

**MINUTES
APPOINTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE
JUNE 11, 2018 - 4:30 P.M.
CITY MANAGER'S CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY HALL
100 STATE STREET
BELOIT, WI 53511**

Vice-Chairman Henry Clement called the regular meeting of the Appointment Review Committee to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Committee Members Present: Henry Clement, Louise Reidenbach, Daniel Barolsky, Pam George, Kurt Reynolds, Kevin Leavy, Regina Dunkin

Committee Members Absent: Dan Gifford

Staff: Pamela Lathrop, Lori Curtis Luther, City Manager

Guests: City Councilor Nancy Forbeck and Ken Forbeck

2. Minutes:

Motion by Daniel Barolsky to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2018 meeting. Seconded by Louise Reidenbach, motion carried unanimously.

3. Consideration and review of existing and upcoming vacancies (June and July, 2018)

Accepted as sent.

4. Review of applicants for the following vacancies with recommendations to City Council:

Alcohol Beverage License Control Committee

All incumbents are eligible and interested in being reappointed. There are no other applications on file.

The application of incumbent Malissa Cronin is six years old. She was originally appointed to ABLCC in 2012. Members of the Appointment Review Committee wondered if there are any changes to her application that should be considered, for example, has her residence changed? Unless something changes, the ARC has not required an incumbent to fill out a new application. If they move from the City of Beloit, the staff notifies ARC and the incumbent is notified if their eligibility changes. Daniel Barolsky asked if we could require incumbents to update their applications. Louise Reidenbach felt that would be insulting to an incumbent who is willing to continue serving. Kurt Reynolds mentioned that committee members are asked to update the Economic Interest Statement once per year. Discussion continued until Henry Clement called for a vote.

Daniel Barolsky moved to approve the reappointment of:

- Malissa Cronin to a regular term expiring June 30, 2021
- L. Jerome Jennings to a regular term expiring June 30, 2021
- Tara J. Tinder to a regular term expiring June 30, 2021
- Shelly Cronin, recommended as the School Board Representative for the 2018-2019 school year

Louise Reidenbach seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Library Board

Motion by Louise Reidenbach to recommend the appointment of incumbents:

- Diane Lichtenstein to a regular term expiring June 30, 2021
- Maribeth Miller to a regular term expiring June 30, 2021
- David Sowl to a regular term expiring June 30, 2021
- Shelly Cronin, recommended as the School Board Representative for the 2018-2019 school year

Daniel Barolsky seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Police and Fire Commission

Council President Leavy sent a letter to the Appointment Review Committee, encouraging them to make a recommendation for appointment to the Police and Fire Commission. Absent a forthcoming recommendation at the June meeting, Leavy reminded the committee that he has the authority under Section 1.72(6)(b)(3) of the Beloit Municipal Code to nominate a candidate for appointment.

The incumbent, Ana Kelly, is eligible and willing to be reappointed. The Appointment Review Committee considered her application, as well as an application of Rongal Watson. The Council President asked for a specific, significant reason that the Appointment Review Committee would not recommend Ana Kelly for reappointment. City Manager Luther attended the meeting to talk about the importance of having Latino representation on our committees. She expressed the feeling that if the Appointment Review Committee refused to recommend the incumbent, there would be unintended consequences throughout the Latino community.

Daniel Barolsky said that he is sensitive to the fact that our Chairman, Dan Gifford, is not at the meeting today. Barolsky recognized the need to reappoint applicants but this is a different kind of committee. Moreover, he feels the policy for why and how we vote to maintain status quo is a poor policy and deprives us of new voices. Ms. Kelly remarks on her application, "I do not have an "agenda", constituency, interests or relationships to protect or advance." In contrast, Barolsky feels Rongal Watson would come in with "intention" and work closely with the Police Department. Leavy asked Barolsky if Mr. Watson would stop working with the Police Department and "building bridges" if he didn't get appointed to the Police and Fire Commission? Barolsky doubts it. Leavy again reiterated that overall, the City's committees need diversity and we don't have many Hispanics serving; that is why he's taken the hard line to reappoint Ana Kelly. Kurt Reynolds stated he feels Mr. Watson is more qualified than Ms. Kelly.

Kevin Leavy suggested that in July the Appointment Review Committee review the rules and the ordinance and talk about revisions.

Lori Luther stated that the learning curve for a committee member on the Police and Fire Commission is substantial. Right now the commission is staffed with a healthy mix of people who have some experience. There are complex rules for the PFC and the Board of Review.

Regina Dunkin asked when there will be another opening on the PFC? The next vacancy would occur on April 30, 2019 and the incumbent would be eligible for reappointment. Luther explained that we have set a precedent on reappointing incumbents, but nothing is in writing. Barolsky feels it is a poor precedent.

Henry Clement stated that both Kelly and Watson are qualified. We cross over into dangerous territory unless there is a specific reason not to reappoint her. Barolsky asked if people are discouraged from applying for vacancies, knowing that incumbents will be reappointed. Reidenbach felt that if the committee decides to make a change, now is not the time. Luther and Leavy suggested wording in the ordinance would need to be changed to add that an incumbent "may or may not" be reappointed. Appointment Review Committee would need to notify all committee members that we are diverging from past practice and, although eligible, the Appointment Review Committee may choose not to reappoint.

Pam George stated that the Appointment Review Committee has not looked at ethnicity in the past. If we do it this time, we must do so every time. Leavy responded that the direction from Council is to consider "diversity" as much as we can; however, gender and race are optional on the application. The Municipal Code recommends membership on each committee/commission/board "reflect the diverse nature of the City's population."

There was much general discussion going on; the City Manager heard a remark about appointing residents of other cultures. She cautioned the committee to take this seriously and be careful what is said. Member Kurt Reynolds apologized for his comment.

Vice-Chair Clement said this was an excellent discussion and suggested since there was no motion, we yield to the Council President's decision to appoint to the Police and Fire Commission. Pam George stated that she feels Leavy will be fair and impartial.

Daniel Barolsky stated that there are assumptions being made that need to be presented to new members of the Appointment Review Committee.

Leavy suggested the entire Appointment Review Committee could use training on their responsibilities.

After lengthy discussion no motion was made by the ARC to appoint a member to the PFC. President Leavy intends to proceed with his appointment of Ana Kelly. Dunkin thanked Leavy for allowing everyone the opportunity to discuss the Police and Fire Commission reappointment; however, she would have liked the ARC to step up and make a recommendation.

5. Member Participation

None

6. Citizen Participation

Ken Forbeck suggested term limits would be a solution to the issues we discussed today; however, Leavy responded that we do have term limits spelled out in the Municipal Ordinance.

7. Adjournment

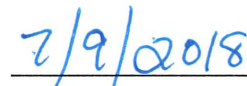
Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Dan Gifford, Chairperson



Henry Clement, Vice-Chairperson

Date



Date