

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

CITY OF LOWELL

In City Council

ORDINANCE

An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances City of Lowell, Massachusetts, with respect to Chapter 9, entitled “Boards, Commissions and Committees”.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, as follows:

The City of Lowell for many years has identified and celebrated the ethnic diversity of its residents.

The City has a multi-year tradition of naming and dedicating monuments, open space and municipal benches; and

In order to establish consistent policy considerations it is recommend that a Monument Committee be established

THEREFORE, “The Code of Ordinances City of Lowell, Massachusetts,” hereinafter called the “Code,” adopted by the City Council on December 23, 2008, is hereby amended with respect to Chapter 9 thereof, entitled “Boards, Commissions and Committees”, by adding a new Article XIII as follows:

ARTICLE XIII.
Monument Committee

A. Under the authority of the Home Rule Amendment Article 89 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, there is hereby created a Monument Committee for the City of Lowell.

§9-44. Establishment, function and purpose.

A. The Monument Committee shall establish policies governing the naming or dedication of public spaces, whether they be inside public buildings or on public grounds. The policy would include a standard application process; naming or dedication criteria; design guidelines; insurance and maintenance requirements; renaming or rededication requests; and associated fees.

B. In the event that the naming or dedication relates to park land, the Monument Committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Parks.

§9-45. Membership; Appointment; terms; qualifications.

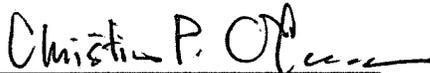
A. The Monument Committee shall be comprised of representatives from the following disciplines: two members with design and landscape background; two members from the Arts community; one member with historic preservation knowledge; one member with urban planning background; one member with legal background; one veteran member; one neighborhood representative chosen from a neighborhood group and two alternate members from any of the above disciplines.

- (1) Membership in the Monument Committee shall be appointed through the authority of the City Manager. Approval by the City Council shall not be required.
- (2) The Committee shall consist of up to eleven appointed members which include two alternate members.
- (3) A vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment.
- (4) The Monument Committee shall meet at least four times per year as a group in its entirety.
- (5) The Monument Committee Board Members shall serve for three (3) years.
- (6) The members of the Monument Committee must be residents of the City of Lowell.
- (7) In the event of prolonged, unfilled vacancies, the City Manager may appoint, subject to City Council approval, a non-resident who works in the City of Lowell.

All provisions of the Code of the City of Lowell, as amended, which are consistent with this Ordinance shall continue in effect but all provisions of said Code inconsistent herewith are repealed.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 43 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as amended.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Christine P. O'Connor
City Solicitor



Christine P. O'Connor
City Solicitor

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Assistant City Solicitors

May 17, 2019

City Manager Eileen M. Donoghue
Mayor William Samaras
And
Members of the City Council

Re: Amended Monument Committee Ordinance

Dear Manager Donoghue, William Samaras, and Members of the City Council:

Attached is the Monument Committee ordinance as amended following last week's subcommittee meeting. The changes include adding a veteran and neighborhood representative, as well as a requirement that all members be residents of the City in order to serve. Also added is language that in the event of a prolonged vacancy, the City Manager may, subject to final approval of the council, appoint a non-resident who works in the City.

During the course of the subcommittee meeting a question was raised relative to the accessibility and accuracy of boards and commissions. The board and commission vacancy list is a dynamic list which fluctuates with every appointment and expiration or resignation of a seat on a board or commission. The list is maintained on the website and is updated periodically to maintain accuracy. Attached is the link to where vacancies to boards and commissions can be viewed.

<https://www.lowellma.gov/1132/Advisory-Board-and-Commission-Vacancies>

Very truly yours,

Christine P. O'Connor
City Solicitor