



Memorandum

TO: Toni Taber
City Clerk

FROM: Leland Wilcox
Chief of Staff, City Manager

SUBJECT: NEIGHBORHOODS COMMISSION DATE: March 12, 2018
APPLICANT EVALUATION

Approved

Date

BACKGROUND

Council Policy 0-4, Consolidated Policy Governing Boards and Commissions, allows the Department staff liaison for the Commission to submit a memo to the City Clerk with its evaluation of applicant(s) based on the powers and duties of the Commission, any special eligibility requirements, and experience, background and expertise of the applicant(s). The memo should include a statement setting forth attendance, residency information and compliance with City requirements (e.g., commission training, state-mandated training, Form 700 filing) on any incumbents eligible for reappointment.

COMMISSION'S SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

San José Municipal Code Section 2.08.34 states that the Commission “studies, reviews, and evaluates and makes recommendations to the city council regarding issues, policies, and programs affecting the quality of life in San José neighborhoods, focusing on neighborhood safety, transportation, and code enforcement. In addition, the Commission advises and makes recommendation Council on the annual budget priorities... To be eligible to serve, each member of the commission must reside within the boundaries of the council district for the seat to which he or she was appointed for the duration of the term of that seat. If a member is no longer a resident of the council district, the seat will be deemed vacant.”

APPLICANT EVALUATION

1. Richard Wong

Mr. Wong is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 3. He has experience with the local community as a member of the Delmas Park Neighborhood Association, D3 Leadership Council, and as a volunteer with during the Coyote Creek flood clean up. He has interacted with the District 3 staff, organizers from CommUniverCity, and United Neighborhoods of Santa Clara County (UNSCC). As a contractor and engineer, he has experience with city building codes, including those related to code enforcement.

2. Jennifer Imhoff-Dousharm

Ms. Imhoff-Dousharm is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 5. She has volunteered with the Information Technology Disaster Resource Center and with the San Jose Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service. As an officer with dc408, she has increased the group's involvement with the local community to help connect information security experts with local schools for career day.

3. Eric Truong

Mr. Truong is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 5. He speaks some Vietnamese. He is finishing his college degree and has professional experience as a campaign organizer working for Working Partnerships and as a campaign canvasser for the Groundwork Campaign.

4. Bert Weaver

Mr. Weaver is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 3. He has been recognized for his efforts in community beautification and leadership by the San Jose Parks Department, and has completed the CommUniverCity Community Leadership Program as well as the Santa Clara County Government 101 Academy. He has participated in the Delmas Park Neighborhood Association, the South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition, the San Jose Adopt-a-Park and Anti-Litter/Anti-Graffiti programs, the BART Silicon Valley Phase II Extension Community Working Group, the California High-Speed Rail Community Working Group, and the Parkside Homeowner's Association.

5. Bruce Sullivan

Mr. Sullivan is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 7. He is a long-time resident of the District and is a member of the Monterey Corridor and Senter Monterey Neighborhood Associations. He also volunteered during the Coyote Creek flood clean up.

6. LaToya Fernandez

Ms. Fernandez is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 3. She is a young teacher, who has professional experience facilitating cultural responsiveness and diversity trainings. She has organized awareness building workshops focused on mental health, supporting housing initiatives, providing community resources, and professional skill building. As a teacher, she has experience developing strong relationships with parents and ensuring their engagement both with their children and the classroom, but also with the school.

7. Andrew Tubbs

Mr. Tubbs is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 3. He is the President of the Delmas Park Neighborhood Action Coalition, where he has focused on housing across the economic spectrum and mobility.

8. Amrutha Ragavan

Ms. Ragavan is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 1. She speaks Tamil, Hindi, and French. She has professional skills in building relationships and team-building, and has some experience working with government agencies.

9. Jewell Buchanan

Ms. Buchanan is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 5. She helped organize residents of the Foss Ave area in their Keep our Streets Clean Campaign and has worked with a local business owner to remove an illegal food truck vendor. She is a 17-year volunteer at Lend a Hand, Oakland.

10. Jonathan Velasquez

Mr. Velasquez is a resident of San Jose, lives within the boundaries of District 7, and is currently serving the remainder of a first term as a Neighborhoods Commissioner for one of the two District 7 seats. He is the newly elected President of the Seven Trees Neighborhood Association, and has served on several education committees in his career: Early Education, Social Media, and Wellness. As he has only just been appointed to the Neighborhoods Commission, he still needs to complete his Brown Act, Ethics, and Sexual Harassment Prevention trainings. However, he is not out of compliance.

11. Juan Quinones

Mr. Quinones is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 7. He has applied to serve on the Neighborhoods Commission last year when a mid-term seat opened up. However, he did not complete his interview with the Council Appointment Advisory Commission due to illness. He is fluent in Spanish. He has served on the Santa Clara County Child Abuse Council for District 2. Through his work with the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, he has interacted with elected officials at the City and County levels.

12. Juan Ibanez

Mr. Ibanez is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 5. He is fluent in Spanish, and as a current citizen but former undocumented immigrant can act as a bridge between the Commission and other undocumented members of our community. As a resident of District 5 for the last 26 years, he is applying so that he can give back to his community and use

the people and problem solving skills he has developed in his professional capacity to better connect the residents of District 5.

13. James L. Cantore

Mr. Cantore is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 9. He has extensive community engagement experience, having served one term from 2010-2014 as the District 9 Neighborhoods Commissioner, has served in the Cambrian Community Council, as the President of Ponderosa Homeowners Association, as a member of the Cranford Circle Neighborhood Watch, and on the Adopt-a-Park Board.

14. Gary Cunningham

Mr. Cunningham is a resident of San Jose, lives within the boundaries of District 1, and is currently serving his first term as a District 1 Neighborhoods Commissioner, where he is in good standing. He has completed and kept up-to-date with his Brown Act, Ethics, and Sexual Harassment Prevention trainings. He is also the Chair of the Neighborhoods Commission's Standing Committee as the Independent Citizens Oversight for the 2016 ¼-cent sales tax. He is currently a part of the Strawberry Square Homeowners Association, and has served on the Professional and Technical Consultants Association, the Society for Technical Communication, and the Westinghouse Sunnyvale Employees Credit Union board as well as a volunteer member of the San Jose Reuse Advisory Committee. In his time on the Commission, he has served on the San Jose Police Department Unmanned Aerial System, Committee Process, and Caucus Process ad hoc committees.

15. Bruce McEvers

Mr. McEvers is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 5. He has worked with his local community as the Den Master for Boy Scout Troop 819 from 2008-2013.

16. Michael Young

Mr. Young is a resident of San Jose, lives within the boundaries of District 9, and was recently appointed to fill a mid-term vacancy for one of the District 9 Neighborhoods Commission seats. He speaks limited conversational Spanish. He is currently co-chairing the Steering Committee to create a District 9 Leadership Group, and has selected Enhancing Neighborhood Identity as an issue he will champion on the Commission. He has missed 1 meeting since his appointment due to illness. He has signed his Code of Ethics and other required paperwork, but as he is newly appointed has not completed his Ethics and Sexual Harassment Prevention trainings yet. However, he is not out of compliance.

17. Justin Lardinois

Mr. Lardinois is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 1. He speaks limited Spanish. He is applying because he wants to get more involved with his local community.

18. Terry Martin

Mr. Martin is a resident of San Jose, lives within the boundaries of District 9, and is currently serving the remainder of his first term in one of the two District 9 Commissioner seats. He has completed all his required trainings, including Brown Act, Ethics, and Sexual Harassment Prevention, and is a member in good standing of the Commission. He is also a member of the Commission's Standing Committee as the Independent Citizens Oversight for the 2016 ¼-cent sales tax, and is co-chair of the Steering Committee to create a District 9 Leadership Group. He has previously been President of the Kiwanis Club in 1997 and 2017, of which he's been a member since 1993. He would like to continue for a second term in order to complete the creation of a District 9 Leadership Group, and to encourage new neighborhood associations within the district, like the restarting of the Thousand Oaks Neighborhood Association last year.

19. Jonathan Fleming

Mr. Fleming is a resident of San Jose, lives within the boundaries of District 7, and is currently serving the remainder of a mid-term appointment to the Commission, where he is a member in good standing. He has completed all his required trainings, including Brown Act, Ethics, and Sexual Harassment Prevention, and is a member in good standing of the Commission. He is currently serving as Vice Chair. He was recognized by Mayor Liccardo and Councilmember Nguyen for Outstanding Dedication to Enhancing the Quality of Life for Residents of District 7 in 2016 and 2017 and received the San Jose State University Community Partner Recognition award in 2017. He is currently serving as the President of both the District 7 Leadership Group and the Senter Monterey Neighborhood Association.

20. Cheryl Barker

Ms. Barker is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 9. She has been a member of the Junior League of San Jose since 2003, was a Board Member of Good Karma Bikes in 2013, and a Founding Board Member for the Silicon Valley Pet Project from 2014-2015.

21. Nia Celestin

Ms. Celestin is a resident of San Jose, lives within the boundaries of District 3, and was recently appointed to fill a mid-term vacancy for one of the District 3 Neighborhoods Commission seats, where she is a member in good standing. She extensive professional experience working for a variety of municipal, state, and national government agencies including the Washington, D.C. Mayor's Office of Policy and Program Evaluation, the Maryland Governor's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, and the National Center for the Advancement of Prevention/ OJJDP. She has also served as a Board Member for the Almaden Parent Preschool from 2003-2005 where her participation helped the group raise more money than ever in their history for the building of a community park, which is still in operation today. She received the Gene Carte Award from the American Society of Criminology for The Impact of Community Context on Predictors of Adolescent Drug Use. She has signed her Code of Ethics and other required paperwork, but as she is newly appointed has not completed her Ethics and Sexual Harassment Prevention trainings yet. However, she is not out of compliance.

22. Franklin Nguyen

Mr. Nguyen is a resident of San Jose, lives within the boundaries of District 1, and was recently appointed to fill a mid-term vacancy for one of the District 1 Neighborhoods Commission seats, where he is a member in good standing. He has signed his Code of Ethics and other required paperwork, but as he is newly appointed has not completed his Ethics and Sexual Harassment Prevention trainings yet. However, he is not out of compliance. He worked with the Asian Law Alliance, a long-time community partner, in 2014, and is currently serving on the hiring committee for his company.

23. Miriam Mimi Hernandez

Ms. Hernandez is a resident of San Jose, lives within the boundaries of District 5, and is currently serving the remainder of her first term in one of the two District 5 Commissioner seats. She has completed all required trainings, including Brown Act, Ethics, and Sexual Harassment Prevention, and is a member in good standing of the Commission. She is also a member of the Commission's Standing Committee as the Independent Citizens Oversight for the 2016 ¼-cent sales tax, served for 12 years on several PTSAs in Campbell schools, served as a Board Member for the MESA Schools at San Jose State University from 2008 to 2012, was a volunteer parent education educator for the local Chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professionals, and was a Board Member of Bridgepoint Housing, a long-time community partner. She won the 2016 Women of Influence Award from the Silicon Valley Business Journal, the 2012 MESA Award for Recognition of Service, and the 1999 Proclamation for Service from the County of Santa Clara. She is currently the Commission Champion for Illegal Fireworks, attending the Make Fireworks Illegal in San Jose Committee meetings.

24. Robert Burres

Mr. Burres is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 9. He has served as the President of: the Sartorette Elementary School Home and School Club from 2003-2006; the East Bay Barnacles dive club from 1988-1991; and, the Club Puck hockey club from 2015 to the present. He is an active member of Friends of Cambrian Park and has been working with the District 9 leaders and with the Council office.

25. Jon-Paul Wolfe

Mr. Wolfe is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 1. He has lived in the same neighborhood within District 1 and coached Little League there for the last 15 years. He serves as a delegate for the IBEW on the South Bay Labor Council, and was elected as a Delegate for Assembly District 28. As a Naval Officer, he has extensive training and experience in leadership.

26. Cara Cassidy

Ms. Cassidy is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 9. She is a 15-year resident and business owner in the district, and has extensive professional communications, planning, and budget experience.

27. Richard Cappadona

Mr. Cappadona is a resident of San Jose and lives within the boundaries of District 9. He served as President and Secretary for the Pinehurst Cabana Club from 2006-2016. He has lived in the district for 20 years, and has been a board member and president for a local youth recreation community center for the last 10 years.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, the above applicants meet the special eligibility requirements for the appointment to the Neighborhoods Commission under San José Municipal Code Section 2.08.24.



Sabrina Parra-Garcia
Secretary, Neighborhoods Commission
Executive Analyst, City Manager's Office