

**Village of Brockport**  
**Selection Process of Members to Boards and Committees**  
**Amended 8/18/14**

*The Village of Brockport has a strong tradition of volunteerism. Residents are encouraged to serve on citizen boards and committees dealing with day-to-day issues. Their participation in Village government-- in the decision-making process—fulfills a public service role that enhances the quality of life in the Village and the surrounding communities.*

**BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

The members of our boards by statute, standing boards/committees, task force committee(s), and open roster committees act in an advisory capacity to the Village Board when creating ordinances, policies and procedures, and some act independently to relieve the Village Board of various administrative functions. When applicable, the Village Law takes precedence over this Village Board resolution. The purpose of this resolution is to clarify the selection process and identify those boards/committees that are bound by its usage.

The Brockport Village Board of Trustees (BOT) shall conform to the rules governing protocol and procedures pursuant to Village Law of the State of New York, Article 3, Officers and Elections, and Article 4, Powers, Duties, and Compensation of officers in appointments of citizens to boards/committees.

**DEFINITIONS**

“Advisor” means a non-paid member of a board/committee who has no voting power and may or may not be a resident of the Village of Brockport.

“Appointment” means the Mayor submits an individual’s name to fill a vacancy on a board/committee to the Village Board for their action of approval or denial. Only in the case of the Board of Ethics membership, one or more of the Board of Trustees shall submit a candidate’s name for the BOT’s consideration.

“Board/Committee” means Boards/Committees by Statute, Standing, Task Force, Open Roster, and any other boards/committees, subcommittee(s) or similar entity established or adopted by the Village Board, that may or may not have stipulated terms.

“Board of Trustees” (BOT) means the Village of Brockport’s Mayor and Village Board members who are elected.

“Boards by State Statute/Village Law mean that the boards and committees such as the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) have been granted the power to act independently of the Village Board in most instances, but on occasion serve in an advisory capacity to it. Members receive some compensation for their attendance/services.

"Committee Chair" means the chair/leader of a By-Statute, Standing, Task Force, Open Roster, Board or Committee.

“Mayor” means the Chief Executive Officer of the Village of Brockport who shall put forward the name(s) of citizen volunteers to fill vacancies and unexpired terms on boards/committees. The

Board of Trustees shall approve or disapprove these potential candidates at a regular scheduled open meeting.

"Member" means a duly appointed person of a board or committee, including the Chair.

"Open Roster Committee" means that membership, residence, and terms may vary.

"Standing Board/Committee" means that members to said standing boards/ committees have a term of office, a stipulated number of years, and are residents of the Village of Brockport.

"Task Force Committee" means a committee formed—appointees brought forth by the Mayor and approved by the Village Board--with a stipulated number of Village members, who are charged with specific duties. When the committee has completed its work and submitted its final report, it dissolves automatically, unless otherwise directed by the Village Board.

"Term" means a stipulated duration of an appointment to a particular office, board, or committee.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

1. The Village Clerk shall advertise the vacancies on the By Statute, Standing, Task Force, and Open Roster (if applicable) Boards or Committees in the newspaper designated by the Village as the official newspaper and on the Village of Brockport website.
2. An applicant position interest form and a board/committee description sheet shall be available in the Village Hall office and on the Village of Brockport website, <http://www.brockportny.org>.
3. Information shall be available regarding the specific committee/board that has a vacancy (Chair's name/contact number), web information, etc.
4. A citizen who expresses an interest in serving on a board/committee shall be made aware of the meeting schedule and essentials before applying.
5. Applicants shall be encouraged to attend a board/committee meeting as a way to familiarize themselves with member responsibilities and if their interests and skills are well suited to serve.
6. Applications shall be completed and submitted to the Village Clerk no later than the advertised filing date.
7. Upon receipt of an application, the Village Clerk shall retain the original and distribute a copy of each application to the Board of Trustees.
8. All applications shall remain on file for a period of six months from the date received. Applicants who are still available may be considered should vacancies for a particular board/committee occur during that time.

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

1. The Mayor shall put forth the name of citizen volunteer(s) to fill vacancies and unexpired terms on boards/committees prior the vote on the candidate(s) membership

to said board/ committee at a Village Board meeting. Exception: membership selection for the Ethics Committee is made by the Board of Trustees.

2. The Mayor can ask for input from Village Board members and/or committee/board chairs prior his decision to put a name forth, especially if the candidate is unknown. If still unknown or if there is more than one candidate, the Village Clerk shall set up an appointment for the applicant(s) with the chair of said board/committee for an informational meeting to discuss membership responsibilities and requirements. Their comments/recommendations shall be forwarded to the Mayor.
3. If a candidate's name is submitted by the Mayor to the Village Board for approval, the number of years of the unexpired term or vacancy shall be served by the new member. If there is more than one vacancy, the Mayor submits the candidates' names to be approved by the Village Board. Once approved, the chair of said board/committee shall determine the entry year for each new board/committee member based on his/her merits (the more expertise, the longer the term, etc.). Those boards/committees that do not have set terms need not comply.
4. Following the approval for membership to a board or committee by the Board of Trustees, the Mayor shall notify the candidate(s) in writing of the decision. The correspondence shall include dates of term, oath of office information, a current membership list of said board/committee, and a copy of the Village's code of ethics.
5. If a candidate is not approved for membership to a board/committee by the Board of Trustees, the Mayor shall send a letter of regret. That candidate's position interest form shall be kept on file for 6 months. The application/selection process would begin anew.
6. When setting up a Task Force (see Definitions), The Board of Trustees shall establish the general parameters of said Task Force. The mission, responsibilities, format, description of project, and the number participants/stakeholders, etc. shall be discussed and determined by the BOT prior to advertising for volunteers to serve on said Task Force. There is no specific term for members. The Mayor shall submit names for the BOT's approval.

#### **REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

1. In the case the appointee has not filled out an interest form, he/she should do so to be on file with the Village Clerk.
2. Appointees on all boards/committees shall reside within the Village of Brockport unless otherwise noted (see Definitions, Page 1). Non-residents shall serve as advisors without voting rights.
3. Board/committee members shall agree to comply with all Village laws, regulations, voting rights, including ethics requirements and any conflicts of interest statutes.
4. Each member is expected to contribute to the board or committee he/she serves on the basis of individual expertise and good judgment.
5. The appointee shall be familiar with the responsibilities, meeting schedule, essentials of said position on specific Board/Committee, and meet with chair prior attending formal meeting for pertinent information, including this resolution and the Village's ethics code.

6. A member's request for a leave of absence must be discussed with the chair for approval or denial of said board/committee prior to departure (length of leave, reason, etc.).
7. If a member is absent without cause for three consecutive regular or special meetings without communication and/or prior authorization, the chairperson of a board/committee shall inquire as to the member's intent to serve. If a member chooses no longer to serve, he/she shall send a letter to inform the Village Clerk, who will forward it to the Village Board for action. If unexcused absences continue without communication to said board/committee chair, the board/committee chair may notify the Mayor as to the member's lack of attendance. If further action is warranted, the Mayor may recommend to the Board of Trustees to terminate membership. A written notice from the Mayor will constitute authorization for this purpose. The Mayor shall appoint another member to the vacancy. Note: Individual boards or committees may determine the procedure of keeping an attendance record.
8. The Village Clerk shall send a communication annually (April) to board and committee members whose terms are to expire at the end of the fiscal year and inquires if the member wishes to be considered for re-appointment by the Board of Trustees. If not, the Board of Trustees shall accept a letter of resignation.
9. Resignations of board/committee members shall be distributed by Village Clerk to the Mayor and the Village Board for acceptance.

### **TERMS OF OFFICE**

1. Under Village Law 3-308, Separate boards of commissioners, any board established shall be composed of not less than three (3) members...and no term shall exceed five (5) years.
2. The length of terms of office shall be determined by NYS statute and the Village Board of Trustees, and be applicable to the Boards by Statute, and Standing Boards/Committees. The terms (e.g. 5-year term has been established) shall be staggered, and the initial terms of said members shall be as follows:
  - One member for a one-year term
  - One member for a two-year term
  - One member for a three-year term
  - One member for a four-year term
  - One member for a five-year term
3. Vacancies shall be filled by the Mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacant board/committee position.

### **OATH OF OFFICE**

The members of the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Standing Boards/Committees (those that have terms assigned) shall be sworn in by the Village Clerk within 30 days of the appointment/re-appointment prior to serving. The Village Clerk shall communicate with new member(s) to set up a mutually agreeable time for them to take the oath of office.

**EFFECT**

The Village of Brockport Boards by Statute and Standing Boards/Committees shall abide by this resolution in whole. All committee applicants need Village Board approval and shall receive orientation from the specific board/committee chairs regarding the committee's purpose, member responsibilities, and a copy of this resolution, and the Village's ethics code.

**VILLAGE OF BROCKPORT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

Types

- Boards by Statute
- Standing Board/Committee
- Task Force Committee
- Open Roster Committee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Terms</u>	<u>Members</u>
<u>Boards by Statute (State &amp; Village law)</u>		
Planning Board	5-year	5
Zoning Board of Appeals	5-year	5
<u>Standing Boards/Committees</u>		
Code Review Committee	5-year	7 + BZ officer
Emily Knapp Museum & Library of Local History Board	3-year	4-8 +1 Faculty member
Board of Ethics	4-year	4 + Village Attorney
Historic Preservation Board	3-year	9
Parks Committee	4-year	9
Seymour Library Board	5-year (limit 2 terms)	3
Tree Board	4-year	9 & advisor (s)
<u>Task Force Committee (s)</u>		
Housing Task Force		6 + BI/CEO, 1 Planning Board member, 1 Trustee
<u>Open Roster Boards/Committees</u>		
Walk! Bike! Brockport Action Group	None	Unlimited
Welcome Center/Canalfront Management Cmte	None	6
Welcome Center Canalfront Greeters	None	Unlimited

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