



cityofnovi.org

CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item 3
June 18, 2018

SUBJECT: Appointments to Boards & Commissions

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Interviews for Boards & Commissions were held Monday, June 4th. Attached is the Council ballot for appointments to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission and the Mayoral ballot for appointment to the Planning Commission, interview memo, interview draft minutes, candidates' applications, and current Booklet List.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Appointments to Boards & Commissions

MEMORANDUM



TO: MAYOR GATT AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: CORTNEY HANSON, CITY CLERK *CH*
SUBJECT: INTERVIEWS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
DATE: MAY 30, 2018

Attached please find applications for the current openings on Boards and Commissions along with a ratings sheet and current Boards & Commissions Booklet List.

- Julie Maday was appointed to a vacancy on the Planning Commission in February 2018. She is interested in being reappointed, and according to Council Rules, is not required to interview.
- Jerry Jewell has decided not to apply for another term on the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Commission.

Below is a list of current vacancies and expiring terms for Boards and Commissions that are interviewed by **Council**:

Board or Commission	Number of openings	Term expiration
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Commission	2 full terms	06/30/2021
Planning Commission <i>*Mayoral Appointment</i>	3 full terms	06/30/2021

Attendance records for those seeking reappointment:

Jay Dooley (PRCS) – attended 25 of 31 (84%) meetings since June 2015.

Michael Lynch (Planning Commission) – attended 35 of 51 (69%) meetings since June 2015.

Julie Maday (Planning Commission) – attended 5 of 5 (100%) meetings since February 2018.

Mark Pehrson (Planning Commission) – attended 46 of 51 (90%) meetings since June 2015.

Commission Interview Committee

The Commission Interview Committee will not meet as there are no vacancies.

BALLOT
APPOINTMENTS BY MAYOR
June 18, 2018

Planning Commission
3 full terms – Terms expire 06/30/2021

- Michael J. Lynch **reappointment*
- Julie Maday **reappointment*
- Mark A. Pehrson **reappointment*
- Domenic Policicchio
- Willie White
- _____
- _____
- _____

BALLOT
APPOINTMENTS BY CITY COUNCIL
June 18, 2018

* Minimum 4 votes required for appointment to Board or Commission

**Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Commission**

2 Full Terms - Terms Expire 06/30/2021

- Jay F. Dooley **reappointment*
- Sharif Hasan
- Supriya Joshi
- Domenic Policicchio
- _____
- _____
- _____

Council Member Signature

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOVI
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – NOVI CIVIC CENTER – 45175 TEN MILE ROAD**

Mayor Gatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt, Council Members Breen, Casey, Markham, Mutch, Wrobel

ALSO PRESENT: Victor Cardenas, Assistant City Manager
Thomas Schultz, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Member Markham wanted to add an item under Mayor and Council Issues: Transit Resolution.

CM 18-06-082 Moved by Casey, seconded by Breen; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

To approve the Agenda as amended.

Roll call vote on CM 18-06-082 **Yeas: Staudt, Breen, Casey, Markham, Mutch, Wrobel, Gatt**
Nays: None

INTERVIEWS FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. Mark Pehrson – Planning Commission

Mark Pehrson thanked Council for the honor and privilege of serving on the Planning Commission previously.

Member Markham thanked him for all he does for the community. They met when they served on Planning Commission together. She had a planning question. She wondered what his opinion was on gated communities. He didn't think it serves anyone other than who lives in there. He felt it was a sales aid or tool for the developers. They've had a number come through. There is usually more opposition than pros to that.

Member Mutch thanked him for stepping forward again. He mentioned that he has been on the Planning Commission a long time. He appreciated all those years of service and the knowledge and experience he has brought to the position. One issue that comes up to Council is the Planned Rezoning Overlay process. He felt that the process was backwards. He explained that the developers had to jump through hoops before it gets to Council and when it gets to Council they have an expectation that it will be approved, but Council hadn't had the opportunity to weigh in. Often Council is looking for changes that are different than what the Master Plan contemplates for a particular area. Having served as chair, he asked Mr. Pehrson if there was a way they could improve that to give Council some more input in the process without them being

the last ones to weigh in. Mr. Pehrson said it would be more of an internal process. He would like to see it be a two stage process where both Planning Commission and Council have the opportunity to find the best solution. Typically they are trying to accommodate a project that doesn't fit in. There is the thought that once the Planning Commission approves, they don't know what Council's thoughts are on the project. He gave an example such as the development off of Novi Road, between Grand River and Ten Mile Road. They were going down the path to see what would bring something to the community and draw people into the downtown. He would like to see the developer have them discuss in general together to find the optimum condition instead of just hoping it would continue to move forward. Member Mutch appreciated his perspective that he brings to the table.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said there was discussion about Master Plan. How wondered how Mr. Pehrson viewed it. He asked if he thought it was a rigid document or changing depending on circumstances. Mr. Pehrson said it's a living document. It has to grow and amend with the conditions of the city. If they lived with the Master Plan from 20 years ago it wouldn't fit into what's being developed now, just like the building codes. He mentioned that they have just revamped some of the building codes. He thought the better thing we could do with the Master Plan is to do a better job because the city is moving at a fast pace of do more in communicating via social media to provide them with input. He explained that we need input every time they come to Master Plan review, they go through feedback sessions. He would like that to happen on a regular basis so it may eliminate the surprise that they are going to do something. For example he spoke about the Grand River Corridor. He said if we could do everything on the Grand River Corridor we could make Novi even better.

Member Casey thanked him for his willingness to continue service as a member on the Planning Commission. She had no questions. She thanked him for service and the work that he does is legendary.

Member Wrobel noted that they go way back having served on the Planning Commission together. He said he didn't have any questions. He thanked him for doing a good job, and keep up the good work.

Member Breen thanked Mr. Pehrson for applying again and for all of the years of service with the Public Safety Department. They have a large contingency of citizens attending meetings regarding the Pavilion Shore Park area. She understood there was no public input regarding the PRO that is now out there. She wondered from his standpoint what could have been done differently, what we can do now, and how could we avoid this in the future. Mr. Pehrson wasn't sure if they have had or haven't had those discussions in the past with the citizens. He said the simple fact of the ordinances that Barb would have to they haven't had that input in the past. They typically give residents within a certain radius notice that the something will happen. He said now we have an entire area or group of people that want to know what is going on in their section of the community. He thought going forward if they opened up the

idea of being able to put that kind of presentation or discussion in a larger group of people as opposed to the small radius that would help initially.

Mayor Gatt said he didn't have any questions. He echoed some of his colleagues and said thank you for service for not only on Planning Commission, but he is a POC firefighter. Everyone in this community owes him a lot. Looking at his attendance he has it 90% of the meetings. He said he has his full support.

2. Michael Lynch – Planning Commission

Michael Lynch stated that he's been on the Planning Commission for a while. He said he enjoys the questions.

Member Mutch thanked him for stepping forward again. You've spent a bit of time on commission and seen controversial projects go through. He wondered what his perspective was regarding how we could better solicit resident feedback at the front end instead of people coming to a meeting when the plans are close to being done. Mr. Lynch said that's not an easy question. What he noticed is the negative feedback is when the developer wants to develop and the adjacent homeowners say it's zoned a certain way. It's an awkward position to be in to tell the homeowners they just weren't aware of the actual zoning. He didn't know how to get residents involved. They only show up when something is going on. He didn't think they understood the balance that the owner has the right to do what they want. Most of the confusion is lack of understanding what the zoning is in their area. Not sure what they can do. You can ask them to look at the zoning map and website. Novi has one of the better websites of the communities in the area and all the information is there. He said be open and transparent. Member Mutch agreed that we should provide as much info as possible through the process.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt thanked Mr. Lynch. He stated that as we move along and the developments become more difficult. A lot of things in the Master Plan are not congruent with the use that is being proposed. How do you see the Master Plan dictating a development verses good common sense and understanding what we want to have accomplished in that area. Mr. Lynch said the Master Plan gives the strategic view of where they think the city will go. A developer will come in and they are the first eyes, other than staff, to look at it. Does it fit into that particular area, is it consistent, and appropriate. He said they ask does it make sense. Or are we doing something that would hurt traffic. He thinks they've been consistent with trying to develop a win/win with developers and neighbors. He said you have to look at each project. He looks at the sites in person. Does it make sense? Most times there is some negotiating. Council has final say. He hoped they look at the comments they make and consider them. Mayor Pro Tem Staudt thanked him. He stated during his eleven year term, he reads the minutes, and it saves them a lot of time if they read their comments. He said in the past there has been some re-planning at the table over the years, but he didn't think that was the case over the last seven or eight years. He thought they do a great job on their end and letting Council do their part.

Member Casey thanked him for the skills he has and experience which is such a benefit to the City. She was grateful he wants to seek reappointment. She looked forward to seeing him being reappointed.

Member Wrobel thanked him for stepping forward again. He mentioned he served with him on the Planning Commission. He didn't have any questions and said he has his full support.

Member Breen noted that Novi feeds into several school districts. When they are facing a rezoning that could impact other school districts, what is the approach you like to take? Mr. Lynch said the school districts are not part of his consideration. He looks at zoning ordinance and if it fits into community. He said it's was a good question, and maybe he could think about that.

Member Markham thanked him for his service. She didn't have any questions. Her philosophy on how she looks at the PRO's that come forward are that they are difficult pieces of property. She wants to balance the desire to protect things and yet allow developers to build profitable developments. What she looks for when she looks at a PRO rezoning is what are they disturbing and what aren't they disturbing? She likes to see when a developer thinks about how they can use the old with the new. Are we really thoughtful about how we are using these pieces of property? She wanted to let him know what she is looking for as the Planning Commissions evaluating process. Are we thoughtful about how we are using these pieces of property? Mr. Lynch thought the PRO's was something Council liked because they had control over them, but maybe they don't have as much control as he thought.

Mayor Gatt said the interviews were strictly a question and answer period only. He said he didn't have any questions at this time. He thanked him for his service.

3. Sharif Hasan – Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission – (not present)

4. Willie White – Planning Commission

Willie White thanked Council for the opportunity to interview for the position.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt thanked Dr. White for you for coming out. Is there anything as a Planning Commissioner she would be interested in with responsibility to the position? She said she has lived in the City of Novi for some time and plans to stay here. She felt getting involved with the City and being on Planning Commission would help her do that. She's been reading in social media the controversy about Novi and Grand River area. She thought she would try to get involved. She isn't a know it all, but can use common sense and analytically. What works and what doesn't work, and how can we improve.

Member Casey thanked Dr. White for coming out and serving the City. She mentioned that she has a varied background which is wonderful. With all things she has done, what skill does she have that would make her a great Planning Commissioner. Dr. White said she would rely on her past experience, with owning a non-profit housing incorporation in the City of Detroit for a number of years.

Member Wrobel thanked Dr. White and stated that we need citizens like her to step forward to help the City grown. He said that she listed other positions listed on the application. He wondered what would be her number one choice. Dr. White said it was the Planning Commission. Member Wrobel asked what would make her a good Planning Commissioner. Dr. White said it would be her analytical background from having served years at GM as prototype engineer.

Member Breen thanked Dr. White for stepping forward. She said it was nice to see people wanting to get involved in the community. She mentioned that she was willing to serve on different committees. Given she listed Planning Commission first, what type of different approach would she do with Master Plan revisions. Dr. White said she would have to look at the Master Plan to weigh pro/cons. What would be intended, what are you projecting it to do, does it best fit, and what's the benefit of the plan. She would make her best recommendation from there.

Member Markham thanked Dr. White for coming out and volunteering. Is there something that comes to mind she thought why did they do that or something that should be fixed? Dr. White said she's been reading regarding the Manchester project, people felt they were overbuilding. She also mentioned the development of the 10 Mile and Grand River area that seemed to be a controversy. She thought it was in the news a few weeks ago.

Member Mutch thanked Dr. White for stepping forward. He said it was great to have new folks willing to serve. As someone who is relatively new to the community, what aspects about Novi brought you here? He wondered what she thought were the positive aspects of Novi. He said obviously we would want to continue through our planning process to make this a community that other folks who are looking at Novi would choose to move here. Dr. White said Novi is a small, quiet town and it seems to be a close-knit community. She mentioned the services and amenities are for the people. She has nothing but good things to say. Everyone is very responsive and that impressed her. She said the service at the City Hall is great and has a friendly atmosphere. Member Mutch said if they don't find a spot on the Planning Commission, hopefully that can find a spot somewhere to put her talents to work.

Mayor Gatt thanked Dr. White and said he hoped they can find a spot. He did express that it was not often that someone would begin right at the Planning Commission. He commended her for her willingness to serve. He hoped that they can find something, she would be a great addition to any Board of Commission.

5. Supriya Joshi - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Supriya Joshi stated that she has lived in Novi for about seven years. She is a physical therapist. She wanted to be a part of the community and give back.

Member Casey thanked her for stepping forward and asked what it is about PRCS Commission that has her interest? Ms. Joshi said she has an eight year old son and she's been to all the community events. She wanted to be part of something that is really nice, but she would like to see what she could add to it to make it better.

Member Wrobel thanked Ms. Joshi for stepping forward. He wondered what service or program does the City not offer in the PRCS that she would like to see offered in the future. Ms. Joshi said that we have a variety of events around the holidays, and we have it covered in the summertime. She would have to think really hard to find something that isn't offered. She said we can figure out how we can make it better.

Member Breen stated that we have a wonderful problem where they have a lot of people stepping up to volunteer, but not enough spots. She wondered if there was any other committee that she would be interested in. Ms. Joshi said she submitted for the Beautification or Historical. She would prefer Beautification to keep the City beautiful. Member Breen thanked her for coming out.

Member Markham was intrigued with her background in physical therapy. She wondered if there was something that she thought we could add to the PRCS that her professional insight would tell us. She didn't think we had any accessible park and recreation community events that would accommodate physically handicapped individuals. Member Markham thanked her for her answers.

Member Mutch thanked Ms. Joshi you. Are there any facilities that Novi provides for PRCS, he wondered if facilities that the City doesn't currently provide in that realm they should look at that would meet needs of families? Ms. Joshi said we have beautiful parks. She said she does find a hard time finding a place that is a more of a hiking trail other than Lakeshore Park. She wished we could explore more of those opportunities. Member Mutch said that was interesting idea and they could look into that.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt stated that they will be talking about the Villa Barr Park. He wondered how she would feel about PRCS being involved in cultural things like the Villa Barr Park. Ms. Joshi said it's a good idea, but it has to be a coalition of different services.

Mayor Gatt thanked her for coming out and her willingness to serve.

6. Domenic Policicchio – Planning Commission; Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Domenic Policicchio stated he was a new resident. He was in Westland for over 20 years. After college he co-founded his business. Here today to be involved. He was

part of Westland ZBA for four years. He was also appointed to serve on the Michigan Board of Medicine. He said he wanted to help and volunteer in the City.

Member Wrobel thanked Mr. Policicchio for stepping forward. He noticed on his application that he was on Westland Rotary; he might consider joining Novi Rotary. He wondered what he would bring to the PRCS Commission. Mr. Policicchio said he was a college athlete, coached at two schools. He mentioned he has a strong background in sports and that would help.

Member Breen thanked him for coming out; it is nice to see younger people taking an interest in serving their community. She thought he had an impressive background. She wondered, given his background as athlete, she wondered if they was anything lacking as far as facilities or services? Mr. Policicchio said he hasn't had that much time to check it yet, he has only lived in Novi for 3 weeks. He did mention he was very happy with Dog Park.

Member Markham thanked him for offering his services right after moving here. She noted that he served on ZBA in Westland, is there something that you learned in that process that you want to share. Mr. Policicchio said he learned a lot about ordinances and site plans for commercial and residential development. Being part of the ZBA was a great learning opportunity. He believed the Planning Commission would be a next step.

Member Mutch thanked him for being willing to serve so soon after coming to the Novi community. He said obviously with his previous experience and service, it's something you value. He stated that one of the challenges is getting younger people to step forward and get involved. The younger people are busy and often times starting jobs or families. He wondered from his perspective who has taken initiative, what can we do as a city to get folks like you involved in the city. Mr. Policicchio said he gets that from his friends, how do you have time? He has always been passionate about being involved in his community. He has been volunteering for almost nine years. He said he has a passion to help. It's continuing to show young adults we have a place and getting us involved with certain activities and events that are marketed towards them. Use social media to reach out and get them involved. Member Mutch appreciated the energy and compassion he had to serve the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt asked him what was there in Westland that he really would like to bring to Novi. Mr. Policicchio said Westland has a unique dynamic with strong background of great leadership. The Mayor has done a tremendous job with developing and getting residents involved. He mentioned part of that was building a new park in central city which was a \$4.5 million dollar project. He stated seeing what he's done from an economic development standpoint, and getting people involved. He thought he could help get people passionate and involved in the City of Novi.

Member Casey thanked him for stepping forward. She said most of her colleagues have asked most of the questions she would have asked him. She wanted to clarify if

there were committees that he was interested in first such as, Planning Commission first, then PRCS? Mr. Policiccio replied yes, that was his preference.

Mayor Gatt didn't have questions. He stated that his youth and exuberance lends everyone to wish we were all your age again. He thanked him for coming forward. He hoped we can find a spot for him. If we don't this time, he didn't want him to be discouraged.

7. Jay Dooley - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission

Jay Dooley humbly asked for reappointment to PRCS Commission, thank you.

Member Breen thanked Mr. Dooley for his years of service. She wondered what he thought the PRCS could be doing differently right now to improve things for the City. Mr. Dooley thought it was a great question and said one of the things we made strides in over the past three years (he thanked Director Muck) is that they made effort to hit all the of the parks in Novi and put presentation together. He stated they gave responsibility to each Commission Member, addressed two different parks and did those presentations. He said it was seasonal, they looked at a park in the fall/winter and came back and looked at it again spring/summer. He said they made recommendations. They looked at the sanitary conditions, overall conditions; make great strides in recommitting themselves to meetings, but also being able to present conditions and recommendations to make the parks better. Member Breen thanked him for his answers and again thanked him for stepping up again.

Member Markham thanked Mr. Dooley for all of his service. She mentioned he has so many places he has volunteered over the years, he shows up to everything. She had a question related to bike sharing. Has PRCS considered a bike sharing program from park to park? She suggested a stand of bikes at ITC Park, Lakeshore Park, and Rotary Park. She believed other communities have those programs to rent bikes. Mr. Dooley said no, they haven't. He committed it would be addressed at their next meeting, he thought that was a great idea.

Member Mutch thanked him again. He appreciated all that he has done. He said they all recognize the different roles he has played on behalf of the Novi community. He wondered if there were any big potential/planned projects that they are looking forward to working on and what would it bring to the community. Mr. Dooley hoped they would get input on the Bosco property. He mentioned that he, along with Mayor Pro Tem Staudt go way back on that campaign and he certainly hoped it was something that the City could really embrace. He thought it could be one of the essential parts of the City as far as exposure and part of the walkway that is ongoing and continuous. He believed it would be a jewel. Member Mutch appreciated him giving his time to the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt asked what his thoughts about the potential facility at Lakeshore Park and wondered what he envisioned there if he had his choice. Mr. Dooley asked if

there was something in particular he was referring to. Mayor Pro Tem said specifically the building size, large or the small. Mr. Dooley replied small instead of the large. Mayor Pro Tem thanked him for coming back again.

Member Casey stated it was a pleasure seeing him. She said he was another one of those individuals whose service is exemplary. He wondered what he will talk about regarding accomplishments three years from now. Mr. Dooley replied that in three years from now he believed he would be standing again before them. He thought the Commission was a team and that they will continue to look at the parks. The parks we have right now in the City of Novi are spectacular and are used extensively. He hoped he can stand there and say they've been used by citizens for their needs. She thanked him again for coming out again.

Member Wrobel thanked him for stepping forward again. He asked what his opinion on Novi in the future, partnering with private companies for getting additional recreation facilities or programs that we do not currently offer. Mr. Dooley said if there is no additional burden to the taxpayer, he would be in favor as long as it doesn't impede on protected wetlands. He knows there are plans out there for developments; he hoped they look at parks amenities to a neighborhood he was in favor of it as long as it doesn't increase taxes. Member Wrobel thanked him for stepping forward again and stated that he has his full support.

Mayor Gatt commented that there are very few people in this City that you look at and say you're Mr. Novi, but you are one of them. He agreed with Member Markham and stated that he is truly a giver and you go way back. He mentioned Mr. Dooley's involvement with the youth, the parks, and the Commission. Mayor Gatt said that he has his support. Mr. Dooley said that he loved the City.

Mayor Gatt stated that the interviews would end now. No decisions will be made tonight; they will be made at our next Council meeting. Those of you that are not chosen keep in mind that there are only a few openings, but thanked everyone for coming out to volunteer. He let them know to keep coming out because there will be an opening, and they will find something for them.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

MANAGER/STAFF REPORT: None

AUDIENCE COMMENT:

Karl Migrin, 49450 W. Nine Mile Road, said he was recommending additional language to be added to the Agenda Item 1 regarding the City Policy. He forwarded his suggestions to Human Resource Director, Tia Gronlund-Fox and she forwarded a copy to City Manager Auger.