



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Office of the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department

**Date:** June 22, 2015

**To:** Council Member Cam Gordon, Chair, Heath, Environment and Community Engagement Commission

**Referral to:** City Council

**Subject:** **Appointments to the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission**

**Recommendation:** Hold the public hearing and approve the recommended appointments to the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission for terms to be effective July 28, 2015.

### Department Information

Prepared by: Howard Blin, Community Engagement Manager

Approved by:  
 David Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spencer Cronk, City Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Presenters in Committee: Howard Blin

The Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) has four seats up for appointment through the City's open appointments process. Three of these appointments are made by the City Council and one is appointed by the Mayor.

During the spring application period 11 applications were received. A panel of council and staff reviewed the applications and recommended the appointments listed below. Determining who to recommend was a difficult task as the group was presented with a particularly strong group of applicants.

Appointee	Appointed by Mayor or Council	Ward	Term Number of years	Term Beginning/Ending
Braulio Carrasco	City Council	9	2	July 2015 - June 2017
Raya Esmaeili	City Council	10	2	July 2015 - June 2017
Nasser Mussa	Mayor	6	2	July 2015 - June 2017
Re-Appointments	Appointed by Mayor or Council	Ward	Term Number of years	Term Beginning/ Ending
Tessa Wetjen	City Council	9	2	July 2015/June 2017

## **Background Information:**

Of the 16 members of the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission, one-half are appointed by the Mayor and City Council and the other half are elected by neighborhood organizations. All terms are for two years. This year four seats are up for appointment and four seats will be elected at a meeting to be held on the evening of June 18<sup>th</sup>.

This year, 1 Mayoral appointment and 3 City Council appointments are open. As part of the open appointments process, 11 applications were received for appointment to the Commission from Minneapolis residents. A committee of City Council members met and reviewed all of the applications and evaluated their qualifications based on the criteria included in the establishing resolution for the Commission:

- a. Appointments should reflect the diverse interests and perspectives of the Minneapolis community. The recruitment process should be designed to ensure diversity of representation and ideas and take into consideration the City's commitment to civil rights, affirmative action and geographic distribution wherever possible.
- b. Members shall be residents of the City of Minneapolis who do not hold a current election certificate.

The following is the complete selection process included in Resolution 2008R-402:

### **2. Selection Procedure:**

- a. 8 members selected through a process defined by the City's officially recognized neighborhood organizations.
- b. 7 members appointed using the City's open appointments process and a public hearing
  - i. 5 members appointed by the City Council of the City of Minneapolis; and
  - ii. 2 members appointed by the Mayor of the City of Minneapolis;
  - iii. Recommendations shall be solicited for nominations from Hennepin County and the Minneapolis School Board
- c. 1 member appointed by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
- d. If other jurisdictions of state and local government choose not to participate in the program financially, they will be given, at their request, the opportunity to appoint a non-voting member of the Commission.
- e. Appointments shall reflect the diverse interests and perspectives of the Minneapolis community. The recruitment process shall be designed to ensure diversity of representation and ideas and take into consideration the City's commitment to civil rights, affirmative action and geographic distribution wherever possible.
- f. Membership shall be appointed annually as follows:
  - i. Odd years--1 Mayoral appointment, 2 City Council appointments, 1 Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board appointment, and 4 members selected by neighborhood organizations; and
  - ii. Even years--1 Mayoral appointment, 3 City Council appointments, and 4 members selected by neighborhood organizations.