

ARTICLE II. - ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION^[2]

Footnotes:

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Charter reference— Boards and commissions, § 3.2.

Cross reference— Boards and commissions, § 2-281 et seq.

Sec. 22-26. - Established; purpose.

There is established an environmental quality commission for the purpose of advising the city on matters concerning environmental quality and natural resources and on the implementation of the environmental policy stated in section 22-1.

(Code 1986, § 245:05(1))

Sec. 22-27. - Membership.

- (a) The environmental quality commission shall consist of seven voting members appointed by the mayor with the consent of the city council. At least five commission members shall be city residents. In addition to the seven regular commission members, there shall be one youth voting member and one youth ex-officio non-voting member on the commission. Each regular commission member shall be appointed for a three-year term. The remainder of any regular commission member term vacated by resignation shall be filled by the normal appointment procedure. Upon expiration of the term of office or voluntary resignation, a regular commission member shall continue to serve until his/her successor shall be appointed. Regular commission members who serve three consecutive terms, not including a partial term due to appointment to fill a vacancy, shall be ineligible for reappointment for one year following the completion of their third term. The designated representative of the city government staff shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the environmental quality commission. The youth commission members shall be high school aged, grades nine through 12. The youth commission members shall be appointed for one-year terms in the same manner as other members of the commission. Youth commission member terms shall commence June 1 and expire the following May 31.
- (b) At the second regular meeting of each calendar year, the environmental quality commission may appoint two or more nonvoting advisory members. These persons shall have substantial education or training in the natural sciences or environmental or urban planning field and shall, upon request of the environmental quality commission or upon its own initiative, advise the environmental quality commission on matters concerning environmental quality and natural resources.

(Code 1986, § 245:05(4), (6); Ord. No. 943, 2-19-2013; Ord. No. 961, § 3, 9-16-2014)

Sec. 22-28. - Organization.

- (a) At the first regular meeting of the calendar year, the environmental quality commission shall elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary, who shall each serve until a successor is elected. The chairperson shall appoint the ex officio members of the planning commission and the appropriate city council committees, with the consent of the environmental quality commission. These positions may rotate to other members of the environmental quality commission from time to time, at the discretion of the commission.

- (b) The environmental quality commission shall hold at least one regular monthly meeting. Regular meetings of the commission shall be held as prescribed by resolution, which resolution shall state the days, time and usual location of all regular meetings. The chairperson may call special meetings of the commission and must do so upon the request of four voting commission members or at the request of the council. Notice of all meetings of the commission shall be given in compliance with applicable law.
- (c) For transaction of business at any meeting, four voting members shall constitute a quorum. At least four votes shall be required for the adoption of any resolution.
- (d) The environmental quality commission shall adopt such bylaws as shall be necessary or desirable for the conduct of its business.

(Code 1986, § 245:05(5); Ord. No. 906, 3-16-2010)

Sec. 22-29. - Powers and duties.

- (a) The powers and duties of the environmental quality commission shall be to:
 - (1) Assist and advise the city council, planning commission and the designated city governmental staff in assessing the environmental impact of proposed undertakings that fall in part or in total under the city's jurisdiction and recommend changes that would lessen or eliminate the environmentally detrimental effects of such undertakings.
 - (2) Appraise activities of the city government and public and private organizations for the purpose of determining the extent to which such activities contribute to or detract from city governmental policies and goals.
 - (3) Recommend to the city council additional environmental policy provisions and ordinances for enactment, as well as actions and programs that will maintain or improve environmental quality and the conservation of natural resources.
 - (4) Request that the city council authorize studies on matters pertaining to environmental quality and natural resources and recommend, when necessary, the employment of professionally qualified persons to carry out such studies.
 - (5) Hold public hearings at the request of the city council, notice of which shall be published in the local newspaper at least ten days in advance of the day of the hearing.
 - (6) Report to the city council on the activities and findings of the environmental quality commission.
 - (7) Request a budget to provide for the payment of all ordinary expenses incurred in carrying out the functions of the environmental quality commission.
 - (8) Promote public awareness and concern for environmental quality and conservation of natural resources.
- (b) The powers and duties of the environmental quality commission shall be advisory to the city council and shall be exercised upon the request of the mayor, the city council, or the planning commission or directly upon the initiative of the environmental quality commission. All formal recommendations, reports and resolutions of the environmental quality commission shall be directed to the city council.

(Code 1986, § 245:05(2))

Sec. 22-30. - Relationship with planning commission, appropriate council committees and designated city staff.

The relationship of the environmental quality commission with the planning commission, appropriate city council committees, and designated city government staff shall be as follows:

- (1) There may be one ex officio, nonvoting position on the planning commission occupied by a person serving concurrently on the environmental quality commission.
- (2) There may be one ex officio, nonvoting position on each appropriate city council committee, designated by the mayor, occupied by a person serving concurrently on the environmental quality commission.
- (3) The city administrator shall cooperate with the environmental quality commission on environmental matters. The administrator shall, upon reasonable request and within a reasonable time, furnish to the environmental quality commission or to its employees or agents such available records or information as may be required in its work.

(Code 1986, § 245:05(3))

Secs. 22-31—22-55. - Reserved.