



Agenda Item

File #: 21-1135

Requested Agenda Date:

10/5/2021

Requested Agenda Title:

Arts & Culture Advisory Board Appointment:

Natosha Washington, District 1

Requested Agenda Item Description: Please accept this request to appoint one new member to the Arts & Culture Advisory Board. We currently have three vacancies for our 15-member board. Our current vacancies are all full-term openings and therefore the terms would start the day of approval by County Council and last for 3 years.

This year, we instituted a new process for Arts & Culture Advisory Board recruitment by establishing a Nomination and Recruitment Subcommittee. This subcommittee worked closely with me to identify recruitment priorities, within your overall board recruitment directives, and implement new strategies to meet these priorities. We focused recruitment efforts on geographic, ethnic, and racial diversity as well as artists from diverse art forms. After the subcommittee generates interested candidates, an initial application review is completed, followed by an informal interview with me, and finally guest attendance at an advisory board meeting. Candidates who have advanced through these steps are then forwarded to the Department and Mayor's Office for consideration.

The current recommendation is the first candidate to come out of this new process and we are confident this individual reflects the recruitment priorities of the Mayor's Office and will offer unique and valuable perspectives. We will follow the same process to identify candidates to fill the two remaining vacancies for which we will focus on recruitment from District 2.

The following recommendation is for your consideration:

Natosha Washington - District 1

Natosha brings unique experience to our board that we do not currently have. She has vast teaching experience specifically in the arts (dance.) "It is my mission to continue providing opportunities for students and our community at large to learn from one another. Bringing the two together through the arts, open and honest conversations now more than ever, is of the utmost importance. Being a woman of color in a field whose representation does not look like that of her own has strongly influenced my pedagogy and the ways I choose to approach my artistic endeavors, education and life-hence my applying to be on this board."

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

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Requested Action: Discussion - Vote Needed

Presenter(s) (with titles): Michelle Hicks, Operations Manager

Time Needed: Less than 5 MINS

Is this Item Time-Sensitive and/or Requesting a Time-Certain? Yes and I will send the request in writing

Requesting Staff Member: Michelle Hicks, Operations Manager

Are Supporting Documents Needed for this Agenda Item Request? Yes

Please attach supporting documentation, including presentations, to the Legistar file.

Agenda item requests must be complete and submitted via Legistar Approval Sequence to the Council Administrative & Communications Coordinator by the Wednesday before the upcoming Tuesday meeting at 3:00 PM. Please note that some offices have earlier, internal Approval Sequence deadlines.

Items without necessary supporting documentation may be withheld from consideration for the desired meeting date.