

URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

Inter-Governmental Committee

November 13, 2007

CM Moloney chaired the meeting, calling it to order at 1:00 pm. All members were present except Vice Mayor Gray, CM DeCamp, and CM Beard. CM Moloney recognized CM Gorton for a quorum.

I. Review of Boards and Commissions

CM Myers stated the review of the boards and commissions is to see what boards and commissions we have, which ones are meeting and which ones we need to continue to have meeting.

CM Myers asked if we can get a final report or the last quarters' minutes from the boards and commissions that they are going to consider doing away with.

Shaye, Rabold, Chief of Staff, stated they are not very far along in looking into which boards are not needed. She stated they are focusing more on getting people on boards where appointments have not been made in the last several years.

Anna Hartje Butcher, Administrative Specialist Principle, stated they are making an effort to appoint people to boards that need appointments. She stated they are going back to look at previous Mayor's reports to reconstruct every board.

CM Myers asked if they are having any difficulties in finding people willing to serve on the boards and commissions.

Ms. Butcher stated there tends to be some resistance.

CM Myers asked if they could put those boards and commissions that need appointments on the website and do some advertising letting people know.

Ms. Butcher stated that is something they have been considering and are working on.

CM Myers asked if the Mayor's Office has a list and one paragraph synopsis as to what each board does.

Ms. Butcher stated she is looking at the ordinances and the synopsis to verify all information is accurate.

CM Myers asked if that information can be put online and give each Council Member an electronic version once it is updated.

Ms. Butcher stated they have purchased a software database that everyone will have access to that will show the name of the boards and commission and all relevant information pertaining to it.

Ms. Rabold stated short term they can provide Council with a short synopsis of each board and commission they are aware of.

CM Myers asked that an electronic copy be sent to Paul Schoninger. He asked if they could include the composition of each board in that as well.

CM Gorton stated a spreadsheet would be really helpful as to one sentence regarding what the boards' purpose is.

Ms. Rabold stated they could do that.

CM James asked when will the software will be up and running.

Ms. Rabold stated Anna has it right now.

Ms. Butcher stated they are working on uploading data right now. She stated on the member data they are probably 70% complete. She stated on the boards they are 100% complete.

CM James asked what is being done when they discover someone has been appointed without being Council approved.

Ms. Butcher stated they are dealing with the issues as they find them.

CM James asked if they notify the board chair if they discover an issue.

Ms. Butcher stated in most cases she is informing the boards. She stated some cases the boards only meet once a quarter.

Ms. Rabold stated for the vast majority of the boards if they have someone on the board whose term has expired the person can continue serving until reappointment or a new appointment has been made. She stated there are a few boards that can appoint someone of their own if an appointment has not been made by the Mayor's office within a certain time.

Ms. Rabold stated a link will be added to the website that says "Get Involved" so it will be more user friendly.

CM Moloney stated they will look for a report at the January meeting.

II. Financial Disclosure Requirements of Boards and Commissions

CM Myers stated while looking at this issue he thought it would be a good idea to look at what agencies, and boards and commissions are currently under the requirement to financially disclose to the Ethics Commission and thought there may be a way to adapt the language under Section 25-13 Financial Disclosure who must file. He asked Ms. George how the Ethics Act came into be and which boards and commissions would fall under it.

Glenda George, Law Department, stated that in 1994 the General Assembly passed legislation that required local governments to have an Ethics Act. This is under KRS Chapter 65. She stated chapter lists a minimum number of things that needed to be included in the Ethics Act and one was a financial statement or financial disclosure. Ms. George stated in the course of developing our Ethics Code there was a lot of discussion as to who should be included in the Ethics Act. She stated there were some concerns that filing a financial statement of interest would discourage some people from wanting to serve on boards so it was narrowed down to the four. She stated there is not anything prohibiting them from adding more boards and commissions.

CM Myers asked Ms. George to look at some language to see if it would work. He stated first, if #3 in Section 25-13 would be the appropriate place to do this and if the language would suffice. He stated #3 currently stated "members and chief executive officers, if any, of the Urban County Government Board of Adjustment, Comprehensive Plan Update Committee, Ethics Commission, and Planning Commission" CM Myers would like for Ms. George to look at changing "members and chief executive officers, if any, of any agency, board or commission which has regulatory authority or has independent authority to expend funds".

Ms. George stated they can take a look to see if the language will work. She asked if he wants the boards and commissions to be subject to the rest of the chapter or only the financial disclosure.

CM Myers stated the question comes down to are you considered under the Ethics Act if you are on a board or commission.

Ms. George stated under the definition section of the Ethics Act it lists who it applies to. She stated Chapter 25 specifically lists Board of Adjustment, Comprehensive Plan Update Committee, Ethics Commission and Planning Commission so they would just be amending one section to say everybody else will need to fill out the financial disclosure statement.

CM Myers stated he agrees they should be subject to any and all parts of the Ethics Act. He asked Ms. George to come back with some recommendations. CM Myers stated he would like to see the changes go into effect before the distribution of the 2008 statement of financial interest applications.

Ms. George stated she will send a memo to the whole Council as to her recommendations.

CM Gorton stated the idea of these four boards is that one is the Ethics Commission and the others deal with land. The idea was to appoint people who will not have land conflict issues.

Ms. George stated some appointments on the Planning Commission could have land conflict issues they disclose and disqualify.

CM Gorton asked if we could get the full board report to see who deals with what issues before making these changes.

CM Myers stated we already have that information. He stated he is not trying to rush this through. He asked if all boards and commissions can be subject to the Ethics Act but not to the financial disclosure.

CM Gorton asked Ms. George to email her a copy of the property disclosure form Code Enforcement and Building Inspection inspectors have to fill out.

III. Items In Committee

A motion by CM James to remove Renaming Whitney Young Park Shelter the Charles Quillen Park Shelter, seconded by CM Crosbie, passed without dissent.

A motion by CM Gorton to remove Party Affiliation for Boards/Commissions, seconded by CM Myers, passed without dissent.

The meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.