

Boards and Commissions Application

Profile

Elizabeth

First Name

Monley

Last Name

[Redacted]

Email Address

Please note, applications are continuously accepted to the City of San Jose Boards and Commissions. The Board or Commission you select may or may not indicate there is a vacancy. Your application will remain on file for one year from the date of submission. During the year, your application may be considered for unanticipated vacancies.

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Charter Review Commission: Submitted

Are you a resident of San Jose?

Yes No

Length of Residency

6 or more years

What district do you live in? To verify, please click here: <https://eservices.sccgov.org/rov/?tab=dt> *

District 6

[Redacted]

Street Address

[Redacted]

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95126

Postal Code

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

[Redacted]

Alternate Phone

Compass

Employer

Associate Broker

Job Title

Current Employer Address

[Redacted]

Current Employer of Spouse

Self

Address of Current Employer of Spouse



Spouse's Job Title

Photographer

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

Demographics (Optional)

The demographic information you choose to provide is **VOLUNTARY** and **OPTIONAL**. This information will be kept separate from your application and will not be used for evaluating applications or making appointments. The City of San José will use this information to solely conduct research and compile statistical reports regarding the composition of its Board and Commission applicants.

Interests & Experiences

High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.

Buchser High School, Santa Clara. 1963-1967. Studied European Classical and Political Theatre with Ernst Lonner, San Francisco (partner in the Berliner Ensemble). 1971-1973 Chamberlin Real Estate School 1998.

List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates

Member and Chair San Jose Downtown Parking Board. 2001 to 2009. Panel to Select the Developer for Downtown San Jose Historic District 2000-2001? Member Arena Diridon Strategic Plan Committee 2003-2004? Steering Committee member for The Alameda The Beautiful Way 2010-2014? Member of the Rotary Club of San Jose 2006-present. SJ Rotary Foundation Board member 2008-2012. SJ Rotary Board of Directors 2020-present. Chair, Disaster Relief Committee, SJ Rotary Board of Directors Member, History San Jose 2012-2019 (Chair 2016-2019). Vice Chair, San Jose Stage Company 2015-present Board of Directors Member, Santa Clara County Association of Realtors (SCCAOR), 2018-present (Chair of Local Government Affairs Committee 1919-present - a 2 year term)

Languages Spoken

English

Special Awards or Recognitions Received

Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award for Performance 1977. Mercury News Women of Achievement Award Nominee 2002 City of San Jose Commendation - for Service on Parking Board 2009 Character Award, Boy Scouts of America, Santa Clara County/Monterey County 2018. Sandy Ellenberg Humanitarian Award, Rotary Club of San Jose 2020.

Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member. If you are applying for the Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices, please indicate any familiarity or experience you may have with campaign laws.

I would like to work with a group of like-minded citizens to determine whether the City of San Jose would benefit from a Strong Mayor governing form. The ultimate goal would be to advise the Council on our recommendation. It would appear to be beneficial to the functionality of the City as we've grown in population, interests, and diversity, and I'd like to explore with others the actual value. To be a thoughtful part of the recommendation process.

Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application

My goal, in serving my community, whether through non-profits, business organizations, or government, has been to find solutions that are inclusive and benefit the entire community as we move our goals forward. There have been many more positive outcomes than negatives, and it's those hurdles that keep people like me working to improve - it's "almost finely tuned" piano that keeps us working to better it.

Do you own property in the City of San José?

Yes No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

Yes No

If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?

Yes No

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain of your financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?

Yes No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

Reference 1 Name

Karyn Sinunu-Towery

Reference 1 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Phone

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Name

Steve Ellenberg

Reference 2 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Phone

[REDACTED]

Supplemental Questions

If applicable, have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?

Yes No

Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?

Yes No

Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.

I found serving on the Downtown Parking Board to be compelling, valuable, and ultimately of great importance to decisions the City Council made over the years. Many of those decisions resulted in safety, attractiveness, and quantity and quality of parking in the downtown core. The greatest benefit was working with a diverse group of people whose commitment and ideas merged and resulted in great contributions. The same point could be made for all panels I have served on.

Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, professional, social, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment to the selected commission(s).

I feel a high level of seriousness toward bettering the community - and that has driven me to the businesses and non-profit organizations that I have served. My commitment toward housing for all led me to join SCCAOR; my love of community led to bettering The Alameda District; my love of San Jose's history led to serving History San Jose and also to specializing in historic and vintage homes and neighborhoods. All of these activities have resulted in engagement with the Council and Mayor on multiple occasions.

What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?

The immediate purpose of the Commission is to study the City's governance structure and determine, through community input and consultation, if a strong mayor system would be more appropriate and beneficial to the City. In addition, the question of whether mayoral elections should be moved to coincide with presidential elections is a candidate for recommendation. Beyond these two initiatives, I would imagine the Commission would remain in service to review other questions of Charter that are raised. The fact that 2 members of each Council District are designated suggests this would be a commission well-informed by the greater community.

Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Commission should address.

1. The issue of replacing our current "weak mayor" system with a "strong mayor" system, given the size and complexity of City department interactions and governing authorities. 2. The question of the value of moving mayoral elections to the presidential cycle, specifically if this move would engage a greater participation of the city-wide population. At the same time, consider how this might affect Council seat elections. 3. The commission should continue its work on the Charter, receiving recommendations from the City and the community on how to better govern, and review current language and understanding so the Charter is updated.

I would like to say . . .

The project for which this Commission has been established is very interesting to me. I hope you will consider my views and what I have to offer to be of value to the job at hand and to the longer term goals of the Charter Review Commission. Thank you for your consideration.

(Optional) Please upload a resume.

Retirement Board Questions Only

Verification

By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.

I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.

I Agree *

Boards and Commissions Application

Profile

Magnolia

First Name

Segol

Last Name

[Redacted]

Email Address

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Yes No

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What district do you live in? To verify, please click here: <https://eservices.sccgov.org/rov/?tab=dt> *

District 6

[Redacted]

Street Address

[Redacted]

Suite or Apt

San Jose

City

CA

State

95125

Postal Code

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

[Redacted]

Alternate Phone

Self

Employer

Attorney. Mom.

Job Title

Current Employer Address

[Redacted]

Current Employer of Spouse

City of San Jose

Address of Current Employer of Spouse



Spouse's Job Title

Analyst for Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force

If you or your spouse is retired and receiving a pension, please state source of pension.

We are not retired.

Demographics (Optional)

The demographic information you choose to provide is **VOLUNTARY** and **OPTIONAL**. This information will be kept separate from your application and will not be used for evaluating applications or making appointments. The City of San José will use this information to solely conduct research and compile statistical reports regarding the composition of its Board and Commission applicants.

Interests & Experiences

High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or Other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates Attended, Degree and Date of Degree.

I am a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley. Class of 1997. I am a graduate of Hastings College of Law, San Francisco. Class of 2002. I have been a contractor for the State of California, providing legal services. I have had a law office for more than a decade. I currently have put my career on hold to raise my daughter, facilitate distance learning, and assist with educating my daughter due to the pandemic.

List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic, or charitable organization including the dates

I was an intern in the Wireless Division of the Federal Communications Commission in Washington D.C. during the summer of 2001. I previously volunteered at the Willow Glen Senior Center as an instructor for two consecutive sessions: September 12, 2016 through November 5, 2016, and November 14, 2016 through December 7, 2016. I taught a class called "Mindfulness Meditation" on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. I have taught this class in other contexts in the past, including in law school. I have served as a board member on two religious non-profit organizations and as secretary for a third organization. This was more than ten years ago (I have not been on any boards in over 10 years) . I was a contractor with the State of California for several years, taking and reassigning Juvenile Dependency cases based on conflicts of interest.

Languages Spoken

English

Special Awards or Recognitions Received

Seeking awards and recognition has not been my style. As an introvert, I tend to shy away from such things, finding enough satisfaction in the quality of work I do and the actual effect it has for people, irrespective of whether anyone recognized it or rewarded it. I prefer to donate my time and services when I can. My focus is on serving my community, clients, friends, and so forth in a friendly and relaxed manner. To this end, I do not overextend my schedule. Right now I truly do have time to devote to civic duty and this is why I am applying.

Please state why you want to become a member of this Board or Commission including specific objectives which you would work toward as a member. If you are applying for the Board of Fair Campaign and Political Practices, please indicate any familiarity or experience you may have with campaign laws.

I want to be a member of the Commission to contribute to my community and to represent Willow Glen in an unbiased manner. I have no preconceived notions regarding the need for a strong mayor form of government or any opinions about election cycle changes. I would evaluate all the information and arguments available, as well as carrying out any research assignments the Commission members are tasked with. I would then contribute my conclusions, based on the evidence provided, to the commission's recommendations. I would additionally carry out any other duties the Commission is tasked with.

Please state any other information which you feel would be useful in reviewing your application

I have recently read the City Charter and was unaware of a good portion of the content prior to reading it. I do think this volunteer position will be require a substantial time commitment in order to formulate a well reasoned opinion. Due to the pandemic and distance learning for my child, I have time at the moment to volunteer for my community.

Do you own property in the City of San José?

Yes No

If yes, please list the addresses here.

[REDACTED]

Do you rent property in the City of San José?

Yes No

If yes, is it a month-to-month lease?

Yes No

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to fill out a disclosure statement which identifies certain of your financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Please review the scope of your board/commission in Municipal Code Chapter 2.08. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse?

Yes No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

My husband is an employee of the City of San Jose. However, the topics of this Commission do not appear to have a direct effect on his work, nor will he be helping me if I am chosen to volunteer.

Reference 1 Name

Sharon Kelleher, Senior Program Manager

Reference 1 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 1 Phone

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Name

Hon. Harvey E. Goldfine, Retired Superior Court Commissioner, Marin County Superior Court

Reference 2 Address

[REDACTED]

Reference 2 Phone

[REDACTED]

Supplemental Questions

If applicable, have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission(s) to which you are applying?

Yes No

Would you be available to attend meetings at the scheduled time?

Yes No

Please describe your experience in serving on a Commission or Board.

I participated in the California State Draft Task Force monthly meetings, and in the Federal Blue Ribbon Commission monthly meeting for a number of years, at the invitation of Marin County Court Commissioners Goldfine and Heubach. I contributed to the drafting of policies that addressed guideline requirements, and that resolved local procedural problems to the extent feasible.

Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, professional, social, or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and/or skills which qualify you for appointment to the selected commission(s).

I am an attorney, trained in finding resources to become informed on any given topic. I have worked with several statutes, code sections, and city ordinances, arguing their interpretation to judges, opposing counsel, and other stakeholders extensively. I was a contractor with the State of California for several years, taking and reassigning Juvenile Dependency cases based on conflicts of interest. I have worked with the ethics rules extensively. I've studied the California legislative process and statutory interpretation in law school.

What is your understanding of the purpose of the Commission?

This Commission was formed to look at potential changes to the San Jose City Charter, including potentially shifting from a city manager form of government to a strong mayor form of government, changing the election of the mayor to occur as the same time as the presidential election, and potentially making other associated changes to the election cycles for the 10 City Council members. However, I am aware that the Commission could potentially look at and make recommendations regarding other aspects of the City Charter, which is the foundational guiding document for the City government.

Please list three issues facing the City that you feel the Commission should address.

Homelessness, hunger, and making sure that decisions made by City government reflect what the residents of the City want in the most representative manner possible. I'm not sure if the first two issues are appropriate for this commission, or a different commission.

I would like to say . . .

I would like to say that though I don't have a background in governmental policy, I am a quick study and I have read the City Charter and the Commission's stated purpose. I had trouble uploading my resume on this system so I you don't get please call me.

(Optional) Please upload a resume.

Retirement Board Questions Only

Verification

By checking the box below, you agree with the following statement.

I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted.

I Agree *

Magnolia Kelly Segol, Esq.



SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Law Offices of Magnolia Kelly Segol (formerly Copenhaver) – Mill Valley, CA July 2005 – 2012/San Jose, CA (2012 to present).

Attorney/Managing Attorney to Interns and Secretarial Staff/Law Office Manager

- Draft civil complaints, demurrers, answers, motions, default judgments, discovery requests and responses, expert witness lists, and settlement documents;
- Draft arbitration briefs, mediation briefs, and settlement documents;
- Draft writ and appellate documents;
- 14 years of litigating and negotiating varying types of law: civil (negligence, personal injury, wrongful death, state and local governmental tort liability, contract disputes, malpractice (legal and medical), probate guardianship, unlawful detainers, family law, domestic violence restraining orders, juvenile dependency, criminal law, records expungement, some immigration, some trust litigation, some foreclosure defense, some conservatorship representation and some transgender law issues;
- Served as court-appointed Guardian Ad Litem for minors and adults with mental health issues;
- Extensive mediation and ADR experience;
- Extensive courtroom experience, appearing in all phases of each case;
- Strong record of outperforming client expectations;
- Commitment to developing relationships with stakeholders, including state and local agencies;
- Knowledge of current laws and court procedures;
- Effective communication skills, synthesizing and delivering complex information to diverse audiences and cross-functional groups, including with opposing counsel, with ADR and court staff;
- Keen ability in goal setting, planning, strategy implementation, and follow through to the conclusion of a case;
- Oversee and coordinate all functions of employee relations, including hiring, coaching, and compensation;
- Review business models to improve records management and to ensure that litigation functions are performed at the highest standards;
- Streamline litigation practices to improve response to reoccurring legal issues;
- Responsive to clients, returning calls and providing answers to their questions in a timely fashion.

Dependency Advocacy Center – San Jose, CA

March 2012 – July 2012

Juvenile Dependency Attorney (Substitute Counsel for Attorney on Maternity Leave)

Managed the complexities of legal operations including: advised and advocated for a large number of clients in a variety of legal proceedings in superior court. Ensured that staff demonstrated sound ethics and treated all clients equitably, and with the utmost respect. Developed and implemented precise legal strategies on a case-by-case basis. Participated in the execution of innovative programs to serve families in a comprehensive manner, including employing in-house social workers, working with interns, and working with parent mentors. Provided zealous legal representation to indigent clients in the Juvenile Dependency system to promote timely reunification and preservation of families in a safe, healthy environment.

Law Offices of Magnolia Kelly Copenhaver – Concord , CA

2004 – 2007

Sole Practitioner

Operated a general law practice, with a focus on civil, family, juvenile dependency, juvenile delinquency, and criminal misdemeanor cases.

Conflicts panelist, Contra Costa County Juvenile Dependency Panel.

Conflicts panelist, Contra Costa County Misdemeanor Panel.

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, J.D. (2002)

Hastings College of Law, San Francisco, California

Bachelor of Arts (1997)

University of California, Berkeley, California

NOTEWORTHY

Memberships

State Bar of California (226512)

Internship

Federal Communications Commission, Wireless Communications Division – Compliance, RFP, and policy support.

Volunteer

Participated in state Task Force and Federal Blue Ribbon Commission monthly meetings at the invitation of Marin County Commissioners Heubach and Goldfine, hosted a re-election party for Marin County Judge Paul M. Haakenson, prepared initial state and federal filings for three non-profits, and served as a volunteer mediator in 2002 at the San Francisco County Superior Court Small Claims Department. Volunteer teacher for two sessions at Willow Glen Senior and Community Center in 2017.