

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: January 5, 2016
To: Honorable Mayor and Honorable City Councilmembers
From: City Manager Larry McLaughlin
City Clerk Mary Gourley
Subject: Public Arts Committee Interviews
Recommendation : That the Mayor and City Council Conduct interviews for the Public Arts Committee Openings
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes _____ No XX N/A
Net General Fund Cost: N/A
Amount: \$0

INTRODUCTION: This item is to request that the City Council Conduct interviews for openings on the Public Arts Committee.

BACKGROUND:

A Public Arts Committee will be maintained by the-City. Terms of office for each of the Committee members shall be-four-year, staggered terms. Said Committee shall be comprised of five members as follows:

- (A) Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the City Council
- (B) Prior to making any appointments, the City Council will seek the input and nominations for potential Committee members from City of Sebastopol based registered non-profit art organizations, entities, facilities, schools, etc.
- (C) Preference will be shown to City of Sebastopol residents and persons who own a business or work in the City, however, qualified candidates from the greater Sebastopol and Sonoma County area will be considered.
 - 1) One member shall be an active member of a City of Sebastopol based, art focused, registered non-profit organization, entity or facility
 - 2) Two members shall be persons with experience in the public art field as either an artist, installer or designer.
 - 3) One member shall be a member of the general public.
 - 4) The Council shall appoint a member of the Design Review Board to serve on the Committee.
- (D) In the event suitable candidates satisfactory to the City Council in the above categories are not available to serve, the City Council may then select any person or persons in their discretion.

The Committee shall maintain a registry of public art in the City and perform the duties required of this ordinance and any other ordinance or resolution of the City Council pertaining to the City of Sebastopol's Public Art Program.

In addition to development related public art projects or public art projects funded by the Public Art Fund, the Committee shall review and provide recommendations to the City Council on Non-Development Generated Public Art projects.

The Public Arts Committee Members are as follows:

PAC MEMBER	TERMINATION DATE	CATEGORY
WARREN ARNOLD	Dec. 31, 2015	1
DAVID GORDON	Dec. 31, 2015	2
CIE CARY	Dec. 31, 2015	3
ALEXIS PERSINGER	Dec. 31, 2019 or upon expiration of DRB term	4 <i>(DRB Selection)</i> <i>Note: Alexis Persinger Term is up for DRB (December 2015)</i>
MARGHE MILLS THYSEN	Jun. 30, 2016	1

DISCUSSION:

The interviews to be conducted tonight are to fill the vacancies created by term endings for Warren Arnold, David Gordon, and Cie Cary.

The City Clerk noticed the vacancy in the Sonoma West Time and News, City Hall Bulletin Board and various other media outlets on several separate occasions and received five applications.

Interviews have been scheduled at 15 minute intervals as follows for the three (3) Vacancies:

Name of Applicant	Time of Interview
David Gordon	6:00 pm
Alexis Persinger	6:15 pm
Robert Brent	6:30 pm
Warren Arnold	6:45 pm
Jennifer Wertz	7:00 pm

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council Conduct the Interviews and Make Appointments to the Committee later in the agenda.

Name of Applicant: DAVID GORDON

Instructions:

Use this form to apply to serve on any of the City of Sebastopol's Boards, Committees or Commissions. Please complete the entire form. If a question does not apply, please note as not applicable. Please deliver completed form, by the date and time due, to the City Clerk. All applications will be reviewed by the City Council. Please note your information will not be made public unless otherwise indicated. If appointed, you have a choice whether you wish to have your contact information made public.

Name: DAVID GORDON

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:

7855 DOS PALOS LN.
SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472

Home Phone Number: 707 8237215

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?
 Yes No

Work Phone Number: 707 382844

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?
 Yes No

Facsimile Number: _____

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?
 Yes No

E-Mail Address: MURALS@DSGORDON.COM

If appointed, do you want this address to be available to the public?
 Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No

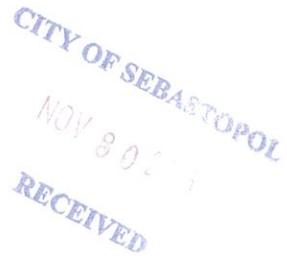
If so, for how long? _____

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for? **PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE**

Public Arts Committee Supplemental Questions:

Which Category are you Applying For?

CATEGORY 2 - ARTIST WITH EXPERIENCE IN PUBLIC ART



Name of Applicant: DAVID GORDON

Category A

An active member of a City of Sebastopol based, art focused registered non-profit organization, entity or facility.

Category B

An individual with experience in the public art field, as either an artist, installer or designer.

Category C

An individual from the general public.

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

2013 - 2015

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? PAST 2 YEARS

Present Employer: SELF

Job Title: MURALIST

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates: NO

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

Name of Applicant: DAVID GORDON

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?
30 YEARS EXPERIENCE AS PUBLIC ARTIST

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

BA ULLA, SAN FRANCISCO ART INSTITUTE
ANTHROPOLOGY / ART 1976
1980

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS PAINTING FELLOWSHIP
2019 COMMUNITY AWARD - SOB, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
"BENEFITATION OF A VISIBLE SITE"

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

HAVING BEEN PART OF THE PROCESS OF SETTING UP CRITERIA TO FUND & SELECT & INSTALL ART IN SOBASTOPOLE, WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN THE NEXT STEPS TO INCORPORATE A LARGE PUBLIC ART PIECE IN THE CITY

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant.

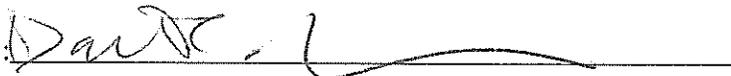
Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

Name of Applicant: DAVID GORDON

How did you hear about this opening? CURRENTLY ON BOARD

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application?

Applicant's Signature: 

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): DAVID GORDON

Date: 11/25/2015

Name of Applicant: DAVID GORDON

PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BELOW AND SUBMIT WITH THE APPLICATION:

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE CREATING PUBLIC ART
FOR CITIES & COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE U.S.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

SUCCESSFULLY SELECTING A SIGNIFICANT LARGE
PUBLIC ARTS PIECE FOR THE CITY

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

ALL IDEAS, FROM ANY SOURCE SHOULD BE PART
OF THIS PROCESS.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

DEAL WITH SPECIFICS OF EACH ISSUE, DON'T TAKE
DISAGREEMENT PERSONALLY

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

REASONED DISCUSSION/ADVICE WITHIN THE KNOWLEDGE
THAT THE CIM COUNCIL IS THE FINAL ARBITER

Name of Applicant: Alexis Persinger

Instructions:

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Name: Alexis Persinger

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:

5875 Ross Branch Rd.
Sebastopol CA 95472

Home Phone Number: 707 887-8818

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?
 Yes No

Work Phone Number: 707 829-0700

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?
 Yes No

Facsimile Number: _____

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?
 Yes No

E-Mail Address: ALEXIS@PERSINGERARCHITECTS.COM

If appointed, do you want this address to be available to the public?
 Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for? **PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE**

Public Arts Committee Supplemental Questions:

Which Category are you Applying For?

Name of Applicant: Alexis Persinger

Category A

An active member of a City of Sebastopol based, art focused registered non-profit organization, entity or facility.

Category B

An individual with experience in the public art field, as either an artist, installer or designer.

Category C

An individual from the general public.

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

yes

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? now

Present Employer: Persinger Architects

Job Title: Principal

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates:

DRB currently

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

AIA

Name of Applicant: Alexis Persinger

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

Served on board.

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

An interest and long time support for the Arts in Sebastopol

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

UC Berkeley BA ECONOMICS
SFIA MASTERS IN ARCHITECTURE

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

We've won a number of local and NATIONAL DESIGN AWARDS

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

I am currently a member and would like to continue my service.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant.

Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

Name of Applicant: Alexis Persinger

How did you hear about this opening? ON BOARD NOW

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application?
No

Applicant's Signature: 

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): Alexis Persinger

Date: 11.11.15

Name of Applicant: Alexis Persinger

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PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BELOW AND SUBMIT WITH THE APPLICATION:

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

I am a local business owner, ARCHITECT AND EXPERIENCED member of the design community AND HAVE EXPERIENCE ON THIS BOARD.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

MAKING A CONCERTED EFFORT TO MOVE THINGS FORWARD.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

THE COMMUNITY COMMENTS RECEIVED ARE A KEY COMPONENT OF A GOOD DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

DISAGREEMENT IS AN EXPECTED AND NECESSARY PART OF THE PROCESS.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

THE POINT OF HAVING A BOARD IS TO SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS THOSE SITUATIONS.

Name of Applicant: ROBERT BRENT

Instructions:

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Name: ROBERT BRENT

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:

1550 FURLONG RD
SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472

Home Phone Number: 707-829-0605

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

Work Phone Number: N/A

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

Facsimile Number: N/A

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

E-Mail Address: RMDBRENT@GMAIL.COM

If appointed, do you want this address to be available to the public?

Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? 37 years in County nearby

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for? **PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE**

Public Arts Committee Supplemental Questions:

Which Category are you Applying For?

Name of Applicant: ROBERT BRENT

Category A

An active member of a City of Sebastopol based, art focused registered non-profit organization, entity or facility.

Category B

An individual with experience in the public art field, as either an artist, installer or designer.

Category C

An individual from the general public.

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

NO

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? 2013, but was out of town when interviews were held

Present Employer: Retired

Job Title: _____

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates:

1988 - 1992 Harmony Union School Board

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

Sebastopol Center for the Arts Board - 6 years
Sonoma Land Trust Board - 23 years
Sturgeon's Mill Restoration Project

Name of Applicant: ROBERT BRENT

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

SCA Board Pres. 2011 - 2013

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

*Broad knowledge of most media of arts and crafts
Potter, Woodworker*

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

Oberlin College, OH, Math + Physics

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

Sebastopol Co - Citizen of the year 2013

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

Particular interest in supporting public art

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant.

Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

Name of Applicant: ROBERT BRENT

How did you hear about this opening?

ALEXIS PERSINGER

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application?

Applicant's Signature: R Brent

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): ROBERT BRENT

Date: 11/7/15

Name of Applicant: ROBERT BRENT

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PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BELOW AND SUBMIT WITH THE APPLICATION:

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

Experience as an artist/craftsman, work on the Board of Sebastopol Center for the Arts

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

Public Art

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

Welcomed as part of fact finding process, and forwarded in summary form to Council along with Committee vote and recommendations.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

Not really a problem. Final vote of Committee will have my support.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

I would vote against it, but as above and ultimately up to Council.

Received

OCT 22 2015

Mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

phone: 707-823-1153
fax: 707-823-1135

City of Sebastopol

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday - 7:00 am - 5:00 pm (closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm for lunch)
Closed every Friday

Instructions:

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Name: WARREN ARNOLD

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:

5876 LONE PINE ROAD
SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472

Home Phone Number: (707) 823-1373

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

Work Phone Number: (707) 823-1373

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

Facsimile Number: N/A

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

E-Mail Address: warren@sonic.net

If appointed, do you want this address to be available to the public?

Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for? **PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE**

**Public Arts Committee Supplemental Questions:
Which Category are you Applying For?**

Category A

An active member of a City of Sebastopol based, art focused registered non-profit organization, entity or facility.

COULD
DO
EITHER

Category B

An individual with experience in the public art field, as either an artist, installer or designer.

Category C

An individual from the general public.

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

Yes. Served on, past 4 years.

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? Served on, past 4 years.

Present Employer: SELF

Job Title: SCULPTOR

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates:

Member, Public Art Committee, 2012-2015

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

Inter-faith Food Pantry
Ceres Community Project
United Way, "Schools of Hope"
Sebastopol Center for the Arts

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

Board Chairman, Sebastopol Center for the Arts 2010-11

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

I formed the committee that developed our Public Art Ordinance. I have served on the PAC since it began. I have working knowledge of creating and installing Public Art, with having done 10. I created "Sculpture Jam", that has created and installed over 50 sculptures over many years.

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

UC Berkeley, B.A. 1956; UCB Teaching Credential, 1959,
UCB Administrative Credential, 1964;
Cal State, Hayward, MS 1975

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

Sculptor of the Year, Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

Specifically: to be part of the selection process, of one or more public works of art, for our community, over the next several years.

In general, to see the effort that I have given in this area, have positive results for Sebastopol.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

How did you hear about this opening?

EMAIL from CITY

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application?

Linda Galletti considers me a good representative of the Sebastopol Center for The Arts .

Applicant's Signature : *Warren Arnold*

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): *WARREN ARNOLD*

Date: *October 22, 2015*

PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BELOW AND SUBMIT WITH THE APPLICATION:

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

Professional Sculptor who has worked in Public Art.
Past experience with Sebastopol Public Arts Ordinance.
Past experience as member of PAC.
Association with Sebastopol Center for the Arts.
Enthusiasm to see Public Art in our town.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

Going forward with the process (REQs, etc.) for selecting possible works of art for Sebastopol.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

There should be a competition with finalists selected. PAC. Finalist should present their projects to the community at an open forum. Community comments should be included in final decision making.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

I would listen to the member's comments, respond with mine, and have the committee decide by vote. I would abide by the majority vote.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

Again, after discussion by all board members and a vote (or "straw vote"); I would abide by the decision.

Name of Applicant: Jennifer Vertz

Instructions:

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Name: Jennifer Vertz

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:

7853 Apple Blossom Ln

Sebastopol, CA 95472

Home Phone Number: 707-321-4771

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

Work Phone Number: 206-264-8287

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

Facsimile Number: _____

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

Yes No

E-Mail Address: jenvertz@gmail.com

If appointed, do you want this address to be available to the public?

Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? Since 2014. Registered on Apple Blossom, which is a block past city limits

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for? **PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE**

Public Arts Committee Supplemental Questions:

Which Category are you Applying For?

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
NOV 9 9 2015
RECEIVED

Name of Applicant: Jennifer Vertz

Category A

An active member of a City of Sebastopol based, art focused registered non-profit organization, entity or facility.

Category B

An individual with experience in the public art field, as either an artist, installer or designer.

Category C

An individual from the general public.

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

No

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? _____

Present Employer: Tat's Foods

Job Title: Head of Marketing

In addition to working at Tat's Foods, I've done marketing and art projects for a number of local businesses over the last two years e.g., Whole Foods, Vignette Pizza and Jigar Wines. DBA Jennifer Vertz.

Additionally, I've worked at the Apple Blossom Festival, Farm to Fermentation Festival, Gravenstein Apple Fair, Heirloom Festival, and at the Sebastopol Village Building Convergence at the Barlow.

A few examples of my work are available at www.littlejen007.com

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates: 2 year term, 2012-2014, elected 11/11. Position 9: Culture/History, Pioneer Square.

I was an Elected Board Member on the The Historic South Downtown Community Preservation & Development Authority ("HSD"). It is a state agency created by the Washington State Legislature responsible for preserving, restoring, and promoting the health, safety, and cultural identity of Seattle's Downtown Stadium Districts. The overall task of the board is to distribute the allotted stadium ticket sales tax in the form of grants to improve the neighborhood.

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

- The Alliance for Pioneer Square Design Committee, 2010-2012
- Pioneer Square Main Street Committee Promotion Board Member 2010-2012
- Residents Council Member for Downtown/Pioneer Square 2008-2014
- Committee Member, Seattle Fire Festival, Seattle Fire Dept. & Last Resort Fire Dept. 2009-2013
- Advisory Board, Alley Corridor Project, 2012
- Chairman of the Board of Directors, Artoleptic Festival, 2007-2012

Name of Applicant: Jennifer Vertz

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

- Historic South Downtown, Secretary 2013, Position 9: Culture/History, Pioneer Square
- Chairman of the Board of Directors, Artoleptic, Seattle's largest public arts festival 2007-2012

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

First and foremost, my belief that arts and culture make considerable and necessary contributions to the well-being of communities. I will not only bring a fresh perspective since I'm new to the area, but also an unmistakable drive and energy. I have experience in brainstorming and team building to create successful proposals to bring before City Council.

Additionally, I am an artist, photographer and graphic designer with a focus on marketing and social networking. I've written and received multiple grants, as well as have been honored to distribute grants through the HSD Board for some truly impressive public arts projects in the City of Seattle.

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

West Chester University, Bachelor of Liberal Arts, 1996
Colorado Mountain College, Outdoor Recreational Leadership, 2000
Seattle Community College, American Association of Bookkeepers, 2006

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

2011 Winner of the Conductive Garboil Grant (garboil.org)
4Culture Group Grant Recipient, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012
Small Sparks Grant Recipient, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, 2010
smART Ventures Grant Recipient, Mayor's Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012
Neighborhood Matching Fund Large Projects Funds, Alley Corridor Project, 2012

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

After an amazing decade in Seattle, I've recently relocated to Sebastopol to be closer to and help with family. Two years ago, I bought a house on Apple Blossom Ln, and while I still telecommute to work in Seattle, I've taken a step away from Seattle politics and community service and would like to focus my energy here in Sonoma County.

My passion is on art in public places and outreach to my community. I have the experience to be able to focus on my goal of creating monetarily feasible works that require little impact on the budget but a huge impact on the community as well as on local economy in a positive way. Following City guidelines and clear proposals for Design Committees and City Council will be the object of my attention.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

Name of Applicant: Jennifer Vertz

How did you hear about this opening?

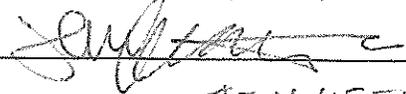
On the City of Sebastopol website, which I check often for updates.

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application?

I'm a 41 year old homeowner in Sebastopol who has a passion and love for being involved in community. I live with my family and am a marketing professional working for small and large businesses both locally and in Seattle via the web.

Since I mainly work from home, the non-constraints of a typical schedule allow me flexibility and availability to volunteer for the city. Although I am new to the area, please don't let it sway you from bringing in new blood. I am willing to work hard and give this community everything I have!

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/littlejen>, <http://littlejen007.com/>

Applicant's Signature : 

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): JENNIFER VERTZ

Date: 11-30-15

Name of Applicant: Jennifer Vertz

PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BELOW AND SUBMIT WITH THE APPLICATION:

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

I've not only applied for many grants to be funded, but also have been on the other side deciding who to fund. I've created, managed and designed public works projects that have changed the face of communities and will leave a legacy of love and strength in the neighborhood.

I have the technical experience and strategic skills as well as the interpersonal skills it requires to interact with other board members in a professional manner. Furthermore, I bring a range of contrasting work experience as well as a cultural diversity that can promote creativity and innovation.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

Design and implementation of new public art as well as inventory and conservation of it's current collection. Cities gain cultural, social and economic value through public art. Sebastopol is distinguished as a unique and culturally active community, and it is an important role in the City.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

Community comments are so important and I believe they can be integrated in a number of ways. Online forums and message boards are such a helpful tool and can also be a place for news, stats and notices from the board's end as well. Community comments can be filtered by importance and relevance and included in board meetings. It's so important to bring the public into public art!

While I was on the HSD Board in Seattle, I created a 3 person "Bridge Committee" specifically to bridge the board with the community. We focused on transparency, our website, annual mixers, sounding boards and town hall meetings.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

Maintain professionalism. listen, possibly agree to disagree and try to see things from the other person's point of view.

I stay calm under pressure while at the same time tackling issues head on. While I try to persuade others of my point of view, it is important to consider their perspective. Refusal to consider the others perspective is typically when there is ever an issue.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

If we involve ourselves personally with our positions, we will have a harder time being objective about them. That lack of objectivity can prolong a disagreement unnecessarily. I would view a proposal position not as "my" position, but merely "a" position. In the same way, if I have an issue with someone else's position, I make it clear that my concern is with the issue, not with the person. My intention is what is best for the community, not what is best for me personally.