Procedure for Making Public Comments at Meetings of the Board

Anyone wishing to address the Board is welcome to do so in accord with this policy. In order to maintain order and decorum at meetings, and to conform with applicable law, the following procedure is to be followed at all Board and Committee meetings:

1. All persons wishing to address the Board must indicate so by signing the sign-up sheet before the meeting begins. At such a time that the Chair deems appropriate, speakers will be called upon in the order in which their names appear on the sign-up sheet.

2. Each speaker will be allotted five minutes. However, if the number of persons who sign-up to address the Board is greater than five persons, the Chair may identify a uniform time between one and five minutes to be allotted to each commenter.

3. Persons seeking to provide written material may place copies of the submission on the sign-up table.

4. At the conclusion of the presentation, the speaker will be permitted to respond to any questions posed by Board members.

5. The public comment period is not intended to foster a debate with the speaker at the meeting, or to develop into deliberations upon a matter outside of the meeting agenda. The Chair will take the speaker’s remarks under advisement, and may refer the matter to the appropriate Committee for further review.

6. If any speaker compromises the orderly conduct of the meeting, the Chair may direct the removal of the speaker from the room. If the speaker fails to comply or continues to compromise the orderly conduct of the meeting, the speaker may be arrested for willfully disrupting governmental processes, which is a misdemeanor. (See attachment A)

Adopted January 8, 2018

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