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To: Mayor; Conklin, Nikki; All Alders
Subject: Item 59, PCOB Attendance Stipend
Date: Monday, February 12, 2024 12:17:28 PM

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Mayor and Alders:

I am writing about the Item 59 PCOB Attendance Stipend.

I agree that any stipend or other benefit should require some measurable participation in the work of the PCOB. In this case, it's attendance.

I **oppose the idea that additional funds** should be used to encourage attendance, or that any stipend should extend beyond their regular meetings to include events such as subcommittee and training sessions. I hate to see the estimated \$6,375 reducing the funds available for the work of the PCOB...i.e. community engagement, reports, training, etc.

It is disheartening that the PCOB needs to rely on a stipend to get participation from their members. Perhaps, the member was unaware of the requirements of the PCOB or their life circumstances may have changed. Are the outside agencies aware of the delinquencies? These organizations need to know that the people that theyrecommended are not fulfilling their responsibilities to the City, the PCOB or their "sponsoring" entity. What can they do to address this issue? Can they provide additional support?

While the additional stipend will encourage attendance, it will not encourage participation. All of the City committees need members who are contributing and who will share in the work of the committee.

Thank you for a thoughtful review of this issue.

Janet Hirsch