



Appointments Committee – Board of Representatives

Denis W. Patterson, Chair Ramya Shaw, Vice-Chair

Committee Minutes

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held in the Democratic Caucus Room, and remotely on TEAMS.*

The Appointments Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Shaw, and Committee Member Reps. Figueroa, Kuczynski, Pavia, Summerville, and Walston. Excused or absent were reps. Baines and Grunberger. Also in attendance were Reps. Goldberg, Matheny, Morson, Sherwood, Stella, Strain, and Weinberg; Dana Lee, Law Department and several members of the public.

Chair Patterson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and opened the public hearing.

Technical Note: The meeting recording was interrupted due to technical difficulties and resumed at approximately **8:40 p.m.** after reconnection.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. A31.224	Board of Ethics Evan Guttman (R) <i>Repl. Springer (R) Exp. 12/1/24</i> Stamford, CT 06907 Term Expires: 12/1/2027 8/29/2025 - Submitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons 09/24/2025 – No Action Taken 9/30/2025 – Resubmitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons	Committee Approved 6-0-1
<i>A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-1. (Reps. Patterson, Shaw, Figueroa, Kuczynski, Pavia, and Summerville in favor; Rep. Walston abstain)</i>		
2. A31.225	Zoning Board of Appeals Lauren Jacobson (D) <i>Reappointment</i> Stamford, CT 06902 Term Expires: 12/1/2026 8/29/2025 - Submitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons 9/24/2025 – No Action Taken 9/30/2025 – Resubmitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons	Committee Approved 6-1-0

*A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-1-0.
(Reps. Patterson, Shaw, Kuczynski, Pavia, Summerville and Walston in favor; Rep.
Figueroa opposed)*

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| 3. A31.226 | Historic Preservation Advisory Committee
Nicholas Ponzo (D) <i>Repl. Hersh (D) Exp. 12/1/22</i>
Stamford, CT 06906
Term Expires: 12/1/2027
8/29/2025 - Submitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons
09/24/2025 – No Action Taken
9/30/2025 – Resubmitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons | Committee
Approved
5-2-0 |
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*A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-2-0.
(Reps. Patterson, Shaw, Kuczynski, Pavia, and Summerville in favor; Rep. Figueroa and
Walston opposed)*

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| 4. A31.227 | Arts & Culture Commission
Liz van Caloen (R) <i>Repl. Collins (U) Exp. 12/1/24</i>
Stamford, CT 06902
Term Expires: 12/1/2027
8/29/2025 - Submitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons
09/24/2025 – No Action Taken
9/30/2025 – Resubmitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons | Committee
Approved
7-0-0 |
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*A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0.
(Reps. Patterson, Shaw, Figueroa, Kuczynski, Pavia, Summerville and Walston in favor)*

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| 5. A31.228 | Social Services Commission
Shani Ben-Dov (R) <i>Repl. Lombardo (R) Exp. 12/1/24</i>
Stamford, CT 06903
Term Expires: 12/1/2027
8/29/2025 - Submitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons
09/24/2025 – No Action Taken
9/30/2025 – Resubmitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons | Committee
Approved
7-0-0 |
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*A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0.
(Reps. Patterson, Shaw, Figueroa, Kuczynski, Pavia, Summerville and Walston in favor)*

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| 6. A31.229 | Stamford Golf Authority
Katherine Taylor (D) <i>Repl. Lionetti(D) Exp. 12/1/24</i>
Stamford, CT 06902
Term Expires: 12/1/2027
9/30/2025 - Submitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons | Committee
Approved
7-0-0 |
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*A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0.
(Reps. Patterson, Shaw, Figueroa, Kuczynski, Pavia, Summerville and Walston in favor)*

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| 7. A31.230 | Zoning Board of Appeals
Jeremiah Hourihan (D) <i>Repl. Pigott(D) Exp. 12/1/23</i>
Stamford, CT 06903 | Committee
Approved
7-0-0 |
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Term Expires: 12/1/2026
9/30/2025 - Submitted by Mayor Caroline Simmons

*A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-0-0.
(Reps. Patterson, Shaw, Figueroa, Kuczynski, Pavia, Summerville and Walston in favor)*

8. [A31.231](#) **ORDINANCE, 2nd PUBLIC HEARING for Final Adoption;** Amending Chapter 6 of the Code of Ordinances, Authorities, Boards and Commissions, §6-123. - Duties and responsibilities (Appointments Commission) (PLEASE REFER TO [A31.207](#) FOR HISTORY)
10/08/2025 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Sherwood **Committee Approved 6-1-0**

Chair Patterson opened the second public hearing on the ordinance amending §6-123 regarding duties and responsibilities of the Appointments Commission.

Sue Halpern reiterated her comments from the first public hearing and stated her support for the ordinance, encouraging the Committee to approve it. Dave Adams also spoke in favor of the ordinance, noting that it addressed a longstanding issue concerning the Appointments Commission and emphasized the importance of transparency in the appointments process for both the Board and the public. No other members of the public spoke, and the public hearing was closed.

Rep. Weinberg said he supported the goal of transparency but raised concern that rejected applicants' names would remain publicly listed for four years, which could unfairly affect employment opportunities. He suggested that applicants be given the option to opt out of the public list and recommended that a committee member make a motion to amend the ordinance. No committee member made a motion on the suggestion.

Rep. Pavia spoke about the long effort to bring the ordinance forward, noting that Rep. Stella had worked closely with Corporation Counsel to make sure the language was both legal and practical. He said the ordinance represented real progress in addressing concerns that had been raised for years.

Rep. Summerville expressed appreciation for the sponsors' efforts and acknowledged the importance of improving fairness and consistency in the appointments process.

Rep. Sherwood said the measure would strengthen transparency and accountability and thanked those who had contributed to its completion. Rep. Walston agreed, saying the changes would help ensure equity and consistency in how appointments are handled across all city boards and commissions.

*A motion to approve this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-1-0.
(Reps. Patterson, Figueroa, Kuczynski, Pavia, Summerville and Walston in favor; Rep. Shaw opposed)*

9. [A31.138](#) **REVIEW;** Demographics of Stamford's Board and Commissions.
09/04/24 – Submitted by Rep. Stella
10/15/24 – Moved to pending **REPORT MADE**

07/30/2025 – No Action Taken
08/27/2025 – REPORT MADE
09/24/2025 – REPORT MADE

No representative from the Mayor's Office attended. Chair Patterson confirmed that outreach had been made earlier in the week. Committee Members, expressed disappointment and frustration that the administration once again failed to appear or provide the information requested, noting that this was the fourth meeting on this item with no participation from the Mayor's Office despite repeated invitations and follow-up emails.

Closing Remarks:

Chair Patterson thanked the Office staff, including Angelina Staley, for keeping the Committee organized and on track during a challenging meeting. He also acknowledged Barbara Montalvo, Sheila Hughes, and Christina Gaymon for their continued assistance and support of the Committee's work and expressed appreciation to Vice-Chair Shaw, Rep. Summerville, and all members of the Committee for their collaboration and commitment.

Chair Patterson adjourned the meeting at 10:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Denis W. Patterson, Chair

This meeting is on Video ([Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#))