

- 4:30 p.m. Call to Order.
- Roll Call.
- A. Board & Commission Overview:
 - 1. Vacancy Summary
 - B. Board of Review - 5 Expiring Terms, 1 Vacancy
 - 1. Expiring Terms and Vacancies
 - 2. Attendance Summary
 - 3. Applicants
 - C. Economic Development Corporation/Tax Increment Finance Authority and Brownfield Redevelopment Authority - 2 Expiring Terms
 - 1. Expiring Terms and Vacancies
 - 2. Attendance Summary
 - 3. Applicants
 - D. Historic District Commission - 3 Expiring Terms, 2 Vacancies
 - 1. Expiring Terms and Vacancies
 - 2. Attendance Summary
 - 3. Applicants
 - E. Zoning Board of Appeals - 3 Expiring Terms
 - 1. Expiring Terms and Vacancies
 - 2. Attendance Summary
 - 3. Applicants
 - F. Park Board - 1 Vacancy
 - 1. Vacancy Summary
 - 2. Applicants
 - G. Planning Commission - 1 Vacancy
 - 1. Vacancy Summary
 - 2. Applicants
 - H. Human Services Board - 1 Vacancy
 - 1. Vacancy Summary
 - 2. Applicants
 - I. Board and Commission Appointments Discussion.
 - J. Statements of Citizens:
- Adjournment.

			January 7, 2025 Board and Commission Interviews								
			Board of Review	EDC/BRA/ TIFA	Historic District Commission	Zoning Board of Appeals	Park Board	Planning Commission	Human Services Board		
			4:30	4:45	4:50	5:00	5:10	5:15	5:30		
RSVP			5 exp. terms, 1 vacancy	2 exp. terms, 1 vacancy	3 exp. terms, 2 vacancies	3 exp. terms	1 vacancy	1 vacancy	1 vacancy	Appointed	
	Amanda	Bengston	member								
	Patrick	Buckley	member								
	Carol	Eddy, chr.	member								
	Keith	Hearit	member								
	Orville	Smith	member								
	Britni	Russell	applicant (PK)								
	Bradley	Galin, PPS		member							
	Karen	Gallagher		member							
	Nick	Meyle			member						
	Suzanne	Nemeth, v chr			member						
	Katie	VanLonkhuyzen, chr			member						
	Dusti	Morton			applicant						
	Jessie	Duniphin			applicant						
	Cristina	Sampson		applicant (ZBA, PC)							
	Linda	Fry, sec				member					
	Ken	Seybold				member					
	Michael	Stempihar, alt.				member					
	Rachel	Hampsten				applicant					
	Cristina	Sampson		applicant (ZBA, PC)							
	Charlie	Eldred				applicant (PC)					
	Keith	Crowell				applicant (ZBA)					
	Jon	Fabianowicz				applicant (HSB)					
	Britni	Russell				applicant (BOR)					
	Matthew	Wollerman				applicant					
	Cristina	Sampson				applicant (HDC, ZBA)					
	Charlie	Eldred				applicant (ZBA)					
	Keith	Crowell				applicant (PC)					
	Nicole	Gustavson							applicant		
	Dan	Damaska							applicant		
	Jon	Fabianowicz					applicant (PK)				

	Attending
	Unable to Attend
	No Reply

**Vacancy and Expiring Term Summary
Board of Review**

			Current Term	First Appointed
Amanda	Bengston		01/24-01/25	Jan-23
Patrick	Buckley		01/24-01/25	Jan-16
Carol	Eddy		01/24-01/25	Jan-16
Keith	Hearit		01/24-01/25	Jan-17
Orville	Smith		01/24-01/25	Jan-22
VACANCY			<i>term 01/25-01/26</i>	

EDC/BRA & TIFA

			Current Term	First Appointed
Bradley	Galin	PPS	12/18-12/24	Oct-13
Karen	Gallagher		05/24-12/24	May-24
VACANCY			<i>term through 12/2026</i>	

Historic District Commission

			Current Term	First Appointed
Nick	Meyle		12/21-12/24	Oct-19
Suzanne	Nemeth	V. Chr	12/21-12/24	Oct-12
Katie	VanLonkhuyzen	Chr	12/21-12/24	Oct-09
VACANCY			12/23-12/26	
VACANCY			12/23-12/26	

Zoning Board of Appeals

			Current Term	First Appointed
Linda	Fry	Sec	01/22-02/25	May-18
Ken	Seybold		01/22-02/25	Jan-22
Michael	Stempihar	Alt	01/24-02/25	May-24

Park Board

			Current Term	First Appointed
VACANCY			10/22-10/25	

Planning Commission

			Current Term	First Appointed
VACANCY			05/22-05/25	

Human Services Board

			Current Term	First Appointed
VACANCY			10/23-10/26	

Board of Review (5 exp. terms, 1 vacancy)

The Board of Review is a six-member board which hears the valuation disputes related to the assessment of property. The Board of Review meets in March to determine wrongfully assessed property as well as consider poverty exemptions and late property tax filings; and in July and December to correct any clerical errors. Appointment terms last one year.

Returning Applicants:

- Amanda Bengtson: *Current term 2024 - 2025; first appointed 2023.*
- Patrick Buckley: *Current term 2024 - 2025; first appointed 2016.*
- Carol Eddy: *Current term 2024 – 2025; first appointed 2016.*
- Keith Hearit: *Current term 2024 – 2025; first appointed 2017.*
- Orville Smith: *Current 2024 – 2025; first appointed 2022.*

New Applicants:

- Britni Russell: *also applying for Park Board.*

Notes:

- Leonard Lamberson has decided to resign after over a decade of service on the Board.

Member	03-05-2024	03-11-2024	03-12-2024	03-13-2024	03-14-2024	03-26-2024	07-16-2024	12-10-2024
Amanda Bengston	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>
Keith Hearit	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Leonard Lamberson	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused (Resigned)</i>
Patrick Buckley	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>
Carol Eddy	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Orville Smith	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>

**Economic Development Corporation/Tax Increment Authority and Brownfield
Redevelopment Authority (2 exp. terms, 1 vacancy)**

The Economic Development Corporation / Tax Increment Finance Authority (EDC/TIFA) accomplishes economic and community development activities that are specifically authorized by Michigan statutes. The authority is comprised of nine members who are appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the City Council and for tax increment financing purposes, three of the members represent Portage Public Schools.

The EDC/TIFA members have also been designated to perform brownfield redevelopment activities as authorized by statute. The authority is a financing entity and, through industrial development bonds and the capture of tax increment revenues, can plan and finance public activities to facilitate business and industrial growth and property redevelopment.

Returning Applicants:

- Bradley Galin: *Current term 2018 – 2024; first appointed 2013.*
- Karen Gallagher: *first appointed May 2024.*

Notes:

- Mr. Galin's appointment has been recommended by Portage Public Schools; on November 14, Mayor Randall communicated she supports Mr. Galin's reappointment.

Member	03-07-2024	08-01-2024	09-19-2024
Eric Albutrus, V.C.	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
J. William Lenehan	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Keith Lewandowski, C.	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
John Herberg	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Bradley Galin	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Jeff Monroe	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Deceased</i>
Daniel Vomastek	<i>Excused (deceased)</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Todd Campbell	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Karen Gallagher	<i>N/A (appt May '24)</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Michelle Karpinski	<i>N/A (appt May '24)</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>

Historic District Commission (3 exp. terms, 2 vacancies)

The commission is charged with reviewing plans and applications for the construction, alteration, repair of historic properties. In addition, the commission maintains the roster of established and potential districts, may initiate district modification procedures and reviews proposed exterior changes to properties within the Portage Historic District.

The Historic District Commission (HDC) is governed by the Michigan Local Historic Districts Act (PA 169 of 1970) in conjunction with [Section 38 of the Portage Code of Ordinances](#).

Returning Applicants:

- Nick Meyle: *Current term 2021 – 2024; first appointed 2019.*
- Suzanne Nemeth: *Current term 2021 – 2024; first appointed 2012.*
- Katie VanLonkhuyzen: *Current term 2021 – 2024; first appointed 2009.*
 - Due to scheduling issues, Ms. VanLonkhuyzen will not be arriving to interviews until approximately 5:30 p.m.

New Applicants:

- Dusti Morton: *no other boards listed.*
- Jessie Duniphin: *no other boards listed. Previously resigned from HDC.*
- Cristina Sampson: *also interested in the Human Services Board and the Planning Commission.*

Notes:

- Commissioners Nemeth and VanLonkhuyzen have gone beyond their ten-year term limits.

Member	01-10-2024	04-03-2024	05-01-2024 (no quorum)	05-21-2024	06-05-2024	08-07-2024	09-04-2024	10-02-2024
Katie VanLonkhuyzen, C.	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Suzanne Nemeth, V.C.	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Martha Deming-Maytnier	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Becky Lopez	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Carol Dunleavy Chandler	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>
Steve Rice	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Nick Meyle	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Jessie Duniphin	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Resigned</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
RJ Batas	<i>Unexcused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Unexcused</i>	<i>Unexcused</i>	<i>Unexcused (removed from Comm.)</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>

Zoning Board of Appeals (3 exp. terms)

The ZBA is authorized by Michigan statute and helps ensure that the objectives of the Zoning Ordinance are met, public safety is secured, and substantial justice is done. All meetings are open to the public and public notices are completed prior to a public hearing. The powers and jurisdiction of the ZBA are specified in the City of Portage Zoning Ordinance (Section 42-620 to 42-623) and include the granting of variances, interpretations, temporary uses, and other appeals as authorized in the ordinance.

Returning Applicants:

- Linda Fry: *Current term 2022 – 2025; first appointed 2018.*
- Ken Seybold: *Current term 2022 – 2025; first appointed 2022.*
- Michael Stempihar: *Current (alternate) term 2024- 2025; first appointed 2024.*

New Applicants:

- Rachel Hampsten
- Cristina Sampson: *also interested in the Historic District Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.*
- Charlie Eldred: *also interested in Planning Commission and Local Officers Compensation Commission.*
- Keith W. Crowell: *also interested in Planning Commission.*

Member	01-08-2024	06-10-2024	07-08-2024	08-12-2024	09-09-2024
Lynn Haddow, C.	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Resigned</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Michael Reedy	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Linda Fry, Sec.	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Jay Ecihstaedt	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Aimee Potts	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Lena Jomaa	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Unexcused</i>
Ken Seybold	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
David Bergher	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Excused</i>
John Sloan	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>
Michael Stempihar, alt	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>	<i>Attending</i>

Park Board (1 vacancy)

The Park Board is a nine-member board established to advise the City Council regarding the provision of adequate park and recreation programs and facilities for the enjoyment of all citizens. This board promotes recreation programs and recommends planning and operating policies for city parks.

New Applicants:

- Britni Russell: *also interviewing for Board of Review, has indicated interest in Human Services Board.*
- Jon Fabianowicz: *also indicated interest in Human Services Board.*
- Matthew Wollerman: *no other boards listed.*

Note:

- Park Board Chair Tara Gish has indicated she will attend interviews to provide further insight for applicants.

Planning Commission (1 vacancy)

The Commission has as primary responsibilities the preparation and adoption of a Comprehensive Plan that guides decision-making related to future land use, community development and capital investments, and making recommendations and advising City Council on land use, zoning and related development matters of importance in the community.

New Applicants:

- Cristina Sampson: *also interested in the Historic District Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.*
- Charlie Eldred: *also interested in Zoning Board of Appeals and Local Officers Compensation Commission.*
- Keith W. Crowell: *also interested in Zoning Board of Appeals.*

Note:

- This term expires in May, 2025, and is filling a partial term for Commissioner Longjohn who was serving a partial term left by Commissioner Combs.
- All three applicants for the Planning Commission express interest in the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Human Services Board (1 vacancy)

The Human Services Board consists of nine board members and one Youth Advisory Committee liaison that advises City Council on matters regarding human services, public transportation, and the City of Portage Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

New Applicants:

- Dan Damaska: *no other boards listed.*
- Nicole Gustavson: *also interested in Senior Citizens Advisory Board.*
- Jon Fabianowicz: *also interested in Park Board.*