

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
DRAFT COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

TO: All Councilmembers

FROM: Chairman Phil Mendelson
Committee of the Whole

DATE: September 17, 2019

SUBJECT: Report on PR 23-396, “Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Neal L. Downing Appointment Resolution of 2019”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 23-396, “Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Neal L. Downing Appointment Resolution of 2019” was referred, reports favorably thereon, and recommends approval by the Council.

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I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

On June 24, 2019, PR 23-396, the “Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Neal L. Downing Appointment Resolution of 2019” was introduced by Chairman Mendelson. The purpose of PR 23-396 is to appoint Mr. Neal L. Downing as a Council appointee to the Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition (“Mayor’s Council”) for a three-year term.

Mr. Downing is a Ward 5 resident of the District of Columbia. Mr. Downing received his Bachelor of Business Administration and his Master of Science in Athletic Administration and Sports Marketing from Howard University. Currently, Mr. Downing serves as the Athletic Director for Alice Deal Middle School where he manages the school’s athletic program consisting of 22 teams for both boys and girls. In addition, he is the founder and managing partner of the

FitCampNation Summer Camp which provides summer curriculum and fitness programming for approximately 100 students. Mr. Downing is also a certified health and physical education teacher, a certified athletic administrator, and a member of the National Interscholastic Athletic Association.

The Mayor's Council was established as an advisory body in 2011 with the goal of promoting physical fitness and good nutrition in order to improve the health and wellness of District residents.¹ The legislation was necessary to address the high obesity rates in the District which translated into higher rates of chronic diseases and posed a significant financial strain on the health care infrastructure.² According to the Department of Health in 2007, 15 percent of deaths in the District were linked to excess weight, poor nutrition, and physical inactivity, and more District residents die each year due to obesity-related chronic disease than from AIDS, cancer, and homicide combined.³

The Department of Health still considers obesity to be a local epidemic. More than half of the adults living in the District are obese, and 72 percent of residents living in Wards 7 and 8 are considered obese.⁴ The Mayor's Council is essential to address these issues. Even though the District has the second lowest adult obesity rate in the country, the obesity rate has increased approximately 10 percent in the past 20 years.⁵ Further, the District's obesity rate for children aged 10 to 17 years old is the 18th highest in the nation.⁶ The Mayor's Council provides advice on ways the District can lower the obesity rate especially with regards to the obesity rate of youth residing in the District.

The Mayor's Council consists of 25-members, five of whom are appointed by the Council and 14 of whom are appointed by the Mayor.⁷ Appointed members of the Mayor's Council serve 3-year terms and shall have experience related to physical fitness, health, or nutrition.⁸ The Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools, the Chair of the Public Charter School Board, and the Directors of the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Aging, and the Department of Health or their designees also serves as members of the Mayor's Council.⁹ The Mayor is responsible for designating one of the members to serve as the Chairperson.

¹ See Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Nutrition Establishment Act of 2011, effective December 2, 2011 (D.C. Law 19-58; D.C. Official Code § 7-121 *et seq.*).

² See Bill 19-34, Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Establishment Act of 2011, Report of the Committee on Health, 2 (July 7, 2011).

³ *Id.*

⁴ Obesity, DC Health, <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/obesity-overview> (last visited August 20, 2019).

⁵ The State of Obesity in Washington, DC, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, <https://www.stateofobesity.org/states/dc/> (last visited August 20, 2019).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ See D.C. Official Code § 7-121(b).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

Table 1: Membership of the Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition

Resolution #	Position	Appointee	Term Expiring:
<i>PR 23-396</i>	<i>Proposed Council Appointee</i>	<i>Neal L. Downing</i>	<i>Three Years</i>
<i>PR 23-397</i>	<i>Proposed Council Appointee</i>	<i>Andreya Cracco</i>	<i>Three Years</i>
<i>PR 23-398</i>	<i>Proposed Council Appointee</i>	<i>Katrina Owens</i>	<i>Three Years</i>
<i>PR 23-399</i>	<i>Proposed Council Appointee</i>	<i>Mary C. Lord</i>	<i>Three Years</i>
<i>PR 23-400</i>	<i>Proposed Council Appointee</i>	<i>Rosalyn Overstreet Gonzalez</i>	<i>Three Years</i>
	Mayor of the District of Columbia or Designee	Vacant	n/a
	Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation or Designee	Jason Millison	n/a
	Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools or Designee	Miriam Kenyon	n/a
	Chair of the Public Charter School of Board or Designee	Robert Turner	n/a
	Director of the Department of Aging or Designee	Jackie Geralnick	n/a
	Director of the Department of Health or Designee	Amelia Peterson-Kosecki	n/a
	Mayoral Appointee	Emile Simons	September 30, 2020
	Mayoral Appointee	Shari Curtis	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Lillie Monroe-Lord	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Mary Tierney	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Jennifer Leo	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Courtney Puidk	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Laela Shallal	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Carrie Stoltzfus	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Corey Redden	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Sarah Roache	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Greg Raleigh	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Danette Thomas	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Michelle Light	September 30, 2021
	Mayoral Appointee	Vacant	

If appointed, Mr. Downing would bring a fresh and collaborative approach in formulating initiatives to provide the habits and skills that young people need to make healthy decisions as adults.¹⁰ He believes that the health and well-being of District residents is an urgent issue that must be addressed through a multi-faceted approach.¹¹ He will use the relationships he has developed as a school administrator and a coach to get the input of the community to help the Mayor’s Council create and implement practical and meaningful health and wellness initiatives for District residents.¹²

¹⁰ See Neal L. Downing, Nominee, Written Responses to the Committee of the Whole’s Pre-Roundtable Questionnaire, Page 2, July 1, 2019. (Attached to Report).

¹¹ Neal L. Downing, Nominee, Testimony before the DC Council Committee of the Whole, 1, July 2, 2019. (Attached to Report).

¹² *Id.*

The Committee believes that Mr. Downing's over 20 years' experience as a coach and a teacher will help the Mayor's Council determine ways to lower the District's obesity rates. He will be able to provide recommendations on how we ensure that the District government teaches young people about the importance of living a healthy lifestyle. Also, Mr. Downing meets the statutory requirements to serve as a member of the Mayor's Council pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 7-121(b)(2)(ii), as he has experience related to physical fitness. The Committee recommends adoption of PR 23-396.

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

June 24, 2019	PR 23-396, the "Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Neal L. Downing Appointment Resolution of 2019" is introduced by Chairman Mendelson.
June 26, 2019	Notice of a Public Roundtable on PR 23-396 is filed with the Office of the Secretary.
June 28, 2019	Notice of Intent to Act on PR 23-396 is published in the <i>District of Columbia Register</i> .
July 2, 2019	The Committee of the Whole holds a public roundtable on PR 23-396.
July 9, 2019	PR 23-396 is "read" at a Committee of the Whole meeting and the referral to the Committee of the Whole is official.
September 17, 2019	The Committee of the Whole marks-up PR 23-396.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Downing is the Council's appointee to the Mayor's Council. The Executive provided no comment on Mr. Downing's appointment.

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission on PR 23-396.

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public roundtable on PR 23-396 (and 4 other nominations to the Mayor's Council and one unrelated PR) on Tuesday, July 2, 2019. The testimony summarized below is from that roundtable. A copy of Mr. Downing's testimony is attached to this report.

Neal L. Downing, Appointee, testified and answered questions from Chairman Mendelson regarding his background and experience as it pertains to his interest in serving on the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition.

VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Members of the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition appointed by the Council are appointed pursuant to section 2 of the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Establishment Act of 2011, effective December 2, 2011 (D.C. Law 19-58; D.C. Official Code § 7-121), which established the Mayor's Council.

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

PR 23-396 will have no fiscal impact on the District of Columbia budget or financial plan. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 7-121(b)(3)(B)(iii), members of the Mayor's Council appointed by the Council and the Mayor are not entitled to compensation.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| <u>Section 1</u> | States the short title of PR 23-396. |
| <u>Section 2</u> | Appoints Neal L. Downing as a member of the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition to serve for a term ending three years after the effective date of this resolution. |
| <u>Section 3</u> | Requires that a copy of the resolution, upon adoption, be transmitted to the appointee, the chairperson of the Mayor's Council, and to the Mayor. |
| <u>Section 4</u> | Provides that PR 23-396 shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register. |

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

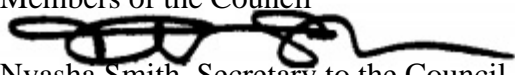
X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 23-396 as introduced.
2. Nominee's response to Committee questions.
3. Written testimony.
4. Legal sufficiency determination.
5. Committee Print for PR 23-396.

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20004

Memorandum

To : Members of the Council

From : 
Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council

Date : June 25, 2019

Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Monday, June 24, 2019. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Neal L. Downing Appointment Resolution of 2019", PR23-0396

INTRODUCED BY: Chairman Mendelson

The Chairman is referring this legislation to the Committee of the Whole.

Attachment

cc: General Counsel
Budget Director
Legislative Services


Chairman Phil Mendelson

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7 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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10 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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14 To appoint Mr. Neal L. Downing to the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and
15 Nutrition.

16
17 RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
18 resolution may be cited as the "Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Neal
19 L. Downing Appointment Resolution of 2019".

20 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia appoints:

21 Neal L. Downing
22 Otis Street, N.E.
23 Washington, DC 20018
24 (Ward 5)
25

26 as a member of the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition, established by
27 section 2 of the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Establishment Act of
28 2011, effective December 2, 2011 (D.C. Law 19-58; D.C. Official Code § 7-121), to serve for a
29 term ending three years after the effective date of this resolution.

30 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,
31 upon its adoption, to the appointee, the chairperson of the Council, and to the Office of the
32 Mayor.

33 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
34 the District of Columbia Register.

Neal L. Downing

Professional Summary

Athletic administrator and coach who provides energetic and organized planning and leadership to youth, adolescent, and community programs. Experience in developing motivating and engaging recreational programs. Creative strategist with proficiency in the development of skilled and tactical plans related to community and youth sports.

Coaching Highlights

- 2012,13,15,17 Middle School Football Championship (Alice Deal Middle School)
- 2013, 14, 15 16 17 Girls Middle School Basketball Championships (Alice Deal Middle School)
- 2010 - 2018 Middle School Baseball Championship (Alice Deal Middle School)
- 2009 – 2016 Boys and Girls Cross Country Championship (Alice Deal Middle School)
- 2015 Bowling Championship (Alice Deal Middle School)

Experience

FitCampNation Summer Camp

2012-Present

Founder and Managing Director

- Develops and implements summer curriculum and fitness programming for approximately 100 students that participate in over 21 sports;
- Manages and provides technical oversight to ensure programs adhere to health, fitness and safety standards;
- Prepares and troubleshoots program scheduling;
- Identifies programming needs and develops a plan to
- Manages a summer programming budget of approximately \$100K;
- Solicits financial partners and provided fundraising support;
- Analyzes programming statistics and data to determine programming adjustments;
- Supervises recreational staff

District of Columbia Public Schools

1995 – Present

Alice Deal Middle School

2009 – Present

Athletic Director, Head Coach

- Manages overall athletics program consisting of 22 teams in grades 6-8 for both boys and girls sports;
- Develops and implements lesson plans in accordance with CornerStones curriculum
- Schedules all athletic events within the restrictions of the school calendar and the length of each sports season as established by the DCIAA;
- Develops strategies and training regimes to be implemented for each sport season;
- Creates middle school athletic schedules in a timely fashion for distribution to administrators and parents prior to the start of the next sports season;
- Plans a balanced physical education program;
- Maintains and updates the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) for each school sport;
- Creates the Middle School Activity Calendar prior to the end of each school year for use in the subsequent school year;
- Maintains control of storage and use of school-owned property;
- Manages and maintains athletics budget related to the requisition of uniforms, equipment, and instructional aids; maintains required inventory records;
- Attends all coaches' meetings to distribute and explain schedules for each sports season;
- Communicates and coordinates sporting goals and objectives with internal and external staff and stakeholders at the school level, with DCPS administration, and parents;
- Supervises a team of head and assistant coaches.

School Without Walls	2000 – 2005
Hardy Middle School	1997 - 2000
Scott Montgomery Elementary School	1995 - 1997

Health & Physical Education Instruction and Coach

- Developed and implemented curriculum in all areas of health and physical education;
- Coordinated and coached intra squad activities, introducing rules and regulations of sporting events to include all seasonal sports through team competition;
- Taught knowledge and skills in physical fitness, health education, rhythms and dance, and individual, dual, or team sports;
- Analyzed, demonstrated, and explained basic skills, strategies of formal sports, game rhythms, and fundamentals of body movement;
- Provided individualized and small group instruction in order to adapt the curriculum to the needs of each pupil;
- Provided appropriate safety instruction and made safety checks on equipment and field areas to insure the over-all safety of pupils;
- Evaluated each student's growth in physical skills, knowledge, and contribution in team sports;
- Communicated with parents and school counselors on pupil progress.

Howard University	1994 - 2000
Assistant Football Coach, Defensive Backs	1997 - 2000
Graduate Assistant/Football Coach	1994 - 1995

- Instructed defensive backs in key play fundamentals and evaluated their subsequent performance;
- Developed and implemented defensive strategies, weekly game plans including NFL caliber defensive schemes and techniques, and recruited highly sought after high school athletes to the program;
- Assisted with the evaluation and field performance;
- Participated in the assessment of strength training;
- Assisted defensive coordinators with defensive line strategies.

Other Experience and Affiliations

Guest Coaching Appearances (ongoing)

- Sports Coordinator, **The Street Corner Foundation**
- Coach, **Baltimore Ravens Training Camp, Sky Walker Flight School, Slammers International Basketball Camp**
- School Coordinator, **NBA Team Up**
- Program Advisor, **National Collegiate Athletic Association, Youth Education through Sports**
- Instructor, **Toyota Golf Skills Clinic**
- Assistant Athletic Director, **National Youth Sports Program**
- Sport Specific Training Coach/Mentor, **360 Fitness**

Certifications, Honors & Professional Affiliations

- Certified Athletic Administrator
- Certified Master Athletic Administrator, Candidate
- Registered Athletic Administrator, **National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association**
- Certified (K-12) Health and Physical Education, **D.C. Public Schools**
- Certified CPR, First Aid and Lifeguard, **Red Cross**
- DCIAA Sportsmanship Award (2013 and 2014)
- National Health Museum Health & Science Fellow, 2004

- Sallie Mae Teacher of the Year, 1996
- All MEAC Football Team, 1993
- SHAPE America, Member
- American Football Coaches Association

Community Affiliations

- Deacon, **Prince George's Community Church**
- Church School Instructor, **Prince George's Community Church**
- Coach/Mentor, **Lifting As We Climb Foundation**

Education

Master of Science, Athletic Administration/Sports Marketing, Howard University, 1996
Bachelor Business Administration, Management, Howard University, 1993



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

Phil Mendelson
Chairman

Office: (202) 724-8032
Fax: (202) 724-8085

June 27, 2019

Neal L. Downing
1821 Otis Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20018

Dear Mr. Downing:

Congratulations on being nominated for appointment to the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition ("Mayor's Council"). As you know, the appointment is subject to confirmation by the Council. The Committee of the Whole has scheduled a public roundtable on your nomination for **Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in Hearing Room 412**. Enclosed is a copy of the roundtable notice. It is standard for the Council to submit questions to nominees. I request your response to the following questions no later than 9:30 a.m. Monday, July 1, 2019.

1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions 2-8 in lieu of that statement.
2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$5,000, including publicly traded stock.
3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business (including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$1,000 during the past two years.
4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details.
5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$5,000. Do not include loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.
6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000.
7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.
8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.

9. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member, and include the term of service for each.
10. Please list any other boards (e.g. Boards of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are a member.
11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal, or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim.
12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the Mayor's Council?
13. Please describe any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) that you have engaged in over the past five years, including any campaign contributions to a local candidate or political action committee.
14. Are you registered with any local, state, or federal government to lobby? If so, list the jurisdiction(s) in which you are registered.
15. Why have you agreed to serve, and how do you plan to help the Mayor's Council fulfill its role and mission during your time on the Mayor's Council?
16. Please discuss any past and present experiences not already mentioned that you believe are relevant to support your appointment as a member of the Mayor's Council.

At the July 2nd roundtable, you will be asked to make an opening statement indicating your interest in serving as a member of the Mayor's Council. The testimony of persons interested in supporting your nomination is helpful but not necessary. Interested parties may call the Committee office to register to testify (724-8196) or, alternatively, may submit written comments to the Committee regarding your nomination via letter mail or e-mail (COW@dccouncil.us).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me or Peter Johnson on my staff at (202) 724-8083.

Sincerely,



Phil Mendelson
Chairman

enc.

PM/pj



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

Phil Mendelson
Chairman

Office: (202) 724-8032
Fax: (202) 724-8085

June 27, 2019

Neal L. Downing
1821 Otis Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20018

Dear Mr. Mendelson:

Please see my below responses to the questions posed by the committee for the roundtable scheduled for July 2nd, 2019.

1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions 2-8 in lieu of that statement. **None filed.**
2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$5,000, including publicly traded stock. **N/A**
3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business (including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$1,000 during the past two years. **N/A**
4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details. **N/A**
5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$5,000. Do not include loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts. **N/A**
6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000. **419 Randolph Street NW, 20011**
7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you. **Certified Health & Physical Education Teacher; Certified Athletic Administrator.**
8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.

Member: National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators, Shape America.

9. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member, and include the term of service for each. **N/A**
10. Please list any other boards (e.g. Boards of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are a member. **N/A**
11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal, or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim. **I currently have an outstanding balance with the IRS from tax years 2017 and 2018 which I have an official payment arrangement and am current (see attached).**
12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the Mayor's Council? **None.**
13. Please describe any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) that you have engaged in over the past five years, including any campaign contributions to a local candidate or political action committee. **None.**
14. Are you registered with any local, state, or federal government to lobby? If so, list the jurisdiction(s) in which you are registered. **No.**
15. Why have you agreed to serve, and how do you plan to help the Mayor's Council fulfill its role and mission during your time on the Mayor's Council? **See below.**
16. Please discuss any past and present experiences not already mentioned that you believe are relevant to support your appointment as a member of the Mayor's Council. **See below.**

I have agreed to serve with the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition because I believe that there is a dire need in Washington D.C. for comprehensive, contemporary, inclusive, and obtainable resources, programs, and initiatives for district residents of all ages, and I'd like to offer a fresh approach and innovative thinking to the collaborative team.

As an tenured health and physical education professional, I offer over 20 years of experience coaching and teaching youth about the importance of health, wellness, and whole body vitality. While I have also offered coaching and training to adults, I find it particularly crucial to inculcate healthy lifestyle habits and skills in our young people as I believe that these habits will be lifelong and translate into healthy adult decision making.

Attn: Phil Mendelson
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Opening Statement, Neal Downing

Dear Chairman Mendelson, et al:

My name is Neal Downing. I am a native Washingtonian and veteran youth Health and Physical Education professional. I am humbled and honored to have been nominated for appointment to the Mayor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition.

The health and well-being of Americans in general, and the residents of D.C. more specifically, are urgent topics that must be addressed from the ground up; using a multi-faceted approach which addresses socio-economic, resource accessibility, educational, and cultural issues.

I have created, developed, and fostered key relationships with local organizations, non-profits, community members, and other stakeholders; I recognize that the efforts of this committee would not be possible without the input rendered by these relationships.

I believe that I would be an essential contributor to this council, and I look forward to working with all of you on creating, maintaining, and implementing practical and meaningful Health and Wellness initiatives for the residents of the District of Columbia.

Thank you.

1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**

2 Committee of the Whole

3 September 17, 2019

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7 **A PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

8
9 23-396

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11 _____
12 **IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**
13
14 _____
15

16 To appoint Mr. Neal L. Downing to the Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and
17 Nutrition.

18
19 **RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this**
20 resolution may be cited as the “Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Neal
21 L. Downing Appointment Resolution of 2019”.

22 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia appoints:

23 Neal L. Downing
24 Otis Street, N.E.
25 Washington, DC 20018
26 (Ward 5)
27

28 as a member of the Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition, established by
29 section 2 of the Mayor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Nutrition Establishment Act of
30 2011, effective December 2, 2011 (D.C. Law 19-58; D.C. Official Code § 7-121), to serve for a
31 term ending three years after the effective date of this resolution.

32 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,
33 upon its adoption, to the appointee, the chairperson of the Mayor’s Council, and to the Office of
34 the Mayor.

35 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
36 the District of Columbia Register.