

Mayor Pownell Summary Input from Board/Commission Chairs 12-13-16

Amy Goerwitz Library, Dan Riehle-Merrill Library, James Schlichting Hospital, Charlie Mandile Hospital, Bonnie Jean Flom ACC, Dale Gehring PRAB, David Hvistendahl PRAB, Richard Schulte PC, Richard DeBeau HRC, Cliff Martin EQC, and Fred Rogers EDA were in attendance.

Appreciation for service ideas: recognize people that are retiring, host a yearly gathering similar to the Chambers' holiday social, public recognition through the paper listing their names, gift (City of Northfield Binder/coffee mug). Some of these chairs had never met before or didn't know they had this role in common.

Advocacy Groups: Having advocacy groups go through the Board and Commission structure already in place would acknowledge the existence of our advisory groups that have been appointed by the Council.

Council Liaisons: This is something that everyone highly valued along with having a dedicated staff member. They said even if a Council person was designated to attend on a quarterly basis that would be better than nothing. Additionally there should be a shared understanding of what the role of that Council member would be. They felt that having a Councilor there helps to validate their existence.

Regular reporting: Similar to what Richard DeBeau did for the HRC during the open public comments period of our Council meeting. They said it should be scheduled so there is more likelihood that it would happen.

Training: They would like to see some form of regular training on the open meeting law, data practices, expectations (ie. attendance, what does an advisory board look like, staff/board and commission relationship, etc.), job description for volunteers, and parliamentary procedures.

Communication: They would like to work more collaboratively on appointments. Some people have applied but never heard back from anyone as to why they weren't chosen or appointed. Some have attended meetings in anticipation of being appointed but never were. Additionally, some would like to see a Board and Commission directory and to have the Board and Commission Chairs meet twice a year for greater connectivity.

Budget: They would also like a budget even if just a couple hundred dollars and specific direction from the council.

Hope you find this helpful. Please contact me with any questions.

Rhonda