

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 24, 2023

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

REQUEST: ACCEPT RESIGNATIONS FROM THE CIVIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE, CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE, AND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION:

With regret, accept the resignations of Anyse Smith from the Civic Engagement Committee; Debra Norby (Alternate) from the Cultural Arts Committee; and James Henderson from the Parks and Recreation Committee.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Recently, it came to staff's attention that several appointed body members may live outside of City limits or are seasonal residents. The City Clerk staff verified appointed members' residency and as a result discovered that Anyse Smith and Debra Norby reside outside of City limits. Upon reaching out, these members voluntarily resigned upon learning of the City's residency requirements to serve on appointed bodies.

On June 13, 2023, the City Clerk's Office issued a letter advising James Henderson, member of the Parks and Recreation Committee, that he accrued four unexcused absences and pursuant to the Palm Desert Municipal Code is subject to automatic resignation. The letter further informed Mr. Henderson his resignation will be deemed automatic on June 29, 2023, unless he seeks and is granted a waiver of unexcused absences from the Mayor. No such request was made.

On June 22, 2023, the City Council appointed Dan Rademacher as an alternate to the Parks and Recreation Committee. On July 18, 2023, prior to his oath of office, Mr. Rademacher informed staff he accepted another volunteer position and will not be able to serve on the committee at this time.

As a result of these resignations, the Civic Engagement Committee has eight appointed members (Civic Engagement Committee may have up to 12 members), the Cultural Arts Committee has no vacancies and one alternate member, and the Parks and Recreation Committee has one vacancy.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.