

New Village Board Agenda Item:

APC reviewed a potential agenda item relating to committee structure. There are two portions, first in regards to a review of of standing committee structure, the other being the proposed special committee to discuss and make a formal recommendation to the Village Board regard the structure of an independent ethics commission.

First we will review the standing committees:

In regards to a special committee that would provide a formal recommendation to the Village Board on the structure of an independent ethics commission was discussed in the April 10, 2023 meeting (prior to the “new” board taking office.) As a follow-up to the recent approval by the Village Board to accept applications from interested citizens who must meet the stringent criteria described in that meeting (pushed by trustee Charneski) I request we expand the criteria to include those with experience in municipal committee operation. For example, the requirements originally set forth state that no current members of a committee or elected position, or any spouses of any of those positions can hold a position on this special committee. A balance of those “experienced” and those not involved is necessary to ensure an understanding of the purpose of this committee.

This was approved at the Village Board meeting on April 10, 2023 and would run for a period of 30 days. The minimum number of the citizens meeting the criteria for the committee was supposedly to be formed was seven. As of close of the business on May 10, 2023, there were 6 letters of interest on file with not all of them meeting the criteria as defined by the motion described by Trustee Charneski.

Recommended Action: I would support an expansion of candidate qualifications to allow for more people to participate in this special committee. Previous civic engagement would strongly disagree with the notion that there is no interest in Kronenwetter that an independent Ethics Commission be formed.

In regards to the agenda item regarding a review of committee structure, the following applies to that:

At the May 22, 2023 there is an agenda item pertaining to the current make-up and function of current citizen committees. Most specifically, the Administrative Policy Committee (APC) for years has had oversight of all HR issues, all financial topics including all potential contracts, all hiring decisions, all Village Policy, and much more. Looking at other committees, this appears to be far too much discretion being exercised by one citizen committee. There has been a lot of controversy in the Village, and I believe the first step is looking at the structure of the citizen committees as a start.

I believe it is imperative to split the duties of APC into two committees.

Recommended Action:

Direct APC to examine all citizen committees, and recommend a new committee structure where a separate finance committee operates in conjunction with the remainder of APC's duties and the other citizen committees' duties.

