



To: Town Council
Town Clerk

Fr: Paul Bockelman
Town Manager

Dt: November 30, 2021

Re: Residents' Advisory Committee Appointment

Appointments

With this memo, I refer to the Town Council and simultaneously file with the Town Clerk, the following name of the person I desire to appoint as a member of the Residents' Advisory Committee in accordance with Section 2.11(b) of the Amherst Home Rule Charter. Terms are effective immediately.

One-year term (1):
(expires June 30, 2022) Nicola Usher, 37 Harris Street

Profile

- **Nicola Usher:** Ms. Usher is knowledgeable about Town governance, having shown interest in serving the public, and the Town charter and its goals. She has expressed her commitment to supporting the work of boards and committees and to make the work accessible to people with jobs and families. She identifies as a good listener and a collaborative worker. Her career started in sales and marketing in the hospitality industry. Subsequently, she has successfully transitioned to higher education where she works in the academic affairs office of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Her focus in all of her work has been on supporting diverse populations in fast-paced settings. Ms. Usher is the Vice President and Chair of Governance for the Amherst Survival Center Board of Directors.

Summary of Process

I reviewed those who had expressed interest in serving on the Residents' Advisory Committee.

I assembled a team to conduct interviews. The interview team was comprised of Angela Mills who provides support to the Residents' Advisory Committee; Jim Pistrang, chair of the Residents' Advisory Committee; and Paul Bockelman, Town Manager.

The interview team interviewed all applicants. All team members asked questions and contributed to the discussion during the interviews. At the conclusion of the interviews, we reviewed the candidates and the needs of the Commission, I discussed the candidates with Keisha Dennis, the other member of the Residents' Advisory Committee, and concluded that the candidate above would best serve the needs of the Town.

Background Information

Below is the relevant section of the Charter for your review. Notice was posted on the Town Bulletin Board in accordance with Section 9.12(e) of the Town Charter.

Section 2.11(b) of the Charter states:

Members of Multiple-Member Bodies: The Town Manager shall refer to the Town Council and simultaneously file with the Town Clerk, the name of each person the Town Manager desires to appoint as a member of a multiple-member body. Appointment of a member of a multiple-member body made by the Town Manager shall become effective on the 30th day after the date on which notice of the proposed appointment was filed with the Town Clerk unless approved or rejected by a majority of the full Town Council within the 30 days.

In addition, notice was posted on the Town Bulletin Board on May 30, 2021 in accordance with Section 9.12(e) of the Town Charter. Below is the relevant section of the Charter for your review:

Vacancies: Whenever a vacancy occurs, or is about to occur, on a multiple-member body, the appointing authority shall immediately cause public notice of the vacancy, or impending vacancy, to be published on the Town bulletin board for a period of not less than 14 days.

TOWN OF AMHERST

Committee Charge

Name: Residents' Advisory Committee (RAC)
Type: Town
Authority: Amherst Home Rule Charter Section 3.3(c)
Appointing Authority: Town Manager
Number of Voting Members: Three (3)
Number of Non-Voting Members: None
Number of Liaisons: None
Term of Appointment: One (1) Year
Special Municipal Employees:
Staff Support: Town Manager or Designee

Composition:

Three (3) residents

Purpose:

The RAC shall assist the Town Manager with evaluation and selection of candidates for appointment to Multiple-Member Bodies.

Charge: N/A

Reports: N/A

Action: N/A

Charge Adopted: February 28, 2019

Charge Amended:

SME Status Voted:

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The original item was published from 4/16/2021 4:33:06 PM to 5/30/2021 12:00:04 AM.

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[ARCHIVED] Town Manager Paul Bockelman seeks volunteers to serve on Town Boards and Committees

Town Manager Paul Bockelman seeks volunteers to serve on Town Boards and Committees.

The Town has over 30 boards and committees that support the work of Town government and each has multiple residents who are members. Terms of service are typically three years, some may be shorter.

Members typically serve for two terms. Members with terms expiring who have served one term may be seeking reappointment.

Boards and Committees that have or may have vacancies include the Agricultural Commission, Affordable Housing Trust, Cultural Council, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, CDBG Advisory Committee, Community Preservation Act Committee, Conservation Commission, Council on Aging, Design Review Board, Disability Access Advisory Committee, Energy and Climate Action Committee, Historical Commission, Human Rights Commission, Local Historic District Commission, Munson Memorial Building Trustees, Personnel Board, Public Art Commission, Public Shade Tree Committee, Recreation Commission, Registrar of Voters, **Residents' Advisory Committee**, Transportation Advisory Committee, and Water Supply Protection Committee.

A complete list of all boards and committees can be found here:

<https://www.amherstma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/37001/Committee-and-Board-Report-04092021?bidId=>

The Town Manager seeks residents who have relevant expertise or experience. We are especially seeking individuals of diverse backgrounds to serve on all boards, committees, and commissions.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve, please fill out a Community Activity Form at: <https://www.amherstma.gov/caf>

If you have questions, reach out to our Community Participation Officers at GetInvolved@AmherstMA.gov