



Boards and Commissions

September 14, 2009

Council Workshop

Follow-up to April 20, 2009 workshop

Overview

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

2 Types

1. INSIDE BOARDS - City of Des Moines Advisory Boards - Council Members make citizen appointments through a rotation process
2. OUTSIDE BOARDS - Appointment of Council Members and/or City staff to various Boards

INSIDE BOARDS

INSIDE BOARDS

22 IDENTIFIED

- Access Advisory Board
- Airport Board
- Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals
- Citizen Odor Board
- Civil Service Commission
- Des Moines Music Commission
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Housing Appeals Board
- Human Rights Commission
- Library Board of Trustees
- Neighborhood Revitalization Board
- Park and Recreation Board
- Plan and Zoning Commission
- Power Engineers Examining Board
- Public Housing Board
- Sister Cities Commission
- Skywalk Committee
- Traffic Safety Committee
- Urban Design Review Board
- Water Works Board of Trustees
- Youth Advisory Board
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

INSIDE BOARDS

Challenges

- Vacancies go unfilled
- Term Limits remove members
- Very “Specific” member criteria for some seats narrow the applicant pool
- Quorum issues occur

INSIDE BOARDS

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Focus on one board per Council Meeting

- City Clerk will work with Mayor/Council Members prior to the Council meeting to facilitate the appointments/reappointments to the designated Board
- Board Chairpersons will forward a letter to Council at their designated Council meeting outlining their accomplishments/challenges for the year. This letter will be included in the Council packet
- Attendance report and Board mission statement/details will also be included in the Council packet

Appointments/reappointments can be made at any time during the year .

Board Name	Board Term Expiration Dates	Designated Council Meeting Date
Housing and Appeals Board	March 16	1st meeting in January
Historic Preservation Commission	March 28-Owls Head October 18-Sherman Hill	2nd meeting in January
Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals	April 1	1st meeting in February
Citizen Odor Board	April (First Monday)	2nd meeting in February
Human Rights Commission	April (First Monday)	1st meeting in March
Civil Service Commission	April (First Monday)	2nd meeting in March
Power Engineers Examining Board	April (First Monday)	1st meeting in April
Board of Water Works Trustees	April (First Monday)	2nd meeting in April
Zoning Board of Adjustment	April (First Monday)	1st meeting in May
Sister Cities Commission	April 28	2nd meeting in May
Access Advisory Board	June 15	1st meeting in June
Neighborhood Revitalization Board	June 30	2nd meeting in June
Public Housing Board	June 30	1st meeting in July
Park and Recreation Board	June 30	2nd meeting in July
Airport Board	June 30	1st meeting in August
Urban Design Review Board	June 30	2nd meeting in August
Skywalk Committee	June 30	1st meeting in September
Library Board of Trustees	July 1	2nd meeting in September
Des Moines Music Commission	July 1	1st meeting in October
Plan and Zoning Commission	July (First Monday)	2nd meeting in October
Youth Advisory Board	August 1	1st meeting in November
Traffic Safety Committee	December 31	2nd meeting in November

INSIDE BOARDS

Recommendations

2. Encourage more citizens to apply for board appointments (via website, Channel 7 and City Source newsletter)
3. Amend the ordinance to change quorum requirements - quorum could be calculated on number of “non-vacant” seats, (except where quorum is defined by State Law, ie Board of Adjustment). *Council should establish a minimum #*
4. Amend the ordinance to require full Council approval for a Board Member to continue serving beyond stated term-limit requirements.

OUTSIDE BOARDS

OUTSIDE BOARDS

23 Identified

Aging Resources of Central Iowa
Art Center Board of Trustees
Blank Park Zoo Foundation
BRAVO Board of Trustees
Civic Center of Greater Des Moines
Board of Directors
Des Moines Area Regional Transit
Authority (DART)
Des Moines Community Investment
Corporation
Greater Des Moines Committee on
Foreign Relations
Greater Des Moines Convention And
Visitors Bureau
Greater Des Moines Partnership
Greater Des Moines Public Art
Foundation

I-235 Steering Committee
Metropolitan Advisory Council (MAC)
Metropolitan Coalition
Metropolitan Planning Organization
(MPO)
Metro Waste Authority (MWA) Board
Multiple Education Pathways Blueprint
(MEPB) Leadership Team
Neighborhood Development Corporation
(NDC)
Neighborhood Finance Corporation
Operation Downtown
Polk County Housing Trust Fund
(PCHTF)
Riverfront Development Authority
Wastewater Reclamation Authority
Management Agency

OUTSIDE BOARDS

Recommendations

- Place an item on the Council agenda during December/January each year to make all appointments/reappointments.
- Ask City representatives on these Boards to provide occasional updates, and to notify Mayor and Council when major issues are pending.

NEXT STEPS

- Take direction from Council today and ask Legal Department to draft appropriate ordinances
- Start January 2010 with new process

Questions?

