

Cultural Affairs Committee

Creation and Purpose

There is hereby created and established a municipal committee known as "Cultural Affairs Committee." The Mission of the Cultural Affairs Committee is to Organize, Coordinate, Research, and Manage Actions and make recommendations regarding diverse cultural, economic, and social issues within our community. To ensure that all residents of Torrington enjoy a harmonious and healthy environment by promoting community awareness and acceptance of our diverse cultures in our schools, neighborhoods, and businesses. By serving as a liaison to the Mayor and City Council on diversity issues, we can make Torrington a town that welcomes everyone.

Membership, Terms

(a.) The Committee shall consists of ??? members with varied interests and a willingness to execute the mission statement. ??? ex officio members, all of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. The ex officio members shall be designated from the Mayor's office. All members shall serve without compensation. Of the members first appointed three shall serve until December 31st, 2011, three shall serve until December 31, 2012, and three shall serve until December 31, 2013. Thereafter, each succeeding member shall be appointed for a four year term. There will be a term limit of two terms for a total of 8 years.

(b.) Vacancies and Removals

Committee members having more than 4 unexcused absences in a calendar year will automatically lose their Committee seat and the Mayor will appoint a new Committee Member.

(c.) Officers

The Committee shall at its first meeting following the effective date of its appointment and annually thereafter elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and a Secretary from its members and other such officers as the Committee may determine.

Meetings and Rules of procedure

The Committee shall meet at least once a month and at such other times, as the Committee shall determine. The Committee may adopt its own rules of procedure consistent with the provisions of this article. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum, and said Committee shall hold regular meetings once a month, open to the public.

Maintenance of records

The Committee shall be maintain accurate records of the Committee's work. It shall keep a record of the minutes of all meetings, procedures and accounts of the Committee and shall file a copy there of with the Town Clerk. Such records shall be open to the public.

Duties

- (a) The Committee shall develop and build a strong, vibrant, ethnic and cultural alliance that contributes to the success of Torrington's existing cultural and ethnic assets.
- (b) The Committee shall foster a strong, diverse, base of support and encourage cultural and ethnic diversity.
- (c) The Committee shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall file an annual report with the City Council describing its activities for the previous calendar year.
- (d) The Committee shall work with city agencies, neighborhood groups, the community at large and non-profit entities for the purpose of writing grants and obtaining funding.

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Membership, Terms

- (a) The Committee shall consists of 15 members; 10 regular members and 5 executive board members with varied interests and a willingness to execute the mission statement. Members shall be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. Ex-Officio members shall be designated from the Mayor's Office. All members shall serve without compensation. Of the members first appointed, 7 shall serve until December 31st, 2012 and 8 shall serve until December 31, 2014. Thereafter each succeeding member shall be appointed for a four year term. There will be a term limit of two terms for a total of 8 years.

(b) Vacancies and Removals

Committee members having more than 4 unexcused absences in a calendar year will automatically lose their Committee seat and the Mayor will appoint a new Committee Member.

(c) Officers

The Committee shall at its first meeting following the effective date of its appointment and annually thereafter elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and a Secretary from its members and other such officers as the Committee may determine. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall serve alternating 4 year terms.

Meetings and Rules of Procedure

The Committee shall meet at least once a month and at such other times as the Committee shall determine. The Committee may adopt its own rules of procedure consistent with the provisions of this article. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum, and said Committee shall hold regular meetings once a month, open to the public.

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