

Framingham School Committee

Temporary Subcommittee to Review Applicants for the Strategic Initiatives and Financial Oversight Committee (SIFOC)

January 25, 2019

Overview

The Framingham Home Rule Charter established a SIFOC to advise the Mayor, City Council and School Committee on the status of Framingham's long range strategic plan, the state of the municipal economy, sufficiency of municipal revenues, and other fiscal matters.

According to Article VI Section 11 of the Charter, the SIFOC shall be comprised of Nine (9) residents needed for staggered three-year (3) terms. The Mayor, City Council and School Committee will each choose three (3) members, with the following minimum requirements:

- One (1) member with expertise in finance
- One (1) member from the local business community
- One (1) member at-large

The Charter also states that SIFOC members may not hold any other elected or appointed office with the City of Framingham, SIFOC members receive no compensation of any kind, the SIFOC will report annually to the Mayor, City Council and School Committee, and shall file all of its reports with the City Clerk.

The SIFOC Subcommittee

The School Committee Chair is establishing a Temporary Subcommittee to Review Applicants for the Strategic Initiatives and Financial Oversight Committee (SIFOC). Also to be known as "The SIFOC Subcommittee" for short.

The newly created SIFOC as directed by the charter will focus their efforts on fiscal and infrastructure topics. The School Committee has two subcommittees setup on these topics, yet does not have an Appointment's Subcommittee as the City Council does. Therefore, School Committee members with leadership roles on the Facilities and Finance & Operations Subcommittee are appointed the Co-Chairs for this Temporary Subcommittee, and can each choose one additional School Committee Member to join them for the appointment's process.

Additionally the SIFOC allows applicants to apply to seats appointed by the Mayor and City Council. Therefore in order to encourage cross-government collaboration those organization's will have a role too. By having this cross-government representation at the table we can properly coordinate and share information in a transparent manner, while also respecting the autonomy of each individual appointing authority.

Four Voting Seats:

- Mr. Richard Finlay, Chair of the School Committee's Facilities Subcommittee; and one School Committee Member to be chosen by Mr. Finlay
- Mr. Geoffrey Epstein, Chair of the School Committee's Finance & Operations Subcommittee; and one School Committee Member to be chosen by Mr. Epstein

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Advisory Members

- Mayor Yvonne Spicer and/or designee
- City Councilor who is a member of the City Council's Appointments Subcommittee to be chosen by the City Council Chair
- Superintendent of Schools Dr. Robert Tremblay and/or designee

Mr. Epstein is the convener to work with the School Committee's Administrative Assistant to facilitate the scheduling, booking of space, and posting the meeting for the public.

Process and Timeline Guidance

- The Subcommittee is encouraged to interview all applicants, but may determine to have a preliminary screening to narrow the field if they so choose to.
- The Subcommittee shall determine the applicant's eligibility for each of the three specific seats, and make recommendations for each appointee's staggered term.
- The Subcommittee is encouraged to discuss with applicants during their interviews if they currently hold other elected or appointed positions and if so, how to proceed. As noted in the Charter, if they were to be appointed to the SIFOC they would need to resign from the other position(s) in order to be eligible.
- The Subcommittee shall hold at least once public meeting before reporting back to the full School Committee with written recommendations for discussion and consideration by the full body at the School Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday February 27, 2019. If the Subcommittee requests more time, this can be moved to the March 6, 2019 meeting. On the date of the SIFOC vote the subcommittee shall dissolve unless extended by the Chair or full committee.

- The Subcommittee's voting members are encouraged to work with the Mayor, as well as the City Council's Appointment's Subcommittee, as there is overlap in applicants between the three organizations.
- This subcommittee shall utilize the assistance of the School Committee's Administrative Assistant. By January 25th she shall contact all applicants to introduce herself as the point of contact and to confirm application status. It is recommended that all communication between applicants and the School Committee to be done by the Administrative Assistant, and by members at public meetings.

January 22 at 5:00 p.m. - SIFOC Applications Deadline set by the School Committee

January 25 - 11 Applicants confirmed by City HR, and their names and home district's of residence made public (see below)

By January 25 - All Applicants Contacted by the School Committee's Administrative Assistant

February TBD - Subcommittee Meeting(s)

February 21 - Deadline for the Subcommittee to Submit Materials for School Committee Meeting Packet

February 27 - School Committee Vote on SIFOC Appointments

March 1 - Backup Deadline for the Subcommittee to Submit Materials for School Committee Meeting Packet

March 6 - Backup Date for the School Committee Vote on SIFOC Appointments

SIFOC Applicant List for School Committee Slots

- Richard Baritz - District 9 Resident
- Jake Binnall - District 2 Resident
- Gerry Bloomfield - District 1 Resident
- James Culhane - District 6 Resident
- Joel Francis - District 2 Resident
- Michael Gatlin - District 6 Resident
- David Kiklis - District 1 Resident
- Marshall Krashin - District 5 Resident
- Amanda Shepard - District 4 Resident

- Darline Umina - District 1 Resident
- Richard Weader - District 3 Resident