

CITY COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURES
Resolution No. 2019-20, April 22, 2019

SECTION 14 – ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

14.1 Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees –The Council may by ordinance or resolution establish any City advisory board, commission, or committee (herein referred to as “B/C”) deemed necessary and in the best interests of the City. Pursuant to City Charter, Section 8(C), the Mayor, with the consent of the Council, appoints members of B/C’s established by ordinance or resolution.

14.2 Purpose – The purpose of the Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees is to encourage broad-based community representation and to advise City Council on public policy issues affecting Forest Grove and Council-adopted Goals and Objectives. All such Council-appointed groups are directly responsible to the Council.

14.3 Membership Qualifications – To be eligible for appointment, a person must be 18 years of age or older and a Forest Grove resident for the duration of the appointed term unless expressly provided for by the adopted bylaws. Student appointees must be high school grade level and residing or attending school, including home-schooled, in Forest Grove. All appointed members are required to attend training courses as assigned and approved by Council. An individual member may not act in an official capacity. The Council may in its discretion at any time remove a member for any reason, including inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office. Voting members may not be employees of the City. B/C members serve without compensation.

14.4 Composition – Unless authorized by Council or required by state law, all B/C’s shall consist of no more than nine (9) voting members.

14.5 Quorum and Meetings – Unless required by state law, a majority of the total number of voting B/C members constitutes a quorum. The B/C shall hold meetings no less than four (4) times a year, unless more frequently as established by the B/C. In January of each year, the B/C shall adopt a schedule of its meetings for the upcoming year, including meeting times and dates for holidays and canceled meetings. The staff liaison shall file the B/C meeting schedule with the City Recorder’s Office and publish meeting dates/times on the City’s website. In case of a meeting cancellation, the staff liaison shall post a notice at the meeting location and on the City’s website prior to the meeting date/time.

14.6 Terms of Office and Officers – Unless required by state law, all B/C members shall be voting members and shall serve four (4) year terms. Student members shall be voting members and shall serve two (2) year terms. Terms shall be staggered evenly amongst the membership, beginning January 1 and ending December 31. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected by the voting members at the first regularly scheduled B/C meeting of each year. The Chair may not serve more than 48-consecutive months. Members may not serve on more than two (2) B/C’s at the same time. Appointments to vacant positions shall fill out the remainder of the unexpired term.

14.7 Registry – The City Recorder’s Office shall maintain a current roster of all members, including appointment date, length of unexpired term, and contact information. A copy of the roster shall be provided to Council at least once per year or upon any substantial change in membership.

14.8 Councilmember Liaisons – The Mayor shall appoint a Council liaison to any B/C. Council Liaisons shall be a non-voting member. The Council Liaisons role is to collaborate between the Council and the B/C to assure each group’s collective interest is accurately and effectively represented to the other. This includes actively attending and reporting to each entity at their regular scheduled meetings. Council Liaison appointments shall be reconsidered every two (2) years at the first regular Council meeting following the time at which newly-elected Councilmembers officially take office or at the discretion of the Mayor.

14.9 Staff Liaisons – The City Manager shall appoint a staff member as liaison to any B/C. Staff liaisons shall be non-voting and shall assist the B/C by utilizing their expertise regarding city policy and process. The staff liaison shall orient the newly-appointed B/C members prior to the first meeting on the duties of being a member. The staff liaison shall review the agenda in consultation with the B/C chair, prepare minutes upon request of the B/C, oversee and review minutes, post minutes to the website as soon as possible after Council acceptance, prepare and distribute the B/C packet at least five (5) days prior to the meeting, post the final agenda on the bulletin board and/or at the meeting location, submit legal notices for review and copies of approved minutes to the City Recorder’s Office, report to the City Recorder’s Office any member who has three or more unexcused absences, report any meeting date changes including cancellations, maintain official records in accordance with the city retention schedule (OAR166-200), and publicly post B/C documents on various media.

14.10 Appointments and Reappointments – Member recruitment shall begin in September and conclude by December 31st of each year. Once the assigned term of office is completed, the member is excused from the appointment, unless Council reappoints the member for another term of service. Members must apply and be interviewed after every term to continue service. Interviews will be conducted by the Council or Council Subcommittee. Applicants who fail to attend a scheduled interview may forfeit the opportunity for appointment or reappointment. Once Council conducts interviews and makes appointment recommendations, the City Recorder Office’s shall notify applicants in writing of the Council’s recommendation. Formal resolutions making appointments will be scheduled under the Consent Agenda at the next regular Council meeting.

14.11 Attendance – Members are expected to attend every meeting. Members shall notify the staff liaison prior to the regular meeting to report an absence. The minutes shall record the absence. The City Recorder’s Office shall notify any member who has three (3) or more absences in a 12-month period that their position may be subject to vacancy.

The Chair, with the consent of the B/C, may submit a recommendation to Council to deem the member's position vacant for three (3) or more absences in a twelve month period.

14.12 Resignations and Vacancies – A member shall submit a written resignation to the staff liaison and make every effort to allow for a thirty-day notice. To fill vacancies that occur mid-term, Council shall refer to the current year interviewed applications kept on file in the City Recorder's Office.

14.13 Agenda – The Chair shall compose the meeting agenda in consultation with the staff liaison, specifying the time, place, and purpose of the meeting and listing the subjects anticipated to be considered. A B/C member may propose placing an item on the agenda at a regularly scheduled meeting. If approved by a majority of voting members present, the agenda item will be placed on the next regularly scheduled meeting agenda or an agreed upon future meeting agenda. The agenda shall follow a standard template provided by the City.

14.14 Open Meetings, Written Minutes and Public Records – All meetings and hearings shall be held in compliance with Public Meetings Law (ORS Chapter 192) and subject to Public Records Law (ORS Chapter 192). A public meeting is defined as two or more members meeting who have been delegated authority by the B/C to advise or make recommendations to the B/C. Written minutes are required for all meetings. Written minutes may include a briefly summarized record of what took place and must include any action items, showing the attendance and vote of each member. Verbatim minutes are not required. The minutes shall follow a standard template provided by the City.

14.15 Bylaws – Changes to a B/C's bylaws or rules of procedures must be approved by City Council. The bylaws shall follow a standard template provided by the City.

14.16 Annual Reporting – The Chair shall submit an Annual Report to the City Council listing the B/C's major activities for the past year and objectives for the coming year. The Annual Reports shall be scheduled on the Council Calendar and approved in January.

14.17 Conflicts of Interest and Ethics Law – Members are considered public officials subject to the Oregon Government Ethics Law (ORS 244), which seeks to prevent a public official from receiving financial gain or avoiding a financial detriment because of their status as a public official. Members are also subject to the Restrictions on Political Campaigning when acting in official capacity (ORS 260.432). Planning Commissioners are personally responsible to file an Annual Verified Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) form with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission by April 15 of each calendar year. A civil penalty may be imposed by the State for each violation of any provision of the ORS.