

CITY COUNCIL

Nominations and Appointments

Committee

Monday, March 4, 2024
4:00 pm
Penn Room / Hybrid Meeting

The Nominations and Appointments Committee meets to address nominations and appointments to the City's boards, authorities, and commissions.

Public comment is not permitted during Committee meetings.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://readingpa.zoom.us/j/4192926522?pwd=M0dBTXh6SnNvOHppU1paMm9zUW0xZz09&omn=81987107000>

Meeting ID: 419 292 6522

Passcode: 972205

Dial by your location

- 877 853 5257 US Toll-free
- 888 475 4499 US Toll-free

I. Interviews

4:00 - Andrew Boyd - appointment - Blighted Property Review Committee

4:15 - Robert Hospidor - reappointment - Board of Health

4:30 - Kathy Schorn - reappointment - Board of Health

II. Appointment / Reappointment Recommendations

III. Review Pending Applications Memo (see page 4), BAC Openings (see page 6) & Board, Authority, Commission Membership

IV. Adjourn

Blighted Property Review Committee Facts

The City created the Vacant Property Review Committee at some point around 1970; however, by the end of the 1980's the Committee was no longer functioning. This Committee was composed of City officials and employees. In 2006 City Council drafted and enacted legislation to eliminate the Vacant Property Review Committee and replace it with the Blighted Property Review Committee (BPRC) composed of a combination of public officials and citizens at large to implement provisions of the Urban Redevelopment Law of 1945, as amended, and the City of Reading Blighted Property Review Committee Ordinance as amended by Bill #108-2010. To qualify for the BPRC process a property must meet the legal definition of "blight" by exhibiting one or more of the twelve conditions listed in the Ordinance and the property can be certified as blighted by the hearing process, which leaves the property subject to eminent domain or some other acquisition strategy.

Blighted Property Review Committee Questions for New Applicants

1. What is the purpose of the BPRC?
2. Why are you interested in serving on the BPRC?
3. The BPRC currently meets on the 1st Thursday at 6 pm when hearings are scheduled. Will you be able to regularly attend those hearings?
4. What do you believe is the ultimate goal of the BPRC?
5. Have you ever been through the BPRC process?
6. What do you think would improve the quality of Reading's housing stock?

Blighted Property Review Committee Questions for Reappointments

1. Are you able to regularly attend hearings?
2. What has the BPRC done well and what could be improved?
3. Do you have any ideas to improve the process used by the BPRC?
4. Are there any issues that the City could assist with?
5. What is the ultimate goal of the BPRC?

Board of Health Facts

Under the Commission form of government, City Council sat as the Board of Health. After the change to the Home Rule Charter form of government, City Council created a citizen appointed Board of Health. The Board of Health is charged to enforce and uphold the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Reading enacted for the protection of the public health, such as identify community problems; diagnose and investigate health problems and health hazards; inform, educate and empower the citizens and residents of Reading about health issues; mobilize community partnerships and take action to solve problems; and analyze and develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.

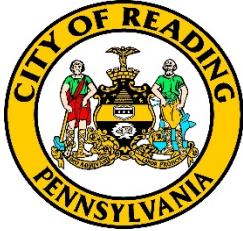
Board of Health Questions for New Applicants

1. What is the purpose of the Board of Health?
2. Why are you interested in serving on the Board of Health?
3. The Board currently meets on the 1st Tuesday of every other month at 4 pm. Will you be able to regularly attend those meetings?
4. What would you like to see the Board of Health accomplish?
5. What community health related problems are you aware of?

Board of Health Questions for Reappointments

1. Are you able to regularly attend meetings?
2. What has the Board of Health done well and what could be improved?
3. Are there any issues that the City could assist with?
4. What types of health issues has the Board handled? And how were they resolved?
5. What types of projects or issues would you like the Board to address?

MEMORANDUM



TO: Nominations and Appointments Committee
FROM: Shelly Smith, Deputy City Clerk
DATE: March 4, 2024
SUBJECT: Pending Applications

The following persons have applications for Boards, Authorities, and Commissions pending:

Citizens Initiative Commission – 11 open seats (1 per Council District; 3 per Mayor) – 4 year term

- **Tonya Butler** – appointment – District 4 - has Mayoral recommendation

Board of Health – 2 term expirations, 1 open seat (5 members + 2 alternates) – 5 year term

- **Robert Hospidor** – reappointment – has Mayoral recommendation
- **Kathy Schorn** – reappointment – has Mayoral recommendation
- **Juan Moya** – appointment – has Mayoral recommendation

Blighted Property Review Committee – 2 open seats, 2 open alternate seats (5 members + 2 alternates) – 4 year term

- **Jamie Keith** – appointment – has Mayoral recommendation – interviewed 2/5/24
- **Ann Woodward** – appointment – has Mayoral recommendation – interviewed 2/20/24
- **Andrew Boyd** – appointment – has Mayoral recommendation

Zoning Hearing Board – 2 term expirations, 1 open alternate seat (5 members +2 alternates) – 5 year term

- **Tom Fox** – reappointment – Council appointment
- **Jared Barcz** – reappointment – Council appointment

Shade Tree Commission – *2 open seats (5 members) – 5 year term*

- **Lori Bellman** – appointment – has Mayoral recommendation

Animal Control Board – *5 term expirations (7 members) – 3 year term*

- **Amara Cordero** – appointment – **sent to Mayor February 2024** - Animal Control Agency representative

BOARDS, AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS

OPEN SEATS

MARCH 4, 2024

Board, Authority & Commission	Mayor appointment w/ Council approval	Mayor appointment	Council appointment
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BOARDS

Electrician's Examining Board Must be master Electrician	7 members		
	Board full		
Plumbing Board of Examiners Must be master Plumber	7 members		
	Board full		
Reading HVAC Board Must have master license	9 members		
	Board full		
Zoning Hearing Board			5 members + 2 alts
			2 openings + 1 alternate opening
			2 applications pending
Police Civil Service Board			3 members
			1 opening
Fire Civil Service Board			3 members
			1 opening
Board of Historical Architectural Review			9 members
			3 openings
			Historic District Openings
Board of Trustees of the Reading Public Library			15 members
			5 City seats
			City positions filled

Board of Health	5 members + 2 alts		
	3 openings		
	3 applications pending		
Board of Ethics	5 members		
	2 openings		
Building/Fire Code Board of Appeals	5 members + 2 alts		
	1 alternate opening		
Animal Control Board	7 members		
	5 openings		
	1 application pending		
Charter Board	5 members		
	2 openings		
Code & License Appeals Board		3 members + 3 alts	
		1 opening	
		1 alternate opening	2 alternate openings
Equal Business Opportunity Advisory Board	5 members		
	2 openings – minority bus – owner; procurement professional		
Diversity Board			9 members
			3 openings
Pagoda Foundation		2 appointment	2 appointments
		Mayoral Appointments filled	2 openings
Conversion Therapy Mental Health Services Appeals Board	5 members		
	3 openings		

AUTHORITIES

Reading Area Water Authority			7 members
			1 opening
Reading Redevelopment Authority			5 members
			1 opening
Reading Housing Authority	5 members		
	1 opening		
Reading Parking Authority		5 members	
		1 opening	
Convention Center Authority			7 members
			3 City seats + 1 alt
			City positions filled

COMMISSIONS

Planning Commission	7 members		
	2 openings		
Shade Tree Commission	5 members		
	2 openings		
	1 application pending		
Stadium Commission	5 members		
	Board full		
Human Relations Commission		7 members	
		3 openings	
Blighted Property Review Committee	5 members + 2 alt		
	2 openings; 2 alternate openings		
	3 applications pending		
Environmental Advisory Council			7 members
			1 opening

Recreation Commission	11 members		
	2 City + 1 alternating		
	City positions filled		
Audit Committee			5 members
			Board full
Citizens Initiative Commission			11 members
		3 openings	6 openings – 1 per City Council District
			1 application pending
Youth Commission			15 members
		1 opening	2 openings Dist 1; 1 opening Dist 2; 1 opening Dist 4; 2 openings Dist 6
Downtown Revitalization P3		9 members	
		2 openings	2 openings