



MAINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Your Real Estate Experts

MAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS ACTIONS:

The following are among the actions at the February 9 Board of Directors meeting:

- Approved the MAR Legislative Committee recommended priority positions for legislative bills;
- Approved \$5,000 from the MAR Issues Fund as a corporate investment in MARPAC;
- Approved a 2022 contract with J. Andrew Cashman, Esq. for lobbying services;
- Approved the 2022 MAR Convention as an in-person event, October 11-13, at the Samoset Resort;
- Approved Tammy Baker as 2022 Vice President, and Elias Thomas and Nate Mayo as 2022 Trustees for the York County Council of the Maine Association of REALTORS® to fill vacancies;
- Approved Steve Foglio, REALTOR® as a Maine Listings Director through December 31, 2023 to fill a vacancy.

Reminder: You can view MAR's legislative bill tracking report here (password: codeofethics): [Click Here](#)

IMPACT FEE ON VACANT RESIDENCES:

Be watching for a Call for Action to oppose LD 1337 "An Act to Increase Housing Availability and Improve Affordability Through a Vacancy Impact Fee". LD 1337 is an amended legislative bill that will allow municipalities to pass ordinances to impose a fee (tax) on vacant residential property not occupied by a permanent resident. The fees must be used by the municipality to increase the availability or affordability of year-round residential property within the town. [Click here to read the amended bill.](#)

The bill passed out of the Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Taxation last week and will move to the House and Senate chambers for votes in the coming weeks.

We'll be urging Legislators to vote NO on LD 1337. A local option fee/tax based on how a homeowner uses their property is an infringement of private property rights. These homeowners have already paid a real estate transfer tax, property taxes, and a rental tax if applicable. An influx of federal pandemic relief funds has provided Maine with additional funding for the development of affordable housing. Let's utilize those funds before raising fees/taxes on Maine homeowners.

Quick Links

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

[National Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Listings](#)

[Maine Real Estate Commission](#)

Board Portal Links

[Greater Bangor Association of REALTORS®](#)

[Greater Portland Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Kennebec Valley Board of REALTORS®](#)

[Maine Association of REALTORS®](#)

- Maine Commercial Association
- MAR Only Members
- York County Council

[Mid-Coast Board of REALTORS®](#)

- Acadia Council
- Waldo County Council
- Penobscot Bay Council

[Mountains to Shore Board of REALTORS®](#)

- Androscoggin Valley Council
- Lincoln County Council
- Merrymeeting Council
- Western Maine Council

MAR VIRTUAL REALTOR® RALLY - MOBILE ALERTS:

Be ready for MAR's virtual REALTOR Rally on March 8! Text REALTORS to 30644 to register for mobile alerts. For a new way to participate in our virtual REALTOR® rally – or when a state or national REALTOR® call for action is launched – you can take action from your cell phone if you prefer.

MEDIATION FOR BUYERS AND SELLERS:

As a reminder, disputes or claims arising out of the Maine Association of REALTORS® Purchase and Sale Agreement, or the property addressed in the Purchase and Sale Agreement shall be submitted to mediation in accordance with generally accepted mediation practices (see paragraph 17 of the P&S and paragraph 15 of the P&S-Land Only).

Parties may select their own mediator from a variety of sources. One source is the Maine Association of Mediators. For a list of their real estate mediators: [Click Here](#).

For more information about real estate mediation: [Click Here](#)

This information can be found on mainerealtors.com under the Member Resources tab, Documents You Ask For, Mediation for Buyers and Sellers: [Click Here](#)

Disputes involving earnest money deposits or other disputes of less than the small claims jurisdictional amount, now \$6,000, are not subject to the mediation requirement. Those disputes can be brought to Small Claims Court for binding decision by that Court. Only the buyers and sellers who signed the contract are required to participate.

NEW 2022 ADS: THAT'S WHO WE R:

NAR's consumer ad campaign "That's Who We R" launched a new wave of 2022 ads earlier this week. You can view the 2022 ads by scrolling down in this link: [Click Here](#)

2022 MAR CONVENTION EDUCATION SURVEY:

Please respond to this survey – should only take 2-3 minutes: [Click Here](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

With your REALTOR® membership, you have access to the world's largest real estate library (text, audio, and video eBooks): [Click Here](#)

For eBooks: [Click Here](#)

MAINE LISTINGS NEWS:

Click on the following link to learn about:

- Maine Listings Board of Directors Actions

MAR Leadership

President

Madeleine Hill

President Elect

Carmen McPhail

First Vice President

Paul McKee

Treasurer

Sherri Dunbar

Chief Executive Officer

Suzanne Guild

Last Issue: February 4

Some content may be commercial in nature.

- Important IDX Compliance Notice
- Upcoming Webinars
- Rules & Regulations Quick Refresher Series
- Flexmls Tip of The Week
- Maine Listings Ecommerce Notice

Here is the link: [Click Here](#)



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