

Office of the City Manager

312 W. Whitewater Street, P.O. Box 178 Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190

www.whitewater-wi.gov Telephone: (262) 473-0104 Fax: (262) 222-5901

MEMORANDUM

To: Common Council

From: John Weidl, City Manager; Taylor Zeinert, Chief of Staff

Date: October 31, 2023

Re: Filling the Ethics Committee

Pursuant to the motion passed on October 17th, the City Manager's Office has vetted candidates for the Ethics Board, selecting Robin Fox and Marjorie Stoneman for their distinguished qualifications. Robin, a retired academic with a rich background in ethical oversight, has served on numerous state and national ethics boards. Her extensive experience with ethical issues in education positions her as an exemplary candidate.

Marjorie Stoneman's deep roots in the community and her commitment to inclusivity are evidenced by her extensive volunteer work and founding of Whitewater Unite Lives, a human rights group. Her receipt of the Hometown Hero Award speaks to her significant community contributions.

We also considered three additional applicants: John Nelson, Todd Hitch, and Greg Majkrzak. Nelson, an alternate on the committee, initially expressed interest but was unresponsive to follow-up communications to set an interview. Hitch, possessing valuable education in biology and the environment and a desire to begin serving local government, was deemed a better fit for another committee position and will interview for that one instead. Majkrzak, currently pursuing a local office position, has not been recommended for the committee appointment to avoid potential conflicts of interest that may arise from his candidacy and involvement in deliberations potentially concerning the elected and appointed members.

The City Manager's Office believes Robin and Marjorie will offer invaluable insights and uphold our community's ethical standards. Their impartiality and competence will serve the Ethics Board well.

We advise the Common Council to approve the appointments of Robin Fox and Marjorie Stoneman to the Ethics Board.

Warm regards,

John S. Weidl, City Manager