

March 28, 2017

Subject: Park and Recreation Advisory Board Request to Reduce Number of Members

Background: In the Policies and Procedures of Greenbelt Advisory Boards and Committees publication and in the City Code (Chapter 12, Article II), the Park and Recreation Advisory Board is stated to have eleven members. Years ago the membership was twelve, but PRAB requested a reduction in size due to a chronic shortage of members. City Council reduced the membership to eleven. However, PRAB membership continues to be an issue and PRAB would like to officially reduce the number of members to nine.

Discussion: For years PRAB has not had a full roster of eleven members. As soon as someone fills a vacancy, it seems someone else leaves. Currently PRAB has only eight members. As PRAB Chair Lola Skolnik mentioned at the February 22, 2017 Work Session with Advisory Group Chairs, attendance at meetings has been down and it has been difficult for PRAB to get a quorum for the past year or more. Therefore, approving minutes and conducting official business has been postponed from one meeting to the next. If the number of members was reduced to nine, it might be easier to meet the quorum requirement and might reduce the burden on City Council to fill vacancies. PRAB members affirmed this idea and voted (5-0) to make a formal request to City Council at its March 15, 2017 meeting.

Conclusions: PRAB supports the request to City Council to officially reduce the number of members for the Park and Recreation Advisory Board to nine members.

Vote: 5-0

Respectfully submitted by:

Lola Skolnik, Chair

Park and Recreation Advisory Board