with a potential seller or buyer. Buyer consults are very easy to conduct remotely. I want everyone to stay safe and healthy as we navigate our way through this second major spike.

On a slightly different note I have a bit of housekeeping to address. I know we have all been affected by the craziness that 2020 has thrown our way, however we still have legal guidelines we need to follow as REALTORS.

Several agents in our area, as well as myself, have experienced and given me feedback that they are going to listing appointments and when they present

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the agency disclosure for signatures the potential sellers seem confused if the presenting agent is not the first one they have met with. They are confused because any previous agents they met with did NOT present the agency disclosure, explain it and have it signed.

In the particular situation I was in, the



Kendra Dickinson 2020 President

previous agents were not new agents and a couple were top producers. I know this year has been full of challenges, but we must maintain our diligence in making sure we are checking off all the boxes when meeting with a new client. The state testers are out and the last thing I want to see is someone hit with a suspension because this one very simple and mandatory step was skipped. To wrap things up, please check the calendar for some great CE courses we have scheduled as well as our upcoming installation of the 2021 officers December 7<sup>th</sup>.

I hope everyone stays safe and is able to find a safe way to celebrate the upcoming holiday season.

Much love,

Konta

### Notes from the MAR Legal Hotline

### November 2020

Justin Davidson, MAR General Counsel Catherine Taylor, Associate Counsel Jonathan Schreiber, Staff Attorney

#### Q. When can a tenant be charged for water?

A. A residential tenant may only be charged for water if all the conditions contained in
Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 186, Section 22 are satisfied. Failure to abide by any one of these conditions makes it illegal to charge the tenant for water usage.

Submeters are installed on the unit that measure the actual water used.

Low-flow fixtures must be installed on faucets, showerheads, and toilets.

The tenancy began after March 16, 2005.

The unit only becomes eligible to charge the tenant for water usage upon the commencement of a new tenancy in that unit and the previous tenant was not forced out.

There must be a written agreement signed by the landlord and tenant that clearly states that the tenant is responsible for water usage.

The Landlord must file a certificate with the local Board of Health that certifies that all the conditions have been satisfied.

Additionally, a landlord may not shut off or refuse water service to a tenant with an outstanding water charge.



Q. I'm relisting a property after a failed inspection – can I share the full inspection report with subsequent buyers?

A. Probably not. While you may be obligated to disclose some of the information contained within the inspection report, the report may not be shared without the permission of the buyer who purchased that report.

Chapter 93A states that it is an unfair or deceptive act if a person acting in trade or commerce "fails to disclose to a potential buyer or prospective buyer any fact, the disclosure of which may have influenced the buyer or prospective buyer not to enter into the transaction." Failure to disclose any material defect of which you, as the Realtor®, are aware, exposes you to liability.

The information and services provided through the Massachusetts Association of REALTORS® is intended for informational purposes and does not constitute legal advice, nor does it establish an attorney-client relationship. The Massachusetts Association of REALTORS®, by providing this service, assumes no actual or implied responsibility for any improper use of responses to questions through this service. The Massachusetts Association of REALTORS® will not be legally responsible for any potential misrepresentations or errors made by providing this service. For more information regarding these topics authorized callers should contact the MAR legal hotline at 800-370-5342 or e-mail at legalhotline@marealtor.com.

# **IT'S HERE!**

NEW LOGO, NEW BRAND, NEW WEBSITE...

### WE'RE WICKED EXCITED FOR THE FUTURE!

It's official - MLS PIN has a new logo, website, and branding!

The logo is bold yet refined; it symbolizes your connection to the data and relationships that drive your business. Our corporate website (mlspin.com) has been completely rebuilt, with an eye towards what our customers use the most.

Taken as a whole, the new brand represents a bright future, an opportunity to continue to be the MLS that supports you on your path to success. We're wicked excited for the future!



#### MLS Property Information Network, Inc.

904 Hartford Turnpike Shrewsbury, MA 01545 Phone: (508) 845-1011 Fax: (508) 845-7820 mlspin.com

## Legislative Update

#### **NCMAR Leadership**

President Kendra Dickinson Keller Williams Realty North Central

President Elect Darlene Rossi Morin Real Estate

Treasurer Shauna Roberts Hometown Bank

Secretary Nicolas Pelletier Keller Williams Realty North Central

Director Laura Shifrin Townsend Center Realty

Business Partner Director Steven Kelley Total Mortgage

Past President Susan Wright EXIT New Options Real Estate

#### **Board of Directors October Minutes**

All Board of Directors present.

Call to Order at 9:330 am

MOTION: It is moved, seconded and carried to approve the September BOD Minutes.

MOTION: It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the September Membership Report as presented.

MOTION: It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the September Financials subject to review.

It was announced that Michelle Haggstrom was voted at the Central Region Meeting to serve as one of MAR's RIEPAC Trustees.

MOTION: It was moved seconded and carried to approve the 2021-2022 Strategic Plan.

The December Installation will be on Monday December 7th at noon.

Next BOD Meeting: November 18th 9 am.

The meeting adjourned at 10:33 am



NOVEMBER 10, 2020 AT 10 AM VIA ZOOM

## MEETING WITH THE MAYOR

Gardner Mayor Michael Nicholson Speaking about New Initiatives and future plans City improvements New elementary school Economic development Real estate market and questions/answer session

Please join us when we meet with local mayors to talk about all the improvements and amenities that these two cities have for potential buyers. You will not want to miss out on this important information and insights.

A meeting with Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella will be scheduled soon.



NOVEMBER 17, 2020 AT 1:30 PM VIA ZOOM

## MEETING WITH THE MAYOR

Fitchburg Mayor Stephen DiNatale Speaking about New Initiatives and future plans City improvements New elementary school Economic development Real estate market and questions/answer session

## Upcoming Events



Tickets can also be purchased from the following Community Involvement Committee members or Board of Directors:

Kendra Dickinson, Brieanna Kelley, Tom Ruble, Jean Rubin, Darlene Rossi, Nick Pelletier, Stephanie Pandiscio, Susan Wright and Denise Wortman

## **Adopt a Family Holiday Gift Program**



Please help make this holiday season very special for those who are less fortunate by purchasing a gift or gift card for one or a few.

Contact one of the elves below for gift information. Homeless & Veterans Rick Cuddy (rcuddy@foster-healey.com), and Tom Ruble (truble83@gmail.com) Homeless families

Kendra Dickinson (kendrad@kw.com)

#### Seniors

Jean Rubin (jean.rubin@ymail.com)

#### Children

C. Pat Toth (cpattoth@foster-healey.com) and Denise Wortman (dwortman@exitnewoptions.com)

Want help with the shopping? You may make a monetary donation and the elves will shop. wrap and tag the gift with your name for you. Checks should be written to NCMAR or call Kathy Lore with your credit card information.

### November 2020

#### **2020** Committee Chairs

**Executive Committee** 

Kendra Dickinson

Finance Committee Shauna Roberts

Government Affairs Vacant

Member Services/Event Planning Kendra Dickinson/Darlene Rossi

**Community Involvement** Brieanna Kelley/Sophia Bell

> **Grievance** Gayle Sabol

Professional Standards Gary Bourque

Scholarship Pamela Bakaysa Conway

Awards & Recognition Susan Wright

**Top Producer** Laura Shifrin/Gail Lent

#### **MAR Directors**

Kendra Dickinson Susan Wright

> Alternates Yasmin Loft

Darlene Rossi

#### **MLS PIN Directors**

Rick Healey Paula Savard

### Membership

### November 2020

### Welcome New Members!!

#### **REALTOR Members**

Name Brianna Aleman Robert Everett Michael Healy Jean Hollenkamp Justin Jacobs Amy Kerl Stephanie Porter Joan Potvin Benjamin Roy Michael Roy

#### Welcome Back Name

Leslie Black (broker)

Office Foster-Healey Real Estate Inc. Keller Williams Realty North Central Keller Williams Realty North Central Hollenkamp and Associates Real Estate Exchange Keller Williams Realty North Central Keller Williams Realty North Central Keller Williams Realty North Central RHR – Real Estate RHR – Real Estate

Office Four Columns Realty September Membership Numbers

NEW MEMBERS -10 REINSTATEMENTS 0 SECONDARY BROKER - 1 RESIGNATIONS: 0 OFFICE TRANSFERS: 0 NEW BUSINESS PARTNERS: 0

REALTORS as of 9/31 - 525 BUSINESS PARTNERS as of 8/31 - 74

REALTORS as of 8/31- 514 BUSINESS PARTNERS as of 7/31 - 74



## **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**

#### REALTOR and Instructor Niles Busler via Zoom

- What is the REALTOR Code of Ethics?
- How does the Code help me in my business?
- Why the Code so important to know?
- Can I be cited for a violation of the Code by the public?
- Is the Code of Ethics and all its articles relevant to today?
- Have questions of your own,? The class is interactive so ask the instructor anything.

Get the answers to these questions and many more at this mandatory training.



Thursday November 12, 2020 9am to 12:30 pm via Zoom

Register by emailing Katey at membership@ncmar.com

### News and Views



#### CE CLASS RE26R20

NOVEMBER 18TH 10 TO NOON VIA ZOOM TAUGHT BY GARY BOURQUE

### RESIDENTIAL APPRAISAL PROCESS

topics to be covered: The objective of an appraisal Appraisal License Process Federal Regulations The Appraisal Process Supply and Demand Reporting Standards Report writing Appraisal INformation Red flags in appraisals and more!

register at www.ncmar.com

#### COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE (C2EX)



R ASSOCIATION of

Be an advocate for the future of our industry. Be committed to excellence.

REALTORS® defined professionalism in this indus-

try more than 100 years ago when they created the Code of Ethics. The awardwinning C2EX program takes professionalism to the next level by enabling NAR members to assess their expertise in 10 (11 for brokers) elements of professionalism ranging from customer service to use of technology.

This innovative engagement tool encourages participation in all levels of the REALTOR® organization. It's not a designation or a course. It's not a requirement, but a benefit available to all NAR members at no additional cost.

To get started, log in to www.C2EX.realtor and take the self-assessment that measures your proficiency in each of the elements of professionalism, known as the C2EX Competencies. Based on your results, the platform will generate customized learning paths, recommend experiences, and provide tools and resources to increase your knowledge and enhance your skillsets. **Start your journey to excellence today at https://www.c2ex.realtor** 

### November 2020

#### CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 4th 10 am— 12:30 pm Code of Ethics CE Class via Zoom

Tuesday, November 10th Meeting with Gardner Mayor Nicholson 10 am via Zoom

Wednesday, November 11th Veterans Day Office Closed

Thursday, November 12th New Member Orientation 9 to 12:30 via Zoom

Tuesday, November 17th Meeting with Fitchburg Mayor DiNatale 1:30 pm via Zoom

Wednesday, November 18th Board of Directors Meeting 9am to 10 am via Zoom

Wednesday, November 18th Residential Appraisal CE Class 10 to noon via Zoom

Thursday, November 19th Finance Committee Meeting 10 am via Zoom

Friday, November 20th Event Planning Committee 9:30 via Zoom

Thursday, November 26th Happy Thanksgiving!

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