

Order #101A-2024

Ordered that § 15-37 Human Rights Committee is amended as follows:

A. Establishment; composition.

- (1) There is hereby established a Human Rights Committee. This Committee shall consist of 11 members, with at least three members who have demonstrated knowledge and/or experience with addressing matters of human and civil rights. The Committee shall also include one member from the City administration and one member from the School Department. Members of the Committee serve without compensation and shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the City Council, for a term of three years and a maximum term limit of six consecutive years. The members first appointed shall have staggered terms. The initial appointments of fewer than three years, for purposes of staggering the terms, shall not count towards the six-consecutive-year term limit.
- (2) The members of the Committee shall be citizens of Beverly and shall, so far as practicable, be so selected as to provide broad representation from the fields of advocacy, business, education, labor, law, law enforcement, public health and religion. Members may be removed in accordance with the provisions of the City Charter.
- (3) Committee members who are appointed by virtue of their status as a City or a school employee shall not be required to be residents. Committee members shall not be required to be registered voters of the City. Up to two members may be under the age of 18, as long as they are at least 16 years old.

B. Purpose. The Committee shall actively seek to enhance equal justice, inclusivity, and human rights for all members of our community.

- (1) The Committee serves as a resource to the City of Beverly and the public. The Committee may provide education and support on human rights, diversity, and inclusivity, with the goal of raising awareness and sensitivity to matters of human and civil rights.
- (2) The Committee may provide the public with contact to agents of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination or other appropriate federal, state, and local agencies.
- (3) The Committee shall meet a minimum of four times each year.
- (4) The Committee may conduct ongoing campaigns and host free public events each year to facilitate public education on diversity, discrimination and inclusive community building as relevant to Beverly.
- (5) The Committee shall not operate as an adjudicatory body.

Approved by Beverly City Council on 5-20-2024