

CHAPTER 5

BOARD AND COMMISSIONS

Article A. Municipal Planning Commission

- Section 5.1 Creation; composition; appointment
- Section 5.2 Terms of Office; Vacancies
- Section 5.3 Organization; Meetings; Rules
- Section 5.4 Powers and duties
- Section 5.5 through Section 5.10 Reserved

Article B. Municipal Zoning Commission

- Section 5.11 Established
- Section 5.12 through Section 5.20 Reserved

Article C. Park and Recreation Commission

- Section 5.21 Establishment; Established; Membership
- Section 5.22 Board Members Running for Office Prohibited; Removal of Members
- Section 5.23 Appointment, Powers of Superintendent of Recreation
- Section 5.24 Chairman, Vice-Chairman of Board, Adoption; Approval of regulations
- Section 5.25 Budgetary Duties of Board
- Section 5.26 Board may Make Recommendations
- Section 5.27 Board May Accept Gifts

ARTICLE A

MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Section 5.1 Creation; Composition; Appointment

There is hereby created a planning commission, which shall consist of five (5) members. Members of the planning commission shall be appointed by the mayor.

Section 5.2 Terms of Office; Vacancies

Members of the planning commission shall serve for five (5) year staggered terms of office as now provided by law; provided: the persons constituting the present planning commission now functioning shall constitute the planning commission and they shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner provided for by law.

Section 5.3 Organization; Meeting; Rules

The planning commission shall organize, conduct meetings and adopt rules to govern its affairs as provided by law.

Section 5.4 Powers and Duties

The commission shall have such powers, duties and responsibilities as provided by law.

Section 5.5 through Section 5.10

Reserved

ARTICLE B

MUNICIPAL ZONING COMMISSION

Section 5.11 Established

The municipal planning commission established in Article A hereof shall serve as a municipal zoning commission and shall exercise all of the powers and duties conferred by law.

Section 5.12 through Section 5.20

Reserved

ARTICLE C

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Section 5.21 Establishment; Established; Membership

(a) A park and recreation commission for the municipality is hereby created. This board shall be composed of eight (8) members who shall be citizens and residents of the municipality and who shall serve without compensation. The commissioner of public health and safety and the superintendent of recreation to be hereinafter provided for shall be ex officio members of the board in addition to the eight members before mentioned. The members of the board shall be appointed by the commissioner of public health and safety for the following terms, being from the date of their respective appointments, as follows, to-wit:

- (1) Two members shall be appointed for one year.
- (2) Two members shall be appointed for two years.
- (3) Two members shall be appointed for three years.

(4) Two members shall be appointed for four years.
(5) At the end of the term of the members or their successors, all appointed shall be for four years.

(b) No member of the board may succeed himself in office.

(c) All members shall continue to hold their offices until their successors are appointed and qualified.

(d) Vacancies for unexpired terms shall be filled by appointment by the commissioner of public health and safety as above provided.

**Section 5.22 Board Members Running for Office Prohibited:
Removal of Members**

(a) Any appointed member of the playground and recreation board who announces as a candidate for any remunerative elective office shall ipso facto vacate his membership on the board and the commissioner of public health and safety shall appoint his successor for the unexpired term.

(b) Any appointed member of the board may be removed at any time, for cause, by the commissioner of public health and safety.

Section 5.23 Appointment; Powers of Superintendent of Recreation

(a) There shall be a superintendent of recreation. The playground and recreation board shall nominate the recreation superintendent through the commissioner of public health and safety, who in turn shall submit the superintendent's name to the board of aldermen for approval.

(b) The authority to carry out a recreation program shall rest with the superintendent of recreation, who is responsible directly to the commissioner of public health and safety for the administration of policies set by the board.

(c) The authority for selecting personnel shall rest with the superintendent of recreation, but administrative personnel must be approved by the commissioner of public health and safety prior to their employment.

Section 5.24 Chairman; Vice-president of Board; Adoption, Approval of Regulations

The playground and recreation board at its first meeting shall elect from its members a chairman and a vice chairman who shall serve for one year and shall thereafter be elected annually. The board shall have the power to adopt by laws, rules and regulations for the proper conduct of same, subject to the approval of the commissioner of public health and safety.

Section 5.25 Budgetary Duties of Board

It shall be the duty of the playground and recreation board, through an appointed committee, to appear before the board of aldermen prior to the adoption of the municipality's annual budget to discuss the needs and appropriations for recreational purposes. The board, upon being advised of the appropriations made for these purposes, will adopt a budget allocating appropriations to the various recreational activities as they may deem necessary and advisable, same to be submitted to the commissioner of public health and safety for final approval.

Section 5.26 Board May Make Recommendations

The playground and recreation board shall, from time to time, make recommendations to the commissioner of public health and safety concerning parks, playgrounds and of the activities thereon. It shall also have the power to recommend any form of recreational or cultural activity that will employ the leisure time of the children and citizens of the municipality in a constructive and wholesome manner.

Section 5.27 Board may accept gifts

The playground and recreation board for and on behalf of the municipality may receive grants, donations, legacies or bequests for the creation, maintenance or improvement of such playgrounds and recreational properties as are now owned or may be owned by the municipality.

Editorial Note: L.R.S. 33:101-120 contains the statutory authority for municipal planning commissions. The membership on the commission must be at least five and not more than nine members. Initial appointments shall be for staggered terms corresponding to the number of members on the commission as determined by the mayor and board. As vacancies occur due to expiration of term, successors shall be appointed for a term of years equal to the number of members on the commission. Vacancies other than for expired terms shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term. The mayor may remove a member for inefficiency, neglect or malfeasance, but only after a public hearing. Members shall receive no compensation and shall not hold other public office except for membership on a regional commission, L.R.S. 33:103. The commission shall meet monthly. A chairman and other officers will be selected from the membership. A public record of all business transacted shall be maintained, L.R.S. 33:104. The planning commission is also the zoning commission, a separate entity, and must conduct separate meetings and keep separate

records, L.R.S. 33:106. Prior to exercise of certain powers, the commission must adopt subdivision regulations, L.R.S. 33:112. L.R.S. 33:4721 through L.R.S. 33:4726 specifically confers such powers to municipal zoning commissions and further provides that where a municipal planning commission exists, it shall also be the zoning commission.