



Committee: Directly to Council
Staff: Judy Rupp, Clerk of the Council
Purpose: Interview for BCC vacancy
Keywords: #CouncilAppointments

AGENDA ITEM #5
November 1, 2022
Interview

SUBJECT

Announcement seeking applications to fill vacancy on the Board of Appeals (BOA) to replace Mr. Goldensohn for a partial term, to expire in September 2023.

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Christopher Hitchens
Issa Khozeimeh
George Martin
Laura Seminario Thornton

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Appointment to the Board of Appeals.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The Montgomery County Council advertised on March 11, 2022, to fill the vacancy created due to the unexpected passing of Mr. Goldensohn. An individual is sought to fill the remainder of his term, which ends September 2023. The application deadline was extended to July 8, 2022, to allow for additional applications

By law, no more than three members of the board shall be from the same political party. This position can be filled by a Republican, a voter who is unaffiliated with a party, or a voter who is a member of another party officially recognized by the Board of Elections.

The current members of the Board include Chair John Pentecost (Democrat), Richard Melnick (Unaffiliated), and Caryn Hines (Democrat). Members of County Boards, Committees and Commissions may not serve on more than one such group at a time. Members of the Board currently receive \$16,042.13 annually, with the Chair receiving \$22,671.98. Salaries are adjusted each December to reflect 50 percent of the change in the Washington Area Consumer Price Index.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Not applicable.

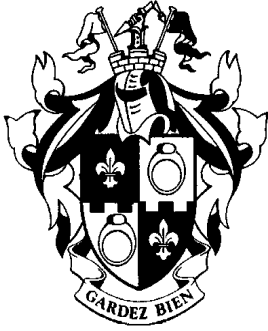
This report contains:

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News Release ©2-3

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BOARD OF APPEALS

- Created:** Montgomery County Code, Sections 2-108 through Section 2-116.
- Term:** Four years.
- Purpose:** Exercise functions and powers of regional district as such functions and powers are prescribed in the Maryland-Washington Regional District Act (as revised and included in the new Land Use Article) to extent that such functions and powers are not vested in another administrative officer or agency. Hear and decide: all petitions for variances; and administrative appeals, including all appeals taken under the Building Code; all appeals concerning licenses for hospitals, sanitariums, nursing homes and care homes; and all appeals concerning licenses for private educational institutions. Also hear and decide appeals concerning: special exceptions decided by the Hearing Examiner, orders directing removal of diseased trees, orders concerning restaurant permits, licenses for places of amusement and amusement enterprises, the electrical contractors license law, and all other appeals as the Board may be authorized to hear from time to time by law, ordinance, or resolution.
- Membership:** Five members, who must be residents of the County, are appointed by the County Council. No more than three members shall be from the same political party. The Chair is appointed by the Council.
- Financial Disclosure:** Public financial disclosure statements must be filed.
- Compensation:** Chair - \$22,671.98; Member - \$16,042.13 Both receive annual cost-of-living adjustments each December to reflect 50% of the change in the Washington Area Consumer Price Index.
- Meetings:** Weekly hearings all day Wednesday and worksessions every other week, additional days as necessary.
- Current Members:**
- Chair, John Pentecost (Dem)** appointed 1/2013 (partial term), second term expires 9/2024
- Caryn Hines (Dem)** appointed 9/2021 (partial term), first full term expires 9/2025
- Richard Melnick (Unaffiliated)** appointed 4/2020 (partial term), expires 9/2022



Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

June 29, 2022

FOR INFORMATION: sara.tenenbaum@montgomerycountymd.gov

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Montgomery Council Seeks Applicants for County Board of Appeals

*Deadline to Submit an Application has been extended to
Friday, July 8, at 5 p.m.*

ROCKVILLE, Md., June 27, 2022 - The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants to fill a vacant position on the County Board of Appeals due to the passing of our dear friend, Bruce Goldensohn. The partial term ends September 2023. The deadline for applications for the position has been extended and must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Friday July 8.

By law, no more than three members of the board shall be from the same political party. This position can be filled by a Republican or a voter who is unaffiliated with a party, or a voter who is a member of another party officially recognized by the Board of Elections. This position cannot be filled by a Democrat.

The current members of the Board include Chair John Pentecost (Democrat), Richard Melnick (Unaffiliated), Caryn Hines (Democrat), and Roberto Pinero (Democrat). Members of County Boards, Committees and Commissions may not serve on more than one such group at a time.

Members of the Board currently receive \$16,042.13 annually, with the Chair receiving \$22,671.98. Salaries are adjusted each December to reflect 50 percent of the change in the Washington Area Consumer Price Index.

Duties of the Board of Appeals include hearing and deciding requests for variances from development standards contained in the Zoning Ordinance; hearing appeals from certain

administrative decisions rendered by County government agencies; and hearing oral argument on and deciding appeals from decisions of the Hearing Examiner on conditional uses. The Board also considers and decides requests for modifications of special exceptions.

The Board normally holds weekly hearings all day Wednesday and worksessions every other week on Wednesdays. If necessary to accommodate an extended caseload or continued hearings, the Board may schedule hearings on other weekdays. Members are expected to prepare for the hearings by reading the cases to be heard and to share the workload of drafting and editing opinions or to follow-up on investigations on specific cases. Members work approximately 15-25 hours a week.

The principal jurisdiction of the Board of Appeals does not include the municipalities of Brookeville, Poolesville, Laytonsville, Rockville, Barnesville, Gaithersburg, and Washington Grove. The Council is not precluded from appointing someone who resides in one of these municipalities, although the Council may avoid doing so.

Letters expressing interest, including a resume (no more than 4 pages in length) listing professional and civic experience, political party affiliation, home and office telephone numbers and an email address, should be sent via email to county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov addressed to Council President Albornoz, or sent via mail to Council President Albornoz, County Council Office, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Letters of application must be received no later than 5 p.m. on July 8, 2022. It is the Council's policy not to consider applications received after the deadline. After the closing date, Councilmembers will review the letters of application and select applicants to interview.

Letters of application and resumes are made public as part of the appointment process (personal contact information is redacted). Any interviews held are open to the public and will be televised. A financial statement of assets, debts, income and family property interests will be required of all applicants. Only the appointed candidates will be required to make the financial statement available for public review.

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