



City of Rochester, New Hampshire

CITY COUNCIL –
APPOINTMENTS REVIEW COMMITTEE
31 Wakefield Street • Rochester, NH
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Appointments Review Committee

July 20, 2023

City Hall Chambers – Conference Room
6:30 PM

Committee Members Present:

James Gray, Chair
Dana Berlin
Ashley Desrochers (via Teams)

Committee Members Absent/Excused:

Amy Malone
Laura Hainey

Minutes

Chair Gray called the meeting to order at 6:39 PM on July 20, 2023. He announced that Councilor Desrochers would be connecting to the meeting via Teams and asked if it was reasonably impractical for her to attend the meeting in person. She confirmed she was unable to attend in person due to a family emergency. She confirmed she was alone in the room other than her minor child.

New appointment(s):

Brittany Davis (via Teams)

Arts and Culture Commission, Seat F, New Regular Member –*Term to expire 7/1/2026*

Ms. Davis introduced herself to the Committee. She explained that she had grown up in Rochester and graduated from Spaulding, and she gave background on her experience with photography over the past 8-years, with an increased focus over the past year. Ms. Davis explained that she has a passion for the arts in general and was interested in becoming more involved in her community; she thought the Arts & Culture Commission would be a great opportunity to do so.

Councilor Desrochers asked what Ms. Davis would like to see more of within the City in regards to the Arts. Ms. Davis explained that she felt arts education in schools are geared towards particular mediums (painting/drawing) leaving those with other interests such as photography to start from the bottom and move up without as much guidance. She spoke about accessibility to learning materials and resources for other mediums. Ms. Davis praised the murals throughout the City and spoke about the great potential within the community. Councilor Desrochers gave a brief overview of the mission of the Arts & Culture Commission and confirmed there is not currently a photographer serving on the commission.

Councilor Berlin **MOVED** to recommend Brittany Davis as a Regular Member of the Arts & Culture Commission, Seat F, with a term to expire 7/1/2026. Councilor Desrochers seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Berlin, Gray, and Desrochers all voting in favor.

Jerry Rainville

Trustees of the Trust Fund, Seat E, New Regular Member –*Term to expire 1/2/2026*

Mr. Rainville gave an overview of his education and experience; He grew up in Rochester moving on to earn an undergraduate degree in math, an MBA, and a law degree. He explained that he had worked for 30-years as a cryptographer and manager with the National Security Agency, was a Human Rights Commissioner, and volunteered as a court-appointed mediator in Maryland. He moved back to Rochester 6-years prior. Mr. Rainville said he is currently the Chairman of the Board for the SHARE fund and relayed that Gerry’s food pantry was established by his father 40-years prior.

Chair Gray summarized the work of the Trustees of the Trust Fund in overseeing Hanson Pines, several area Cemeteries, as well as handling City investment funds and disbursements from grants and scholarships. Mr. Rainville explained that the SHARE fund does receive funding through the Trustees and said if appointed, he would recuse himself from relevant votes as needed. There was further discussion on whether or not such a recusal would be necessary, and Chair Gray recommended deferring to the City Attorney for guidance.

Councilor Berlin **MOVED** to recommend Jerry Rainville as a Regular Member of the Trustees of the Trust Fund, Seat E, with a term to expire 1/2/2026. Councilor Desrochers seconded the motion. The **MOTION CARRIED** by a unanimous roll call vote with Councilors Desrochers, Gray, and Berlin all voting in favor.

Chair Gray **ADJOURNED** the meeting at 7:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Givara
Deputy City Clerk