

ORDINANCE NO. 4557

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 4 (COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS), of Title 2 (GENERAL GOVERNMENT) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, by adding thereto a new Article U (PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMISSION).

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 4 of Title 2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same is hereby, amended by adding thereto a new Article U to read as follows:

ARTICLE U

Public Health Advisory Commission

Sec. 2-4-140            Creation, composition, organization and term.

(a)     The Public Health Advisory Commission, initially established by Resolution No. 790, adopted May 12, 1981, is hereby established by ordinance and designated as a standing committee known as the Public Health Advisory Commission.

(b)     The fourteen members of the commission shall be appointed by the City Council as follows:

- (1)     three citizen members, who shall be health professionals who at the time of appointment derive, or within the previous five years derived, their principal income from providing health care, health services or health related activities;
- (2)     five citizen members, who shall not be health professionals as defined above;
- (3)     a physician practicing in the City, nominated by the Medical Society of Northern Virginia;
- (4)     a dentist practicing in the City, nominated by the Northern Virginia Dental Society;
- (5)     a representative of the Alexandria Community Services Board, nominated by such board;
- (6)     a representative from the Inova Alexandria Hospital, nominated by the hospital;

- (7) a representative from the Alexandria Neighborhood Health Services, Inc. Board of Directors, nominated by such board, and
- (8) a representative from the City's Office of Emergency Preparedness, nominated by the city manager.

(c) The members of the commission shall be appointed in the manner prescribed in title 2, chapter 4, article a of this code. The members shall serve for a term of two years, and such terms shall be staggered, except that a member who is the representative of an organization shall cease to be a member upon termination of such representative capacity. City council shall fill vacancies for the unexpired portion of the term.

Sec. 2-4-131 Functions, powers and duties; staff assistance.

(a) The functions, powers and duties of the commission shall be to advise and support the city and the city council as to:

- (1) evaluating and advising regarding any and all health matters in the City; the planning for and coordination of public health needs, services and programs, and regarding the priority of public health needs, services and programs in the City;

to provide information and evaluation of public health related matters at the request of city council;

to investigate specific public health issues on its own initiative and at the request of the city council, and render advice and recommendations for evaluating and ameliorating such issues as the commission deems appropriate;

to provide a forum for the discussion of public health matters for citizens and health professionals in the City;

to render advice and recommendations concerning the advantage or disadvantage of specific health care practices or services to the public;

to do and consider all things necessary or convenient to carry out the responsibilities expressly given in this subsection; and

such other tasks as may be requested by the city council.

(b) Except as expressly provided in this article, the commission may adopt rules and regulations in regard to procedure and other matters for the conduct of its business, so long as the same are not inconsistent with the city code, including, but not limited to, the establishment of committees through which it may carry on its functions, duties and purpose.

(c) Subject to the availability of funds and staff, the city manager and director of the Alexandria Health Department shall provide staff or other assistance to the commission.

Section 2. That no provision of this ordinance shall be deemed to affect the appointments or terms of the members of the Public Health Advisory Commission in office on the effective date hereof.

Section 3. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE  
Mayor

Final Passage: June 24, 2008