

City of Minneapolis
Request for Committee Action

To: Ways & Means
Date: 8/17/2015
From: City Attorney's Office
Prepared by: Susan Trammell
Presented by: Susan Trammell
File type: Receive & File
Subcategory: Update

Subject: Public hearing for Ethical Practices Board appointment

Description: Holding a public hearing at the Ways & Means Committee meeting as required by the Ethics Code for the appointment of finalist Virginia Rae Bly to the Ethical Practices Board.

Previous Actions: None

Ward/Neighborhood/Address:

Not Applicable

Background/Analysis:

Three Minneapolis residents serve on the Minneapolis Ethical Practices Board ("EPB"). An Appointing Committee, consisting of the Chief Judge of Hennepin County, the Dean of the University of Minnesota Law School and the Dean of St. Thomas School of Law make the EPB appointments. In December 2014, the Appointing Committee appointed Cassandra Ward Brown to a three year term ending Jan. 2, 2018. Ms. Ward Brown has resigned from the Ethical Practices Board because she has moved out-of-state. The Appointing Committee is recommending the appointment of Virginia Rae Bly to complete Ms. Ward Brown's term.

The Ethics Code requires the Appointing Committee to forward the name of finalists for Ethical Practices Board vacancies to the City Council members and the Mayor to start the running of a thirty day period for submission of comments about the finalists to the Appointing Committee. The Ethics Officer forwarded this letter to the City Council and Mayor on Aug. 10, 2015. The comment period will expire Sept. 9, 2015. Comments may be made directly to the Appointing Committee members or to the Ethics Officer who will forward any comments received to the Appointing Committee.

In addition to the comment period, Ethics Code § 15.210, requires a public hearing to solicit public input on the finalists. The required hearing is scheduled for the Aug. 17, 2015 Ways & Means Committee. The public portion of Ms. Bly's Ethical Practices Board application is attached.

Financial Review:

No financial impact.

Attachments:

1. Virginia Rae Bly EPB application_Public