

ORDINANCE NO.

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 86 - 2023

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SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

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AN ORDINANCE

Amending Part I Administrative Legislation, Chapter 12 Authorities, Boards and Commissions, Article I Board of Recreation by updating the language in Sections 12-1 to 12-3.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That Article I, Sections 1 – 3 be amended as follows:

§ 12-1. Establishment; composition.

A. There shall be ~~There is constituted for the City,~~ a body to be known as the "Board of Parks and Recreation."

B. That said Board of Parks and Recreation shall consist of 12 members who are residents of the City ~~and;~~ 10 of said members shall be appointed by the Mayor subject to the approval and confirmation of the Council, who shall serve for terms of five years or until their successors are duly appointed. ~~Two~~ two of said members shall be appointed from among the members of the Board of School Directors of the School District of the City of Allentown upon the recommendation of said Board of School Directors, and they shall be members of the Board of Parks and Recreation only so long as they continue to be members of said Board of School Directors; ~~nine of said members shall be appointed by the Mayor of the City of Allentown;~~ one of said member whom shall be a representative of the Allentown Youth Organizations United To Help (A-Youth), said member shall be recommended from among the Board of the A-Youth Organizations United To Help (A-Youth) and shall serve only so long as he/she continues to be a member of said organization; Two of said members shall be ex officio members who shall serve only in an advisory manner except in the case of a voting tie. ~~one of said members shall be appointed from the Council of said City of Allentown,~~

~~whose term of office shall not continue beyond the term of his/her office as Councilperson and the Mayor of the City of Allentown shall act as an ex officio member.~~

C. One ex officio member shall be a member of City Council, who shall be appointed by Resolution of City Council, whose term of office shall not continue beyond the term of his/her office. One ex officio member shall be the Mayor of the City of Allentown. Both ex officio members shall serve as advisory members only with no voting rights except in the event of a tie where they may vote to break the tie. If both ex officio members are present at the meeting in which a voting tie occurs, they will flip a coin to decide who gets the tie breaking vote.

§ 12-2. Chairman and Secretary; compensation.

The Board of Parks and Recreation shall elect a Chairman and Secretary who shall serve for a period of one year. All members and officers shall serve without pay.

§ 12-3. Rules and regulations.

The Board of Parks and Recreation shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the conduct of all business within its jurisdiction, which rules and regulations shall be subject to the approval of City Council and the School Directors. The Board rules and regulations shall aim to hold organizations conducting business within its jurisdiction accountable, and shall include provisions that organizations conducting business within its jurisdiction have the responsibility to report abuse and neglect, must maintain programs inclusive of all ages, races, and creeds, and must maintain programs that shall not be offensive to any religion.

12-4. Meeting Attendance .

Members must attend 50% of meetings, either virtually or in person. Failure to attend meeting status may be forwarded to the ex officio member that is representing City Council so that said attendance record may be used in consideration for reappointment.

§ 12-4. 12.5 Powers and duties.

~~The Board of Recreation shall, with the approval of Council and the Board of School Directors, supervise and maintain the playgrounds, playfields and other recreation centers which have been or hereafter may be established by the City or the School District. It shall recommend from time to time to Council and to the Board of School Directors the amounts deemed advisable to be appropriated for the supervision and maintenance of such playgrounds, playfields and other recreation centers. It shall advise with and recommend to the superintendents of schools the appointment of competent playground instructors and generally act in an advisory capacity to Council and the Board of School Directors in all matters pertaining to recreation. The Board of Recreation shall have no power or authority to enter into any contracts, engagements or create any indebtedness for or on behalf of the City or the School District.~~

With respect for the strong history of collaboration between the Allentown School District (ASD) and the City of Allentown, and in acknowledgment of the relationship between strong schools and strong cities, the Board of Parks and Recreation shall work to maximize recreation for students and residents within the city. The Board of Parks and Recreation shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Identify recreation solutions and make recommendations to Allentown City Council and City of Allentown Departments and Administration;
2. Recommend and implement programs to the appropriate agencies for the improvement of the quality of life within the City of Allentown;
3. Make recommendations as to the potential use and development of parks, trails, and other recreation amenities such as the skate park, pools and water parks, fields, courts and structures within the City of Allentown;
4. Promote recreation programs;
5. Advise City Council and City of Allentown Departments and Administration on park and recreation planning including promoting recreation programs and use of facilities;
6. Consider such parks and recreation tasks as requested by Allentown City Council and City of Allentown Departments and Administration.

§ 12-5. Annual reports.

The Board of Parks and Recreation shall annually prepare a written report of the year's activities, a one year plan and long-term goals and scenarios to enhance the City's recreational programs and facilities using a template provided by City Council. The report shall be provided to the Mayor and Allentown School District, and shall be presented to Allentown City Council at a public meeting. The Board will provide updates to the Parks and Recreation Committee as requested.

SECTION TWO: That this Ordinance takes effect ten (10) days after final passage.

SECTION THREE: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.