

**Sunset Advisory Commission
Board and Commission Review**

The Commission reviews every State board and commission and takes testimony regarding whether each board or commission should continue to operate or be eliminated and whether the powers and duties of any board or commission should be revised. Each board and commission has the burden of justifying its continued operation.

The Commission also reviews whether members of a board or commission should be entitled to a per diem and, if so, the amount of that per diem.

In testifying before the Commission, you should be able to provide the following information:

1. In general, how often does the board and commission meet? Provide specific information on how often the board or commission has met in the past two fiscal years. Provide information on where agendas and minutes of meetings can be found.

- Recreational Facilities Grants – Annually
- Human Services and Educational Facilities Grants – Annually
- Regional Economic Development Grants – Annually
- Agendas and minutes for all 3 Grant Committees are kept on file at BGS
- Capitol Complex Commission – Quarterly or as needed
- Agendas and minutes are kept on file at BGS
- Art Acquisition Fund Committee – Meets on average twice per year
- Agendas and minutes are kept on file at the Vermont Arts Council as the organization that administers the program on behalf of the State.

2. Provide the names of members of the board or commission, their term length and expiration, their appointing authority, and the amount of any per diem they receive.

- ***Recreational Members – no per diem***
- ***The Committee shall include the Commissioners of Forests, Parks and Recreation and Buildings and General Services or designees; a representative of the Vermont Recreation and Parks Association; two members of the General Assembly; a representative of the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council; and one citizen appointed by the Governor.***
- Representative Warren Kitzmiller, Chair, reappointed by Speaker Johnson, expires June 30, 2019
- Danny Hale – Executive Director, VT ATV Sportsman's Association (VASA), Designee, for the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council
- Mark Delaney – Vice President, Smuggler's Notch Resort; reappointed by Governor Scott, expires June 30, 2019
- Christopher Cole – Commissioner, Buildings and General Services

- Senator Carolyn Branagan, appointed by Senate Committee on Committees, expires June 30, 2019
 - Stephanie Quaranta – Director, City of Barre Recreation Department, Designee, for the Vermont Recreation and Parks Association
 - Craig Whipple, Director of State Parks, Designee, for the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation
- ***Human Services and Educational Members – no per diem***
 - ***The Committee shall include the Secretary of Human Services or designee; the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services or designee; two members of the Vermont General Assembly; three representatives of broad-based community organizations, such as the United Way, who shall be appointed by the Governor.***
 - Diane Nealy – Designee, for the Secretary of the Agency of Human Services
 - Barbara Ternes – Former Director of Parks Place Community Resource Center, Bellows Falls, reappointed by Governor Scott, expires June 30, 2019
 - Representative Daniel Noyes, appointed by Speaker Johnson, expires June 30, 2019
 - Senator Francis Brooks, appointed by Senate Committee on Committees, expires June 30, 2019
 - Christopher Cole – Commissioner, Buildings and General Services
 - 2 Vacant appointments
- ***Regional Economic Development Members – no per diem***
 - ***The Committee shall include the Commissioners of Economic, Housing and Community Affairs and Buildings and General Services or designees; and two members of the Vermont General Assembly.***
 - Representative Bill Botzow, Chair, reappointed by Speaker Johnson, expires June 30, 2019
 - Senator Francis Brooks, appointed by Senate Committee on Committees, expires June 30, 2019
 - Christopher Cole – Commissioner, Buildings and General Services
 - Joan Goldstein, Commissioner, Department of Economic Development
- ***Capitol Complex Commission***
 - ***Four members shall be appointed by the Governor, the fifth member shall be appointed by the Montpelier City Council; the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall be the Executive Secretary of the Board.***
 - Heather Shouldice, Chair, reappointed by Governor Scott, expires October 31, 2019, \$116.49 per meeting
 - Jireh Billings, reappointed by Governor Scott, expires February 28, 2021, \$112.13 per meeting
 - Susan Hayward, reappointed by Governor Scott, expires October 31, 2019, \$59.81 per meeting
 - Rachel Feldman, appointed by Governor Scott, expires February 28, 2021,

\$59.81 per meeting. (Sometimes Rachel does not submit an expense report)

- Paul Carnahan, reappointed by the Montpelier City Council, expires April 11, 2020, (Paul does not submit an expense report)
- Christopher Cole, Commissioner, Buildings and General Services
- **Art Acquisition Fund Advisory Committee**
- ***The Committee shall include the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services; the Director of the Vermont Art Council; the Chairs of the Senate and House Institutions Committees and the Chair of the Vermont Board of Architects.***
- Christopher Cole, Commissioner, Buildings and General Services
- David Schutz, State Curator, Buildings and General Services
- Karen Mittelman, Executive Director, Vermont Arts Council
- Senator Peg Flory, Chair, Senate Institutions and Corrections Committee
- Representative Alice Emmons, Chair, House Institutions and Corrections Committee
- Jennifer Arbuckle, Chair, Vermont Board of Architects
- The terms for representation on the Committee continue as long as someone is in that role. There is no term limit except when/if a person leaves the role or duty listed above. While Legislative members of the Committee are entitled to a per diem per the Statute none have been requested or paid.

3. Provide an overview of the board or commission's purpose.

- **Recreational Facilities Grant Program**
BGS provides administrative support for this program. The recreational facilities grant program provides competitive grants to municipalities and non-profit organizations for capital costs associated with the development and creation of community recreational opportunities in Vermont communities. This program requires that there be demonstrated community support for the project, both in financial and grassroots engagement. This program provides last gap funding for shovel-ready projects and all permits must be in hand before submitting the application. The program requires a 1:1 financial match of funding, and grants are awarded up to \$25,000.00. The application deadline is July 31st each year and recipients are announced in the fall.
- **Human Services and Educational Facilities Competitive Grant Program**
BGS provides administrative support for this program. The human services and educational facilities grant program provides competitive grants to municipalities and non-profit organizations for capital costs associated with major maintenance, renovation, or development of facilities for the delivery of human services and health care, or for the development of educational opportunities in Vermont communities. This program provides last gap funding for shovel-ready projects and all permits must be in hand before submitting the application. The program requires a 1:1 financial match of funding, and grants are awarded up to \$25,000.00. The application deadline is July 31st each year and recipients are announced in the fall.

- ***Regional Economic Development Grant Program***

BGS provides administrative support for this program. The regional economic development grant program is open to municipalities and non-profit organizations for capital costs associated with major maintenance, renovation, or planning related to development of facilities reasonable expected to create or retain job opportunities in Vermont communities. Projects must promote financial engagement in either an individual community or recognized community service area. This program provides last gap funding for shovel-ready projects and all permits must be in hand before submitting the application. The program requires a 1:1 financial match of funding, and grants are awarded up to \$25,000.00. The application deadline is July 31st each year and recipients are announced in the fall.

- ***Capitol Complex Commission***

BGS provides administrative support for this Commission. The Capitol Complex Commission shall sustain a vision that provides a cohesive and distinct complex which compliments the City of Montpelier, maintaining its small-town scale, recognizing and valuing human use and business needs, while supporting state government's need to serve the people of Vermont. The purpose of this commission is to organize and oversee the maintenance of the architectural and aesthetic integrity of the unique and historic capitol complex.

- ***Art Acquisition Fund Committee***

The Advisory Committee oversees the administration of the art acquisition fund. It also establishes guidelines for the selection of works of art and guidelines for composition of the art selection panel.

4. Is that purpose still needed? What would happen if the board or commission no longer fulfilled that purpose?

- All the Committees listed, except for the Capitol Complex Commission, distribute State funds to communities through a competitive grant process. If the Committees were disbanded, the grant awards process would need to be changed. We believe the current process provides an open, fair and transparent process.
- The Capitol Complex Committee (CCC) provides a critical role in maintaining the historic integrity of the Capitol Complex and should be retained.

5. How well is the board or commission performing in executing that purpose? What evidence can you provide to substantiate that performance?

- All meetings are conducted efficiently and effectively. The Grant Committees meet annually for 2 hours to make their decisions. The Capitol Complex Commission meets quarterly or as needed. The Art Committee program and structure has been in place since 1988 without any significant issues or problems resulting. The program has

commissioned the work of approximately 50 Vermont artists in over 30 state buildings in 12 counties across Vermont in its 30-year history.

6. If the purpose is still needed, can State government be more effective and efficient if the purpose was executed in a different manner?
 - No, the Committees are still needed for transparency in making funding decisions. They currently function in an effective and efficient manner.
7. If the purpose is still needed, do any of your board or commission's functions overlap or duplicate those of another State board or commission or federal or State agency? If so, is your board or commission still the best entity to fulfill the purpose?
 - None that I am aware of that provide the same function.
 - Yes, all these Committees are the best to provide oversight. Committee members bring unique expertise that is not duplicated elsewhere.
8. Does the board or commission's enabling law continue to correctly reflect the purpose and activities of the board or commission?
 - Yes
9. Provide a list of the board and commission's last fiscal year expenditures including staffing costs. How are these funded?
 - BGS administrative costs are absorbed by an existing administrative position that has additional capacity to absorb these duties. This is funded through our regular budget.
 - The Arts Council staffing costs for the Advisory Committee work are minimal – estimated to be in the \$300.00 - \$400.00 range. These costs are covered by the \$5,000.00 administrative allowance that is provided to the Arts Council in Statute.
10. Is the board or commission required by law to prepare any reports or studies for the Legislature, the Governor, or any State agency or officer? If so, have those reports or studies been produced? Does the board or commission have ongoing reporting obligations?
 - No, from time to time reports and information have been requested by the Legislature or State Agencies, but none that are required on an ongoing basis in the law.