



CITY COUNCIL

Nominations and Appointments

Committee

Monday, August 2, 2021
4:00 pm
Hybrid Meeting

The Nominations and Appointments Committee will meet as needed to address nominations and appointments to the City's boards, authorities and commissions.

Due to COVID-19, the public is prohibited from attending the meeting in person. Public comment will only be accepted in writing through an email to michelle.smith@readingpa.gov. Public comment must be submitted by 3:00 pm on day of the meeting to allow time to print and distribute the comment submitted. The comment received will be read into the record. Those wishing to make comment at the meeting must register prior to the start of the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 419 292 6522

Passcode: 972205

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

877 853 5257 US Toll-free

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 419 292 6522

Passcode: 972205

I. Interviews

4:00 - Maria Delgado - appointment - Housing Authority

4:15 - Stacey Taylor - reappointment - Human Relations Commission

4:30 - James Schlegel - reappointment - Stadium Commission

II. Appointment Recommendations

III. Review Pending Applications Memo (see page 6), BAC Openings (see page 8) & Board, Authority, Commission Membership

Reading Housing Authority (RHA) Facts

The Reading Housing Authority (RHA) is a public housing agency that is organized under the laws of Pennsylvania, and whose primary contract is with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The agency was organized in 1939 under the U.S. Housing Act in order to meet the housing needs of residents of the City of Reading, many of whom who could not otherwise afford housing that was decent and safe. The agency continues to seek that end today, by offering quality, affordable housing options and opportunities for the families that are served

The agency operates several different programs in order to meet its goals. Affordable rents for income-eligible individuals and families are found in the agency's 1600 public housing apartments and townhouses that are located in 8 different developments throughout the City of Reading. Through the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Program, more than 600 city residents are assisted in paying their rent to private landlords. In our two privately owned (non-'subsidized') locations, townhouses are available for those with moderate incomes.

Through on-site maintenance and management of its public housing programs, the 'landlord' functions of RHA are vastly important. The agency ensures the decency of its properties by enforcing rules that support the well-being of the high-rise or development. Routine maintenance assures that properties are clean and well kept, and modernization is ongoing. Attention to security is featured at each location. Services are provided at each development to promote residents' self-sufficiency goals, and formal partnerships are established between the agency and its residents groups to ensure that participant input is included in all operations.

RHA Questions for New Applicants

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Housing Authority?
2. What is the purpose of Housing Authority?
3. The Housing Authority currently meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Will you be able to regularly attend those meetings?
4. Do you have experience with public housing?

RHA Questions for Reappointments

1. Are you able to regularly attend meetings?
2. What does the Housing Authority do well?
3. In what areas or ways does Housing Authority need to improve?
4. Are there any issues that the City could assist with?
5. In what ways could the Housing Authority improve the way it operates?

Human Relations Commission (HRC) Board Facts

City Council established the HRC in 1968 for the protection of the public safety and the general welfare, for the maintenance of peace and good government and for the promotion of the City's trade, commerce and manufacture, to assure the right and opportunity of all persons to participate in the social, cultural, recreational and economic life of the City and to insure equal opportunity for all persons to live in decent housing facilities, free from restrictions because of race, color, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, sex, orientation, familial status, handicap or previous filing of a complaint of discrimination. The HRC handles complaints about various types of discrimination such as employment and fair housing and the HRC also handles landlord tenant issues. The HRC also manages the RAWA hardship fund.

HRC Questions for New Applicants

1. What is the purpose of the Human Relations Commission (HRC)?
2. Why are you interested in serving on the HRC?
3. The Board currently meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6 pm. Will you be able to regularly attend those meetings?
4. HRC members must also attend hearings, training sessions and perform outreach in the community to educate citizens about the mission of the HRC. Will your schedule permit you to participate regularly?
5. Have you ever experienced any form of discrimination or landlord tenant issues?
6. What types of discrimination do you believe occurs in Reading?
7. Do you have any personal beliefs that would interfere with your ability to uphold the mission of the HRC?
8. Do you have any personal beliefs that would interfere with your ability to evaluate a case with neutrality?

HRC Questions for Reappointments

1. Are you able to regularly attend meetings?
2. What has HRC done well and what could be improved upon?
3. Are there any issues that the City could assist with?
4. How much training is required for HRC members?
5. What types of complaints has the Board heard?
6. Explain how an HRC complaint is processed by the Board.

Stadium Commission Board Facts

City Council originally established the Stadium Commission in 1953 in early 1995 to promote the City of Reading and Baseball, to be a liaison between The Reading Fightin' Phils and the City of Reading and to meet with other organizations who are interested in renting the stadium for charitable or profitable events. Since its inception, the lease agreement between the City, the Commission and the owner of the franchise, currently the Philadelphia Phillies, has dramatically changed. The oversight of the Commission has been decreased, the Phils organization now covers a majority of the expenses associated with the stadium, and the capital expenses are shared by the City and the Phils. The City contributes a sum of \$5,000 to the Commission annually for capital expenses associated with the Stadium. Commission members are expected to be City liaisons and ambassadors and they are expected to assist the Phils organization in various ways including volunteering to perform various assignments before, during and after home baseball games.

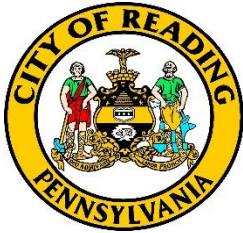
Stadium Commission Board Questions for New Applicants

1. What is the purpose of the Stadium Commission?
2. Why are you interested in serving on Commission?
3. The Commission currently meets on 6 Wednesdays during the year at 7 pm. Will you be able to regularly attend those meetings?
4. What affiliation do you have with baseball?
5. What would you like to see Stadium Commission accomplish?
6. Do you believe the Commission provides a benefit to The Fightin' Phils?

Stadium Commission Board Questions for Reappointments

1. Are you able to regularly attend meetings?
2. What has Stadium Commission done well and what could be improved upon?
3. Are there any issues that the City could assist with?
4. How is the Commission's relationship with the Phils organization? What will you do to encourage improvements to the relationship?
5. How does the Commission work with the Phils organization to plan for the use of the annual contribution?
6. How has the City assisted the Commission? Is more assistance necessary?

M E M O R A N D U M



TO: Nominations and Appointments Committee
FROM: Shelly Smith, Deputy City Clerk
DATE: August 2, 2021
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 at large)

- Tonya Butler - appointment - has Mayoral approval

Recreation Commission - 2 open seats (2 citizen members)

- Deja Harris - appointment - additional clearances submitted
- Mark Falter Jr - appointment - additional clearances submitted - **sent to Mayor Feb 2021**

Youth Commission - 4 open seats (1 District 2, 1 District 4, 2 Mayor)

- Adorelis Medina - appointment - District 3 - has Mayoral approval
- Carlos Estrada - appointment - District 4 - has Mayoral approval - **needs clearances**
- Cesar Martinez - appointment - District 4 - has Mayoral approval - **needs clearances**

Charter Board – 2 open seats (5 members)

- Susan Williams – appointment (was member in the past) – sent to Mayor May 2021

Fire/Building Code Board of Appeals – 1 expired term, 2 open seats, 2 open alternates (5 members)

- Michael Kautter – reappointment – has Mayoral approval

Stadium Commission – 1 expired term (5 members)

- James Schlegel – reappointment – has Mayoral approval

Housing Authority – 1 open seat (5 members)

- Maria Delgado – appointment – has Mayoral approval

Human Relations Commission – 1 expired term, 1 open seat (7 members)

- Stacey Taylor – reappointment – has Mayoral approval

Environmental Advisory Council – 3 open seats (7 members)

- Rebecca Noviello – appointment – sent to Mayor July 2021

Blighted Property Review Committee – 1 expired term, 1 open seat (7 members)

- Jerry Jones – appointment – sent to Mayor July 2021

BOARDS, AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS

OPEN SEATS

AUGUST 2, 2021

Board, Authority & Commission	Mayor appointment w/ Council approval	Mayor appointment	Council appointment
BOARDS			
Electrician's Examining Board Must be master Electrician	Board full		
Plumbing Board of Examiners Must be master Plumber	2 openings		
Reading HVAC Board Must have master license	6 openings		
Zoning Hearing Board			2 alternate openings
Police Civil Service Board			Board full
Fire Civil Service Board			1 opening
Board of Historical Architectural Review			5 openings Historic District Openings & Trades Professional
Board of Trustees of the Reading Public Library			City positions filled

Board of Health	2 alternate openings		
Board of Ethics	Board full		
Building/Fire Code Board of Appeals	3 openings		
	2 alternate openings		
	Bldg/Trade experience		
	1 application pending		
Animal Control Board	3 openings		
Charter Board	2 openings		
	1 application pending		
Code & License Appeals Board		2 openings	
		1 alternate opening	2 alternate openings
Diversity Board			Board full
Pagoda Foundation		Mayoral Appointments filled	2 openings
Conversion Therapy Mental Health Services Appeals Board	3 openings		

AUTHORITIES			
Reading Area Water Authority			Board full
Reading Redevelopment Authority		Board full	
Reading Housing Authority	1 opening		
	1 application pending		
Reading Parking Authority		Board full	
Convention Center Authority			City positions full
COMMISSIONS			
Planning Commission	1 opening		
Shade Tree Commission	Board full		
Stadium Commission	1 opening		
	1 application pending		
Reading Human Relations Commission		2 openings	
		1 application pending	
Blighted Property Review Committee	2 openings		
	1 application pending		

Environmental Advisory Council			3 openings
			1 application pending
Recreation Commission	1 City opening		
	2 applications pending		
Audit Committee			Board full
Citizens Initiative Commission		3 openings	6 openings – 1 per City Council District
			1 application pending
Youth Commission		2 openings	3 openings – 2 District 2 & 1 District 4
		3 applications pending	
Downtown Revitalization P3		Positions full	1 alternate opening