



# CITY COUNCIL

## **Nominations & Appointments Committee**

**Monday, May 5, 2014  
Meeting Report**

**Attendance:** S. Marmarou, D. Sterner, M. Goodman-Hinnershitz

**Others Attending:** S. Katzenmoyer

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by Mr. Marmarou.

### **I. Interviews**

#### **Joseph Amprey (reappointment – Board of Ethics)**

Mr. Marmarou questioned why Dr. Amprey was interested in continuing to serve on the Board of Ethics. Dr. Amprey stated that he enjoys giving back to the City and stated that people who are not assisting should not complain about the state of the City.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if this Board is meeting. Dr. Amprey stated that it meets as needed and met approximately three weeks ago.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if this Board was full. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that there is one vacancy. Dr. Amprey stated that he does recruit for members. He stated that this Board gets excellent advice from its solicitor. He stated that most items reviewed are conflicts of interest.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if Dr. Amprey had any concerns. Dr. Amprey noted his great concern with the current situation with the water lease. He stated that the City also needs to get quality businesses downtown. He noted an increase in litter/trash and the City's difficulty enforcing these types of laws.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned if Dr. Amprey believed there should be training on the Code of Ethics. Dr. Amprey expressed the belief that things are better than they had been and that people need to be responsible for their actions. Mr. Sterner expressed the belief that society as a whole does not take responsibility for self.

Ms. Katzenmoyer explained that the Code of Ethics is a portion of the training offered to elected officials through the Charter Board training sessions. She stated that she worked in the past to have employee training and discovered that training is a negotiated issue. Management personnel were trained in the past but not uniform or rank and file. And management training has not occurred for many years. Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that many organizations require ethics training.

Dr. Amprey stated that he enjoys the work of this Board. He thanked Ms. Katzenmoyer for her excellent work in support of the Board.

**The Nominations and Appointments Committee recommends the reappointment of Joseph Amprey to the Board of Ethics.**

**Cynthia LaSota (reappointment – Historic Architectural Review Board)**

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz expressed the belief that there is a misconception about this Board. Ms. LaSota agreed and stated that many residents believe they are being told what to do with their properties. She stated that HARB is always willing to listen and negotiate.

Mr. Marmarou noted the number of vacancies on this Board. He questioned if Ms. LaSota tried to recruit new members. Ms. LaSota stated that she tries but has found that most of the people she approaches are already serving the City in another capacity.

Mr. Marmarou questioned the issues currently facing HARB. Ms. LaSota stated that there is a challenge with Spanish speaking residents as the Board does not have an interpreter. Mr. Marmarou suggested finding volunteers to serve in this capacity and noted the importance of ensuring that the interpreter is translating properly. Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted that it is important to have an interpreter available for Spanish speaking residents.

Ms. LaSota stated that the Board is also currently working on guidelines for the outside placement of gas meters. She stated that Aaron Booth is a big asset to this Board. Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that this is excellent but that it would apply to historic districts only and cannot be City-wide.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz thanked Ms. LaSota for her time and dedication to this Board. Ms. LaSota stated that the City's historic districts are a great asset and increase property values. She stated that all historic districts will be receiving signage to identify them.

Ms. LaSota stated that HARB has received a grant which will allow HARB members to attend a training conference in Philadelphia.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that Reading is looked on highly by others in the country for their work to preserve its historic housing.

Ms. LaSota noted the excellent work done by Amy Johnson.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz suggested that Mineral Spring Road and Hessian Camp be considered for an historic district. Ms. Katzenmoyer agreed and suggested that Perkiomen Ave and the area around the Luden Mansion also be considered.

**The Nominations and Appointments Committee recommends the reappointment of Cynthia LaSota to the Historic Architectural Review Board.**

The Nominations and Appointments Committee adjourned at 5:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
*Shelly Katzenmoyer,*  
Deputy City Clerk