

# Application for Appointment to County Board of Adjustment

This information is requested to assure that a cross section of the community is represented.  
Buncombe County residency is required for appointment to any board or commission.

**Are you a resident of Buncombe County?**

Yes



**Residence County Commissioner District**

3



**How many years have you been a resident of Buncombe County?**

10



**Pronouns**

He/His



**My Pronouns**

**Prefix**

Mr.



**First Name**

Joel

**Last Name**

Mazelis

**Home Phone**

**Mobile Phone**

**Email Address**

**Address**

Suite/Apartment #

**City**

Weaverville

**State**

North Carolina



**Zip Code**

28787

**Mailing Address (If different from above)**



Suite/Apartment #

**City**

**State**

North Carolina



**Zip Code**

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following questions.

**Race**

White



**Gender**

I identify as male



**My Gender**

**Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?**

No, not Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin



**My Ethnicity**

**Age Group**

55+



**What is your current employment status?**

Retired



**How did you hear about this board vacancy?**

Currently Serve as a member



**Are you currently serving on any other Buncombe County board or commission?**

Yes



**What is the board or commission on which you are currently serving?**

Land Conservation Board



**Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that may arise during your service on this board (i.e. property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:**

No



**Please indicate the area of expertise you can bring to the board, then list education, experience and reason for your interest.**

My professional experience includes land-use issues as well as project manager on a land use planning tool in eleven states. I also served as a project manager for several national task forces that included land management, real estate acquisition, historic preservation and public participation during my career.

As a volunteer, I was a civic association president for seven years, which included over 300 homes. One of my primary duties was to represent the community on land acquisition issues, zoning, sound abatement, infrastructure improvements and health and safety issues when an interstate highway was built in the community. This included attending several hearings and providing comments on zoning variances. I also represented the community on the Montgomery County Maryland Civic Federation, which conducted an annual review of international green building codes and smart growth initiatives.



**Why are you interested in serving on this board?**

My experience closely mirrored my educational background, which included a Master's Degree in Public Administration. The last three years I served on the Buncombe County's Land Conservation Advisory Board. I believe the board's work to identify county lands for possible protection through conservation easements would complement my work as a member of the Board of Adjustment by providing a comprehensive view of county land use issues. In addition, I take serious my responsibility to ensure the transparency of the Quasi-Judicial process. Part of the process is to ensure that all stakeholders are allowed to participate whether as an expert with standing or presenting public comment.

### **What would you like to achieve if appointed?**

As a member of the Board of Adjustment and the Land Conservation Advisory Board provides me with a unique perspective of county land use issues whether it be land/farm conservation or development. This perspective will be invaluable as a member of the board with the approval of a new county comprehensive plan and the recently passed bond issues.

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## **Attachments**

Download a zip (/Application/DownloadById/630) of this application to view attachments.

**BOA EDU.docx**

**BOA Work Experience.docx**

**BOA - Volunteer and Community Affairs.docx**

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## **Relevant Work Experience**

### **Haywood Community College, Political Science Instructor, 2013 – 2015**

- Taught entry level political science with an emphasis on local and state government structure.
- Assigned students to critique media outlets on campaign coverage and interview local elected officials to identify community issues.

### **Mission Health, Public Policy Consultant (2013 – 2018)**

- Analyzed city, county, state, and Federal legislative proposals.
- Prepared several research reports on cost issues.
- Attend City Council and Board of Commissioners' meetings.
- Active participant in the Asheville Chamber of Commerce Policy and Advocacy Committee in the development of the state and Federal legislative agendas.

### **National Aeronautics and Space Administration-Management Analyst (2007 – 2013)**

- Organized and managed the preparation of the organization's semiannual report to Congress.
- Developed and administered an annual customer satisfaction survey to evaluate services provided by the Office of Management and Planning.
- Served as office administrator for Skillsoft E-Learning program which required submitting quarterly use reports to the Assistant Inspector General for Management and Planning.

### **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission-Program Analyst/Office of Evaluation and Planning (2004 – 2007)**

- Designed and implemented three electronic customer satisfaction surveys.
- Conducted an in-depth study of the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, which involved the review of all 50-contract providers and hospital emergency room data.
- Conducted a management review of policies and guidelines related to small business inquiries, which resulted in several changes to the agency website to consolidate and simplify searches related to pending regulatory actions.

### **Edison Electric institute – Director of Natural Resources (2000 – 2012)**

- Managed two national task forces of industry land managers and real estate appraisers.
- Served as project manager for a 10-year \$80 million study that included managing a coalition of 11 regional teams and all outreach and promotional activities to identify development corridors.

- Organized international "Public Participation" workshop in Montreal Canada resulting in the publication of "Building a Communications Plan, a guideline to addressing controversial environmental and health Issues" to ensure full participation of all stakeholders.
- Participated in an ongoing dialogue, sponsored by Senators McCain and Inouye, between Native American Tribal Leaders to discuss preservation of sacred sites and the development of energy corridors on tribal lands.
- Prepared testimony presented to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in support of a Bureau of Land Management proposal to limit reviews by the State Historic Preservation Office

**Congressman Louis Stokes (1982)**

- Served as a legislative assistant and responded in writing to over 150 constituent inquiries.
- Oversight of government operations legislative proposals
- Represented the Member on the U.S. Steel Caucus

## **Education**

Cleveland State University  
Cleveland State University  
Cleveland State University  
The American University

Bachelor of Science-Biological Science  
Secondary Teaching Certification  
Graduate courses (Political Science)  
Master of Public Administration

## **Post Graduate Education**

- Executive Public Policy Institute  
Ohio State University, Washing DC campus)
- Writing for Business and Government Professionals  
Government Affairs Institute
- Congressional Budget Process  
Government Affairs Institute
- Governmental Bookkeeping and Accounting  
U.S. Government National Independent Study Center
- Environmental Regulations, NEPA,  
Executive Enterprise Institute
- IT Security  
NASA

BOA Volunteer

**Community and Volunteer experience**

AGWG Civic Association-President (2006 - 2012)

Montgomery County Civic Federation Representative

4<sup>th</sup> District Montgomery County Police Advisory Group

Layhill Community Alliance

Asheville Chamber of Commerce – Advocacy and Public Policy Task Force

Instructor (Political Science) – OLLI, UNCA College for Seniors