



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – July 20, 2022 Agenda Item 9A-9J

Voting Session (Consent Agenda)

Resolutions Providing for Appointments to Boards and Committees:

Arts and Humanities Committee, Board of Elections (reappointment only), COLTA, Emergency Preparedness Committee (reappointments only), Ethics Commission (reappointments only), Grants Review Committee (reappointments only), Nuclear Free Committee, Recreation Committee (reappointments only), Sustainable MD Committee (reappointments only), and Tree Commission

Recommended Council Action

Adopt the consent agenda.

Context with Key Issues

The City Council initiated a fresh approach to recruit and appoint members of boards and committees in 2021. Applications are open and accepted twice each year.

A City Council subgroup (Councilmembers Dyballa, Kostiuk, and Searcy) undertook a review of applications received and made recommendations at the work session on July 13. Guidelines for review of applications included:

- Residency and other individual committee requirements
- Expression of interest
- Technical expertise and/or lived experience
- Organization and community affiliation
- Diversity and inclusion - age, race/ ethnicity, gender, ward diversity
- Contributions to the group - skills, lived experience, teamwork and/or perspective

The recommended appointees are included on the resolutions.

Council Priority

Engaged, Responsive & Service-oriented Government: Improve and Formalize Systems for Council-Appointed Committees.

Goal: Improve and formalize systems for Council-appointed committees.

Strategy: Review existing structure, appointment processes, and practices for Council-appointed committees, and make changes to increase efficiency and effectiveness and attract new members; explore innovative ways to engage residents who tend to be harder to reach.

Desired outcome: Diverse, engaged, productive, and rewarding committee membership.

Environmental Considerations

There is no direct environmental impact from the appointment of residents to Council-appointed committees. A Council action related to the Green Team or other committees focused on climate-change or sustainability initiatives could have a positive or negative impact on environmental initiatives in the future, depending on final direction in this area and the future work of the committee.

Fiscal Considerations

Members of City Council-appointed boards, commissions, committees and task forces are eligible to receive \$40 per meeting attended.

Racial Equity Considerations

Council-appointed committees have not generally reflected the diversity of the population of Takoma Park. A fresh approach to recruitment and appointment began in the second half of 2021, as well as planned improvements in training, operations and support of committees and members. All are intended to create and support more diverse and representative Council-appointed committees and to bolster their capacity to apply racial equity considerations in all their committee work. Members are expected to comply with a Council-adopted code of conduct for committee members (Resolution 2020-22, October 7, 2020) in part to address equity issues. More work is still to be done.

Attachments and Links

- Resolution Providing for Appointments and Reappointments to the Arts and Humanities Commission
- Resolution Providing for Reappointments to the Board of Elections
- Resolution Providing for Appointments and Reappointment to the Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs
- Resolution Providing for Reappointments to the Emergency Preparedness Committee
- Resolution Providing for Reappointments to the Ethics Commission
- Resolution Providing for Reappointments to the Grants Review Committee
- Resolution Providing for Appointment and Reappointment to the Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee
- Resolution Providing for Reappointments to the Recreation Committee
- Resolution Providing for Reappointments to the Sustainable Maryland Committee
- Resolution Providing for Appointment and Reappointments to the Tree Commission