



City of Rochester, New Hampshire

CITY COUNCIL –
APPOINTMENTS REVIEW COMMITTEE
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Appointments Review Committee

June 13, 2023
City Hall Chambers – Conference Room
5:30 PM

Committee Members Present:

James Gray, Chair
Laura Hainey, Vice-Chair (arrived at 5:47)
Ashley Desrochers
John Larochele

Committee Members Absent:

Dana Berlin
Amy Malone

Minutes

Chair Gray called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM on June 13, 2023. Mayor Callaghan was present in the building and temporarily appointed Councilor Larochele as a member of the Appointments Review Committee in order to constitute a quorum.

New appointment(s):

Doug Lachance

Rochester Economic Development Commission, Seat H, New Regular Member –*Term to expire 1/2/2026*

Mr. Lachance had indicated via email that he would be unable to attend the meeting due to an unexpected scheduling conflict.

Chris Harrelson

Rochester Economic Development Commission, Seat H, New Regular Member –*Term to expire 1/2/2026*

Chair Gray gave an overview of Mr. Harrelson’s application. Mr. Harrelson has met with the Appointments Review Committee in January of 2023 for a position on the REDC, and at that time the position had been recommended for another applicant. However, when the current vacancy became available, Mr. Harrelson indicated he would like to be considered.

Mr. Harrelson explained that he works in commercial lending at a local bank, and is involved with startups and new development. He is the current chair of Rochester Main Street’s Economic Vitality Committee. He feels that a seat on the REDC would dovetail with the work

he does daily in the City and he spoke about the goal of making Rochester a vibrant, thriving community to raise his children.

The Committee discussed the benefit of Mr. Harrelson serving on REDC as a Rochester resident (Rochester residency is not required of all members), and how he may bring a different perspective having moved here from down south within the last few years. The Committee felt that Mr. Harrelson would be a good fit for REDC and would bring a good energy to the Commission.

Councilor Larochelle **MOVED** to recommend Chris Harrelson to the Rochester Economic Development Commission, Seat H, with a term to expire 1/2/2026. Councilor Desrochers seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a unanimous voice vote.

Re-Appointments/Discussions:

- **Arts & Culture Commission term expirations and vacancies**

Deputy City Clerk Cassie Givara explained that over the past several years, the term expirations for the Arts and Culture Commission had inadvertently become “un-staggered,” and rather than the terms expiring over the course of three consecutive years, most of the term expirations were occurring in 2023. The City Attorney had advised that this could be handled administratively and the Clerk’s Office could determine which seat expirations to adjust. Ms. Givara said that she had reached out to three members to determine if they were willing to extend their terms, at which point a new oath of office will be signed.

Chair Gray **MOVED** to reappoint three positions, as determined by the Clerk’s Office, in order to appropriately stagger the expirations. Councilor Desrochers seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a unanimous voice vote.

Chair Gray **ADJOURNED** the meeting at 5:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Givara
Deputy City Clerk