

**BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE – COMMITTEE ON BOARD AND COMMISSION  
APPOINTMENT PROCESS MEETING**

Municipal Complex  
Date: Monday, April 30, 2007

Conference Room A  
Time: 6:00 PM

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Present: Eric Spear, Chair; Thomas Ferrini, Assistant Mayor; Sheri Garrity, Tony Coviello, John Rice, Ned Raynolds (6:40 p.m.) City Councilor; and Kelli L. Barnaby, City Clerk

Absent: Nancy Beach, Lisa DeStefano, David Ewing, Richard Katz, and Kathy Pearce

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Eric Spear advised the Committee that discussion regarding term limits was held with the City Council at their recent meeting. He reported that Councilor Smith questioned how we remove individuals from boards. Mr. Spear informed the Committee that the City Council has requested to conduct a work session with the Committee on May 7, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. He provided copies of the information which has been provided to the City Council in the past relative to the progress of the Committee and its work.

Assistant Mayor Ferrini said some of the City Council has raised issues relative to removal of individuals from boards and commissions as well as term limits. He advised the Committee that he expects the City Council to provide more of a directive to this Committee at the May 7, 2007 work session.

Tony Coviello said he would like to see more of the chairs of the various boards and commissions announce the list of vacancies available. He also suggested that a listing of upcoming vacancies be listed on the City Council agenda for public information. City Clerk Barnaby advised Mr. Coviello that upcoming vacancies will now be listed on the City Council agendas starting with the May 7, 2007 meeting.

Assistant Mayor Ferrini spoke to the recent adoption of City Council Rule and Order #47 regarding term limits for boards and commissions. He reported that he expects a spirited discussion on this matter during the May 7, 2007 work session with the City Council.

Mr. Spear advised the Committee that the City Council agenda now includes an attachment for each individual appointment of all members serving on the board and commission they are applying for as well as the length of service and expiration date of their term. He reported that the City Council went in another direction from the recommendation of this Committee relative to term limits and chose a 10-year limit for each board and commission.

John Rice said he feels that the City Council should repeal its vote and go with the term limits as recommended by this Committee.

Assistant Mayor Ferrini said the City Council reviewed the recommended rule regarding term limits and discussed at lengths various issues relating to term limits. He said that discussion was held with City Attorney Sullivan and the City Council relative to the adoption of term limits and the City Council felt that another direction would perhaps be too cumbersome.

Mr. Coviello said that the Planning Board is very vocal and expressed their opposition with the adoption of a 10 year term limit for boards and commissions.

Assistant Mayor Ferrini informed the City Council that the rule could be changed at some point if the City Council so desires.

Mr. Rice said that the City Council should have created a rule by which a review of an applicant takes place once they reach 10 years and seeks reappointment.

Mr. Spear said that the City Council needs direction from Mayor Marchand as to how he wishes the Committee to proceed.

Mr. Coviello said criteria for the removal of an individual from a board or commission should be attendance. Assistant Mayor Ferrini said that the Committee could develop a list of criteria for which an individual may be removed from a board and commission.

Mr. Spear spoke in support of holding a recruitment fair in the future in order to bring attention to the boards and commissions and positions available to residents. He said that there should be a basic form for individuals wishing to serve on any board and commission to complete and attach their resume to. He said this would allow individuals to complete a form without specifying a particular board or commission. City Clerk Barnaby informed the Committee that the City is looking at conducting the recruitment fair in the fall, possibly September.

Mr. Coviello said he feels that Mayor Marchand should advise individuals applying for a board or commission to contact the chair of that board or commission to discuss what is expected of the individual when appointed to serve.

Sheri Garrity said that the recruitment fair should be well advertised and requested that a notice be placed in the newspaper for residents.

Mr. Spear said he feels a recruitment fair should be held once a year for residents.

Assistant Mayor Ferrini said that the Committee needs to obtain a charge from the City Council at the May 7, 2007 work session that is clear and focused.

Mr. Rice said that the Committee members should express their concerns with the 10 year term limit.

At 6:45 p.m., Mr. Spear closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kelli L. Barnaby, CMC  
City Clerk