

Paper: Kansas City Star, The (MO)
Title: Barnes parcels out posts on committees
Author: LYNN HORSLEY
Date: April 5, 2003
Section: METRO
Page: B1

Mayor Kay Barnes announced committee appointments Friday, saying she wanted to reflect council members' strengths and create successful leadership teams.

"I believe they will be teams which will work well together toward the best interest of Kansas City," Barnes said. She kept Councilman Alvin Brooks as her mayor pro tem, to serve as mayor in her absence.

Committee assignments are a primary way a mayor can exercise influence, by placing supportive colleagues in key positions. Barnes had a choice assignment for most council members - with a few notable exceptions.

The committee assignments were:

Aviation: Bill Skaggs, chairman; Alvin Brooks, vice chairman; Terry Riley and Becky Nace.

Budget and Audit: Jim Rowland, chairman; Troy Nash, vice chairman; Terry Riley and John Fairfield.

Finance: Charles Eddy, chairman; Jim Rowland, vice chairman; Bill Skaggs and Alvin Brooks.

Legislative, Rules and Ethics: Bonnie Sue Cooper, chairwoman; Sandra McFadden-Weaver, vice chairwoman; Bill Skaggs and Jim Glover.

Neighborhood Development and Housing: Deb Hermann, chairwoman; Sandra McFadden, vice chairwoman; Jim Glover and Troy Nash.

Operations: Terry Riley, chairman; Charles Eddy, vice chairman; Becky Nace and Deb Hermann.

Plans, Zoning and Economic Development: Troy Nash, chairman; John Fairfield, vice chairman; Bonnie Sue Cooper and Sandra McFadden-Weaver.

Barnes expanded the number of committees from six to seven, splitting budget and finance, which in the past have been one committee. That way she was able to give chairmanships to Rowland and Eddy.

Rowland has clashed with the mayor at times, but recently he has been a supporter. Rowland said he was pleased to lead the budget review effort.

"I feel great," Rowland said about the assignment. "The new city manager refers to the budget as his highest priority."

Barnes also rewarded new council members Skaggs and Hermann with committee leadership positions. Meanwhile, Nace, who has criticized Barnes' ties to the firefighters union, was shut out of either a chairwoman or a vice chairwoman position.

Nace said Friday that she was not a committee chairwoman in the last term and that she did not let that stop her from making a difference.

"Your success is directly related to your work ethic. That will not change," she said.

- To reach Lynn Horsley, City Hall reporter, call (816) 234-4317 or send e-mail to lhorsley@kcstar.com

Author: LYNN HORSLEY

Section: METRO

Page: B1

Copyright 2003 The Kansas City Star Co.