

# Be a Local Leader

The City of Asheville has various openings on various committees. Have you ever wanted to make a difference? Have you wondered, "Can the City benefit from my experience and knowledge?" Do you want to have a voice in the City's growth and future? Do you want to be a part of the body that is responsible for making decisions regarding policy, service and education? If you've answered yes to any of these questions, then it's time to take that initial step forward and put your perspective, leadership and knowledge to task by serving on one of the many committees we have to offer. **The deadline for receiving applications for these openings is Wednesday, June 3 at 5 p.m.**

**Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 259-5601 or by e-mail at [mburleson@ashevilenc.gov](mailto:mburleson@ashevilenc.gov) for an application form.**

**AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION** - The Commission shall have the following powers and duties: (a) Develop rules for the conduct of its business, including but not limited to meeting schedules, election of officers, voting, subcommittees, et al.; (2) Develop a plan to identify, create, encourage, promote and implement projects that will recognize, increase and expand the awareness of the contributions of African-Americans throughout the City-County area; and (3) Create plans to identify and recognize sites in the community that are significant to African-American history; encourage and promote economic activity related to the African American community; and propose other projects that are consistent with the goals of the Commission.

**BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS** – The members of the Board examine applicants for licenses for the transaction of other related business.

**CIVIC CENTER COMMISSION** – Some duties of the Commission include (1) reviewing and making recommendations on programming goals and objectives for each venue in the Civic Center; (2) establishing a method for handling of customer service complaints; (3) developing and making recommendations regarding long range plans for the Civic Center; (4) reviewing and making recommendations on proposals for changes in the fees and charges for use of Civic Center facilities; (5) encouraging promotion of sports, recreation, entertainment and cultural events and activities, and to facilitate the use of the services and facilities of the Civic Center; and (6) performing other such tasks and functions as the City Council may direct.

**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION** – **Desirable characteristics include someone with an arts connection; a downtown property owner and/or a downtown business owner with vested interest in the downtown.** The Commission was established for the sustainability and continued development of downtown, a vital urban center of western North Carolina's economic, cultural and visitor activity. The Commission's purposes include: (1) recommend to City Council an overall policy for the continued development and sustainability of downtown; (2) provide recommendations for effective management of the public resources for downtown and actively pursue and assist private sector investment in the downtown area for the welfare of the citizens of Asheville; (3) carry out the powers and duties assigned to the

Commission regarding downtown design review; and (4) cooperate with and evaluate and represent the recommendations of other organizations.

**HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION** - Some duties of the Commission include (1) recommend to City Council and County Commissioners "historic districts" and "landmarks"; (2) restoring, preserving and operating historic properties; (3) recommend to City Council and County Commissioners that designation of historic districts to be revoked or removed for cause; and (4) review and act upon proposals for alterations, demolitions, or new construction within historic districts, or for alteration or demolition of designated landmarks. Members shall have a demonstrated special interest, experience or education in history, archeology, architecture or related fields.

**HOUSING AUTHORITY** - The Commissioners are the policy-makers and governing body of the Housing Authority. They review and approve all budgets for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, approve plans and specifications, award contracts and appoint the Executive Director.

**MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION** - Seats open are for representatives from the Transit Commission, the Greenway Commission, the Bike & Pedestrian Task Force, and the Neighborhood Advisory Committee. Members shall represent various modes of transportation to include, but not be limited to: transit, greenways, automobiles, bikes, pedestrians, etc. Members shall possess expertise and interest in the sustainability and development of multimodal transportation and demonstrate willingness to participate actively. This Commission will (1) recommend policies for the development/integration of multimodal transportation planning and education to the City; (2) assist with the development of a multimodal transportation system; (3) assist the City with the implementation of best management practices for educating the public on the benefits of multimodal transportation; (4) assist in the sustainability, development and implementation of the multimodal transportation plan; and (5) assist in the prioritization of the Capital Improvement Plan as it relates to multimodal transportation projects.

**NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE**– The Committee was established to advise the City Council on neighborhoods within the City of Asheville’s zoning and planning jurisdiction. The Commission shall have the following powers and duties: (1) Develop rules and by-laws for the conduct of its business, including but not limited to meeting schedules, officers, voting, sub-committees; (2) Develop a plan to strengthen neighborhood identity and resilience, and to facilitate communication and cooperation between Asheville’s neighborhoods and City offices; (3) Develop benchmarks and standards by which progress towards implementing the plan can be measured; and (4) Work on special projects that are consistent with the goals of the committee, as assigned or directed by Council.

**NOISE ORDINANCE APPEALS BOARD** – This Board will advise the City on matters related to noise and noise control, and will hear and decide appeals and complaints from citizens.

**PUBLIC ART & CULTURAL COMMISSION** – The Commission is responsible for promoting and maintaining art displays in public buildings and public spaces in the City of Asheville. In addition the Board (1) facilitates public art in public buildings and public spaces; (2) informs the residents of and visitors to Asheville about public art; (3) advances the City of Asheville

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The boards listed below currently have vacancies. **The deadline for receiving applications for these openings is Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 5 p.m.**

**Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 259-5601 or by e-mail at [mburleson@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:mburleson@ashevillenc.gov) for an application form.**

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Desirable characteristics include professionals from the development community.** The Committee will work in conjunction with City leadership and staff to implement the 2008 Affordable Housing Plan. The specific functions will be (1) to consider affordable housing policy issues and advise City leadership about those policies; (2) to develop concrete action steps to implement the highest priorities of the Affordable Housing Plan, and to update that Plan as appropriate over time; and (3) to advise City leadership and staff regarding affordable housing priorities for the investment of City-controlled funds.

**BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT** - The Board (1) hears and decides applications for approval of variances from the terms of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), except where the UDO places responsibility for hearing or considering such a variance with another body; (2) hears and decides appeals from any order, requirement, permit, decision, or determination issued or made by an administrative officer of the City in enforcing any provisions of the UDO; (3) services as the City's Housing Code Appeals Board; and (4) performs such additional powers and duties as may be set forth elsewhere in the UDO and in other laws and regulations.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL** - The responsibilities consist of solving human problems, as they relate to racial, ethnic, religious and class relationships, and for other purposes expressed in the Community Relations Council's Articles of Incorporation.

**DOWNTOWN COMMISSION – Desirable characteristics include someone with an arts connection; a downtown property owner and/or a downtown business owner with vested interest in the downtown.** The Commission was established for the sustainability and continued development of downtown, a vital urban center of western North Carolina's economic, cultural and visitor activity. The Commission's purposes include: (1) recommend to City Council an overall policy for the continued development and sustainability of downtown; (2) provide recommendations for effective management of the public resources for downtown and actively pursue and assist private sector investment in the downtown area for the welfare of the citizens of Asheville; (3) carry out the powers and duties assigned to the Commission regarding downtown design review; and (4) cooperate with and evaluate and represent the recommendations of other organizations.

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The boards listed below currently have vacancies. **The deadline for receiving applications for these openings is Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 5 p.m.**

Please contact the City Clerk's Office at 259-5839 or by e-mail at [sterwilliger@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:sterwilliger@ashevillenc.gov) for an application form.

**BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT** - The Board (1) hears and decides applications for approval of variances from the terms of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), except where the UDO places responsibility for hearing or considering such a variance with another body; (2) hears and decides appeals from any order, requirement, permit, decision, or determination issued or made by an administrative officer of the City in enforcing any provisions of the UDO; (3) services as the City's Housing Code Appeals Board; and (4) performs such additional powers and duties as may be set forth elsewhere in the UDO and in other laws and regulations.

**BOARD OF ELECTRICAL EXAMINERS – THIS VACANCY IS FOR A LICENSED ENGINEER.** The members of the Board examine applicants for licenses for the transaction of other related business.

**FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND** – The responsibilities of the Board are to have entire control of the funds derived from the provisions of Article 188 of the N. C. Gen. Statutes and to disburse the funds in accordance with the statutes.

**HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION** - Some duties of the Commission include (1) recommend to City Council and County Commissioners "historic districts" and "landmarks"; (2) restoring, preserving and operating historic properties; (3) recommend to City Council and County Commissioners that designation of historic districts to be revoked or removed for cause; and (4) review and act upon proposals for alterations, demolitions, or new construction within historic districts, or for alteration or demolition of designated landmarks. Members shall have a demonstrated special interest, experience or education in history, archeology, architecture or related fields.

**METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT BOARD** – The members oversee the operation of the Metropolitan Sewerage District, as well as holding hearings on issues at hand.

**RIVERFRONT AREA REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION** – APPLICANTS MUST SPECIFY ON THEIR APPLICATION IF THEY ARE A PROPERTY OR BUSINESS OWNER IN THE RIVERFRONT DISTRICT AND IF SO, PROVIDE BUSINESS NAME AND ADDRESS. - **TWO VACANCIES ARE FOR A PROPERTY OR BUSINESS OWNER IN THE RIVERFRONT; AND ONE IS FOR AN AT-LARGE SEAT.** The Commission shall (1) recommend to the City and County an overall policy for the continued development and sustainability of the regional riverfront; (2) provide recommendations to the City and County for effective management of the public resources for the districts;

(3) actively pursue and assist private sector investment in the districts; and (4) cooperate with, evaluate and represent the recommendations of other organizations, including, but not limited to, property owners, merchants, residents, businesses, tenants, non-profits, institutions and other members of the riverfront and regional riverfront district communities.

**SOIL EROSION/STORMWATER REVIEW COMMITTEE** - The Committee hears appeals from the Stormwater Administrator.

**SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**– This Committee will undertake initiatives, at a City level and participate in the larger community and regional discussions, to improve the environment, encourage green development, and support the development of a healthy community.

**TREE COMMISSION** - The purpose of the Tree Commission is to foster the preservation, planting, replacement and removal of trees without denying the reasonable use and enjoyment of real property. The Commission's responsibilities include: facilitate the planting, growth and protection of trees within the City; foster the communication and coordination among the citizens of the City that would provide the needed support for protection of trees within the City; conduct continuing research, planning and feasibility assessments required to support the purposes of the Commission; and work with City staff to promote and enforce Chapter 20 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Asheville regarding the regulation of planting, protection, preservation and removal of trees.

Boards & Commissions Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 12, 2016

**Attendees:** Vice-Mayor Gwen Wisler  
Councilman Gordon Smith  
Councilman Keith Young  
City Clerk Maggie Burleson

**Items Discussed:**

- Councilman Smith moved to approve the November 10, 2015, Board/Commission minutes. This motion was seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously.
- Review of December/January vacancies:

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee - Consensus to recommend appointment of Jo Ikelheimer, and interview Barry Bialik, Laura Collins and Richard Fort.

Board of Adjustment - Consensus to recommend reappointment of Christine Longoria.

Asheville-Buncombe County Community Relations Council - Consensus to recommend reappointment of Kathryn Liss. There was discussion surrounding the application of Toya Hauf, who is a County resident. Committee instructed the Clerk to pass the application along to the County for their consideration.

Downtown Commission - Consensus to recommend reappointment of Dane Barrager, Brent Campbell and Pamela Winkler and interview Franzi Charen, Sage Turner, Andrew Fletcher and Mike Marcus.

Sustainability Advisory Committee on Energy & the Environment - Consensus to recommend reappointment of Josh O'Conner and Lawrence Pittman, and appointment of Geoffrey Habron and Keith McDade.

Firemen's Relief Fund - Consensus to recommend appointment of Alfred Kalahati.

Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee - Consensus to recommend appointment of Amy Upham.

HUB Community Economic Development Alliance - Consensus to interview Ted Figura, Brooke Brownlow and Mark Collins.

Multimodal Transportation Commission - Consensus to advertise.

Asheville Area Riverfront Redevelopment Commission - Consensus to recommend appointment of Jane Mathews.

Tree Commission - Consensus to recommend appointment of Carl Nyberg.

**Boards & Commissions Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2017**

**Attendees:** Vice-Mayor Gwen Wisler  
Councilman Gordon Smith  
Councilman Keith Young  
City Clerk Maggie Burleson  
Deputy City Clerk Sarah Terwilliger

**Items Discussed:**

- Councilman Smith moved to approve the December 13, 2016, Board/Commission minutes. This motion was seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously.
  - Review of December/January vacancies:
    - Board of Adjustment- It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Pratik Bhakta and Richard Carpenter as regular members and Paul Wilczynski and Mister Miller as alternate members.
    - Board of Electrical Examiners- it was the consensus of the Committee to re-advertise because no applications were received.
    - Firemen's Relief Fund- It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend reappointment of Barbara Whitehorn.
    - Historic Resources Commission- It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend interviewing Gerry Leonard, Wayne Wheeler and Ed Flowers.
    - MSD- It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend reappointment of Esther Manheimer.
    - Riverfront Redevelopment Commission- It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend reappointment of Carleton Collins and Cindy Weeks and appoint Darren Green (as recommended by the Riverfront Redevelopment Commission).
    - Soil Erosion/Stormwater Review Committee- It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend appointment of Catherine Rosjford.
- After discussion of the Soil Erosion/Stormwater new members and meetings, it was the consensus of the Committee to arrange for the Soil Erosion/Stormwater Review Committee to meet.
- Tree Commission- It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend appointment of Ed Macie and Shawn Swartz (as recommended by the Tree Commission).

- The Commission approved the condensed Asheville City Board of Education appointment process. Due to this condensed process, it was the consensus of the Committee to hold a special meeting on January 24, 2017, at 4:30 p.m. to narrow down the Asheville City Board of Education essay questions.

Vice-Mayor Wisler advised the Committee about the Asheville City Board of Education's Community Advisory Team which will help in the selection process of the new Superintendent. She volunteered to fill the Councilmember seat. Councilman Young volunteered his time if Vice-Mayor could not.

It was the consensus of the Committee that Asheville City Board of Education candidates do not need to live in the Asheville City School District, but that they need only be City residents.

- Deputy City Clerk Terwilliger presented a draft Boards & Commissions Member survey, along with a Staff survey which she will distribute to the appropriate groups. It was the consensus of the Committee to make some questions open-ended and bring back drafts to the next Committee meeting for further review.