



City of Rochester, New Hampshire

CITY COUNCIL –
APPOINTMENTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

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Appointments Review Committee

January 17, 2023

City Hall Chambers – Conference Room

5:15 PM

Committee Members Present:

James Gray, Chair

Laura Hainey, Vice-Chair

Dana Berlin

Committee Members Excused:

Ashley Desrochers

Amy Malone

Minutes

Chair Gray called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM on January 17, 2023.

New appointment(s):

Chris Harrelson – Rochester Economic Development Commission, Seat D (New Appointment, Regular member) *Term to expire 01/2/2024*

Mr. Harrelson explained that he had moved to Rochester a year prior from Alabama. He works at a local bank in commercial lending. He gave his educational background in accounting and detailed how he interacts with Rochester's residents and business owners through his career, helping businesses succeed in the community. He emphasized how a position on the REDC would dovetail with his employment and the relationship he holds with Rochester's business community. Mr. Harrelson spoke of how the actions of the REDC have the potential to directly affect his job and clients.

Mr. Harrelson reported that he is currently on the Rochester Main Street Board of Directors and is a member of the Rotary Club.

Chair Gray explained that there are currently two applicants for the same REDC position, Seat D. The Committee will interview both and will make a recommendation to Council; either for one applicant, or indicating that both are equally qualified and allow Council to take a vote on who will fill the seat.

Chair Gray advised Mr. Harrelson of other opportunities on City boards and Commissions if he does not end up filling the REDC seat.

The Committee decided to hold off on a recommendation for REDC seat D until both candidates had been interviewed.

Brylye Collins – Zoning Board of Adjustments, Seat H (New Appointment, Alternate Member) Term to Expire 1/2/2026

Ms. Collins stated that she had moved to Rochester two years prior and gave details on her career background; primarily in talent acquisition and recruitment in the HR arena. She currently owns and runs her own talent consulting business in the City. She explained that she is currently an ambassador for the Rochester Chamber of Commerce and sits on the Board of Directors for Community Action Partnership. Ms. Collins said that although she does not have specific background or experience directly relevant to the ZBA, she is highly organized and a fast learner. Ms. Collins stated she been watching the ZBA meetings and has reviewed the NHMA guidelines to become familiar with the process and the criteria of which the board follows. She stated that the guidelines which the ZBA follows seem cut and dry; either the criteria is met or it is not and the board votes accordingly.

Chair Gray spoke about upcoming educational opportunities for land-use boards that Ms. Collins may be interested in pursuing.

Councilor Berlin **MOVED** to recommend to full Council the appointment of Brylye Collins as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjustments, Seat H with a term to expire 1/2/26. Councilor Hainey seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a unanimous voice vote.

Tanya Hervey – Rochester Economic Development Commission, Seat D (New Appointment, Regular member) Term to expire 01/2/2024

Ms. Hervey spoke about being a Rochester resident since the early 90s. For many years, she ran a photography business on Union Street, next to Hervey's Tire. Ms. Hervey currently works for the Rochester Chamber of Commerce and spoke about leaving her photography business in order to connect more with the community and a desire to work with people to be part of something bigger. Ms. Hervey said the mission of the Chamber of Commerce aligns directly with that of the REDC: to promote and foster a favorable economic environment in the City of Rochester.

The Committee discussed both candidates for REDC Seat D. It was stated that both candidates were highly qualified, with different strengths that they would bring to the board. Both candidates would be an asset to the REDC if seated. Chair Gray stated that it was beneficial to have a good mix of members on REDC consisting of both new and older business owners, and those that live, work, and own businesses in the community.

Councilor Berlin **MOVED** to recommend to full Council the appointment of Tanya Hervey as a regular member of the REDC, Seat D, with a term to expire 1/2/2024. Councilor Hainey seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a unanimous voice vote.

Re-Appointments:

Mark Collopy – Planning Board, Seat F (Re-appointment, Regular Member) Term to Expire 01/2/2026

Lance Powers – Zoning Board of Adjustments, Seat A (Request to be elevated from alternate to regular member) Term to Expire 01/2/2024

Councilor Berlin **MOVED** to recommend to full Council the re-appointment of both Mark Collopy to the Planning Board, Seat F and Lance Powers elevation from an alternate to a regular member of the ZBA, Seat A with terms to expire as listed above. Councilor Hainey seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a unanimous voice vote.

Chair Gray **ADJOURNED** the Appointments Review Committee meeting at 5:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Givara
Deputy City Clerk