



Council Appointments to City Boards, Commissions, Committees

Feb. 1, 2023 (draft slides)



Goals for Tonight's Discussion

- Update city council on:
 - city committee system
 - Semi-annual recruitment & appointment process
 - previous council review of committee structure
- Affirm approach to semi-annual appointments process
- Flag a few remaining issues to address in future



Council-Appointed Committees, Boards & Commissions

Boards:

Board of Elections

Committee on Landlord-Tenant Affairs

Ethics Commission

Tree Commission*

Noise Control Board*

Committees:

Arts and Humanities

Emergency Preparedness

Grants Review

Sustainable Maryland Committee
(Green Team)

Nuclear-Free Takoma Park

Recreation & Community Engagement

Youth Council*

Additional Groups:

Pension Review Board

Police Chief's Advisory Board (chief
appoints)

* Not currently recruiting



Boards/Commissions & Advisory Committees

Advisory committees (city code 2.16)

- Advise city council
- Common size (up to 9), terms (6-year limit, staggered, 1 year hiatus before reapplying)
- Members: City residents (one exception)
- Annual reports and council reviews/feedback
- Required Code of Conduct, offer member stipends

Boards and Commissions (city code 2.17)

- Quasi-judicial or regulatory roles
- Each group has its own charges, procedures
- Required Code of Conduct, offer member stipends



Council 2020-21 Review of Committees

Council priority: enable more diverse, engaged, productive, and rewarding committee membership

Goals:

- increase efficiency and effectiveness
- attract new members
- engage a representative set of residents

Review:

- Survey & background info
- Council work sessions Feb.-Oct. 2021
- Code changes fall 2021
- Operational improvements, recruitment and appointments, number and purposes of committees



Council 2020-21 Review of Committees

- Common membership, terms, and purposes; limited exceptions
- Semi-annual recruitment system, not previous one-at-a-time appointments
- More committee training & support, code of conduct, member stipends
- Several groups discontinued or refocused
- Streamlined code language for advisory committees
- Youth Council and Grants Review Committees are codified
- City council responsibilities clarified

A few issues not finalized:

- Noise Control Board
- Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee
- Possible new committees recommended



Council Review of Committees: Appointment Guidelines

- 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



Next Steps for City Council

- Actively recruit in wards and with community groups till Feb. 8
- Make appointments later this month
- Council subgroup to work with city staff:
review applicants, recommend appointments, consider best approach
if not enough suitable applications for an individual committee
- Consider council liaisons to committees
- Schedule annual review & feedback with committees

