

Observer Report**Referrals Committee****September 22, 2022****Present:** Mayor Biss, CM Revelle, CM Suffredin**Staff:** City Manager Luke Stowe, Policy Coordinator Alison Leipsiger**Observer:** Cheryl Wollin

Meeting called to order at 8:32 a.m. No public comment.

Full complement of committee today approves the minutes of the 9/8 meeting. First matter is to deal with are CM Reid's referrals 33-37 which have not been discussed or referred. Previous ones:

#33 This referral is to discuss the process for appointments to committees; a stipend for committee members, etc. Motion to refer this to Rules committee by the first quarter of 2023. 3-0

#34 This deals with decriminalizing narcotics. Although this probably goes to Human Services, this has had no research. CM Suffredin says they should consider how much of a time burden this puts on staff, especially the legal dept. He suggests holding this until they determine how much time legal dept estimates is needed. Motion to hold until Nick Cummings weighs in. 3-0.

#35 This concerns Miranda rights and was discussed (positively) at Human Services, but since it had not been "officially" refereed, they didn't vote on it. So now it should go back there ASAP. 3-0.

#36 This would increase minimum wage for all city employees to at least \$16 per hour. Motion to refer to Economic Development for discussion by first quarter of 2023. 3-0.

#37 This concerns just cause for eviction (it might track Chicago's ordinance). This is a very complicated issue, and it's important to get it right. CM Revelle said there are a number of tenant/landlord regulations. The pandemic has complicated the situation. The Housing and Community Development committee also has a sub-committee on Rental Issues, and CM Reid is on both. She moved to send it to H&CD for discussion in the first quarter of 2023. 3-0

New referrals:

#42 (Reid) Create a new relief fund, perhaps from Health Dept budget. There was also a similar referral/motion made by CM Reid during call of the wards. This impacts the budget and also Rules Committee (?) would need to discuss this issue. Potentially this would go to A&PW. 3-0.

#45 This concerns restructuring the Commission on Aging to include the disabled and their caretakers.. It would also increase the membership. Referred to the Rules Committee by the end of the year. 3-0.

#46 This would increase the number of council members on the Referral Committee from 3 to 5. Referred to Rules Committee at their next meeting. 3-0/

Alison brought up another issue with a request from CM Burns which was not on the referrals "tracker". It concerned a parking change in his ward. They discussed whether this type of ordinance change needed to go through the referrals process. It was not a policy change, and often only affected one ward. There was general agreement that this just slowed down a minor issue.

CM Revelle said that with Alison now helping to review the requests made. It was easier to separate these kinds of issues.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.