

Lee M. Pavao, 307 North Estes Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

rc'd:
10:15 AM
10-12-2009
SKline

October 9, 2009

Town of Chapel Hill
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Ms. Sabrina Oliver, Town Clerk

Dear Ms. Oliver,

APPLICATION FOR VACATED TOWN COUNCIL SEAT

I hereby request that I be considered for the Town Council vacancy created by the recent resignation of Mr. Bill Strom.

My address is 307 North Estes Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 and my telephone numbers are, Cell: 919 434-6667, (H): 919 942-4682

I am duly registered to vote in Orange County.

Attached you will find my qualifications for the position that I apply for.

Sincerely,



Lee M. Pavao

APPLICATION FOR VACATED TOWN COUNCIL SEAT

I would like to thank the Town Council for considering my application to once again serve for the next two years. I truly believe that my credentials will indicate my ability to contribute positively to the Town and its Citizens from day one.

Since practically the day I arrived in Chapel Hill I began to look for ways to serve the community that I chose to live in after a 35 year business career in several cities and countries.

1989 to 1993 I served on the Parks and Recreation Commission. In 1990 the County Commissioners asked that I join a task force to study Senior Citizen needs in Southern Orange. The task force quickly arrived at a conclusion; a Senior Center was needed and presented its findings to the Commissioners.

Rev. Robert Seymour, Councilman Alan Rimer and I designed a plan of operation to bring the findings of the task force to fruition. It was approved and I became the volunteer project manager for the \$500,000 + up fit of the Chapel Hill Senior Center on Elliott Road. All of the funds were donated by the community.

I successfully ran for Town Council in 1993 and served for 8 years. I was Mayor pro tempore 2 years, from December 1999 to December 2001. I humbly attach a copy of a Resolution presented to me by the Mayor and Council which amply describes my contribution to the Town and to the County.

After leaving the Council I remained active in the Community as the Chamber of Commerce's representative to the Chapel Hill/Orange County Visitors Bureau Board of Directors and I currently remain on the Board in an Emeritus capacity. I was the Board's Chair for 9 years. As President of the Board of The Friends of the Robert and Pearl Seymour Center I successfully guided the transition from the Chapel Hill Senior Center to the new State of the Art building on Homestead Road. I continue on the Board as Past President.

My professional career also prepared me to bring a unique knowledge to the Council. I gained this knowledge living and working 15 years in South America with the J. Walter Thompson Co. for 3 years in Peru and 12 years in Brazil, as President and CEO. I was also President of the Latin American Region which included 11 countries for 2 years. I became acutely aware of dealing with depressed economies, rapid inflation, currency devaluations and market instabilities and how to manage through recessive periods. In addition to my experience in Latin America I also served the company in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and I helped open a new operation in Madrid, Spain.

**A RESOLUTION HONORING THE SERVICE OF
LEE PAVÃO
TO THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL**

WHEREAS, Lee Pavão served the Town of Chapel Hill as a Town Council member from December 7, 1993, to December 3, 2001; and as Mayor pro tempore from December 6, 1999, to December 3, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Lee has served as an Advisor to the Mayor on Town-University Discussions, working to reach solutions for the community and the University that protected the community and the environment; and

WHEREAS, Lee has given of his time with leadership and support for various community groups, such as the Chapel Hill Museum Board of Directors, Library Board of Trustees, Library Foundation Board, and as Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, Lee has been a leader in formative discussions that will affect the young people of our community, especially in areas of school development, through his role on the Orange County School and Land Use Council, and in his efforts to ensure the location of a school in Southern Village and a gymnasium in Meadowmont; and

WHEREAS, Lee has been a promoter of cultural events, tourism, and community activities within Chapel Hill and the greater Orange County community, serving as Chair, Vice-Chair, and Member of the Orange County Visitor's Bureau Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Lee has demonstrated his generosity of spirit through his distinguished service to such agencies as the Chapel Hill Senior Center and the Ronald McDonald House; and

WHEREAS, Lee served the community and the Town Council with his participation on the following work groups, as well as in many other ways:

Founding Member, Chapel Hill Museum Board
County-wide Recreation Planning Committee
Durham-Chapel Hill Work Group
Library Board of Trustees
Library Foundation Board
Orange County Parks and Recreation Work Group
 Steering Committee
Orange County School and Land Use Council
Orange County Visitor's Bureau Board of Directors

Mayor's Liaison on Town-University Discussions
Orange Water and Sewer Authority Committee
Southern Village School/Park Committee
Sustainable Development Task Force
Parks and Recreation Commission
Transportation Board
Triangle J Council of Governments Delegates Board
UNC-Chapel Hill Planning Panel
Chapel Hill Senior Center

WHEREAS, Lee has demonstrated exemplary skills in listening to others, and by providing a calm voice during even the most difficult discussions;

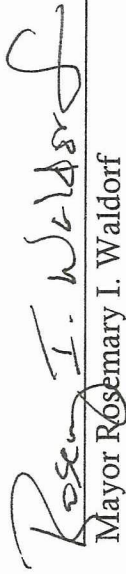
WHEREAS, Lee's sense of humor, compassion for others, and generosity will be missed by Council Members, employees, and citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Chapel Hill that the Council hereby honors and praises

LEE PAVÃO

for his outstanding service to the people of Chapel Hill and Orange County and his loving dedication to the betterment of the Town of Chapel Hill, North Carolina.


This the 3rd day of December, 2001.




Mayor Rosemary I. Waldorf



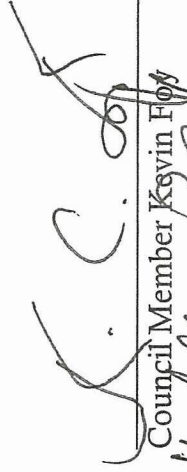
Council Member Flicka Bateman



Council Member Joyce Brown



Council Member Pat Evans




Council Member Kevin Flynn



Council Member Bill Strom



Council Member Jim Ward



Council Member Edith Wiggins



10-09-2009

9:05 a.m.

SFK

Jon DeHart
102 Old Larkspur Way
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

10/9/2009

Mayor Foy and Town Council Members
Chapel Hill Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Dear Mayor Foy and Council Members,

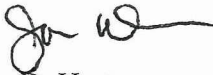
Please accept this letter as my formal application for consideration to serve the remaining term of the vacated seat, formerly held by Strom.

I am currently running for Town Council and desire to serve our Town to the best of my abilities. I believe that my experiences, both professionally and personally, render me a worthy candidate for this position. As a mortgage lender, my financial, organizational, analytical, and networking skills serve me well and I believe, will assist me in serving our community both efficiently and effectively.

On a personal level, I am active in my church, Orange United Methodist Church, and have served on the Finance Committee, currently serve on the Administrative Council, and recently co-chaired our church's volunteer efforts for the Inter-Faith Council program. I previously served on the Community Trust Finance Committee and am very active with the Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA programs, as a parent and as a coach for various sports teams. In addition, I am currently a PTA member at Seawell Elementary School where two of my three children attend.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and for allowing Town Council candidates and interested citizens the opportunity to apply for this vacant seat on Town Council.

Warmest Regards,



Jon DeHart

Received
10-02-09
3:45 p.m.

Matt W. Pohlman
104 Colburn Point
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

October 1, 2009

Dear Mayor Foy and Council Members:

Please accept this letter as my formal application for the open seat on the Town Council.

As I am currently running for the office, I believe it is self-evident that I have a strong interest in serving the Town of Chapel Hill and its citizens. I have a significant and pertinent professional background in corporate finance, developing and analyzing budgets and financial statements, managing client businesses, and working directly with developers, banks and funding sources. Given this experience, I believe I will be a successful council member and a worthy public servant to the citizens of Chapel Hill.

My experience in service-oriented organizations has been focused primarily on social services. I have proudly served on the Board of Directors of the Mental Health Association in Orange County for six years, most recently as President. I feel strongly that my dedication to that organization shows both my commitment to a mission that I believe in and my deep interest in serving members of the Chapel Hill community – as well as other communities in Orange County. I am active in my church community and am currently a Sunday school teacher at the Chapel of the Cross.

Finally, since my days as a student at UNC, I have always been an active volunteer in a variety of areas in our community. Whether feeding families that may not be fortunate enough to always have food on their table, coaching kids in a variety of sports through the YMCA, Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation or Rainbow Soccer, or just giving time to organizations as needed, I have been and will continue to be involved and committed to our community.

I respectfully suggest to the current council and Mayor that my background, experience and community involvement will serve the citizens of our town well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,



Matt W. Pohlman

Received
10-02-09
11:26 a.m.

Gene Pease
208 Glandon Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-423-9556

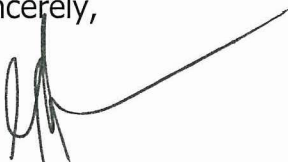
October 1, 2009

I am applying for the vacant Council seat. For more than a dozen years, I have served in various leadership positions in our community:

- Citizens Budget and Finance Committee, Chair, 2004 – 2005. We advised the Council on ways to control expenses and keep tax increases to a minimum.
- Chapel Hill Public Library Foundation, President, 2006 – 2009. Under my leadership, the Foundation raised more \$300,000 for books, DVDs, and other library materials.
- Chapel Hill Public Library Building Committee, Member, 2006 – 2007. We developed the plans for the library expansion approved by the voters in 2003.
- Orange Water and Sewer Authority, Board Member, 2007 – 2009. Strategic Planning Committee Chair, Community Outreach Community Chair, Budget and Finance Committee member.
- Gimghoul Neighborhood Association, Board Member and President, 1998 to present. By working with the Town and the University, we changed the development ground rules so that neighborhoods surrounding campus receive better protection from UNC growth.
- Planning Board, Member, 2004 – 2007. I proposed forming the Tree Protection Committee, which drafted a more comprehensive tree protection ordinance.
- Horace Williams Citizens Committee, Vice-Chair, 2005 – 2006. Council adopted our final report as the guiding principles for the development of the Carolina North property.

Professionally, I have more than twenty years' experience managing budgets through difficult economic cycles as the Chief Executive Officer of several mid-sized, privately held companies. These experiences have collectively prepared me to help guide Chapel Hill through uncertain, yet exciting times.

Sincerely,



Gene Pease

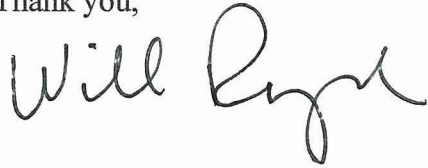
Received 3:50 p.m.
9/28/09

To: Mayor and Town Council Chapel Hill
From: Will Raymond
Re: Formal Application to Fill Vacant Seat

I request consideration in serving the remainder of the term of the currently vacated Council seat.

Please contact me if the Council requires additional information prior to Oct. 12th, 2009.

Thank you,

 Sept. 28th 2009

Will Raymond
209 Mt. Bolus Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

campaign@willraymond.org
919-932-1035(h)/919-360-9939(c)

Received 9/24/09
3:44 p.m.

404 Coolidge Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
capowski@email.unc.edu
(919) 929-1670
September 26, 2009

Dear Mayor Foy and Members of the Town Council,

Please consider me for the current vacancy on the Chapel Hill Town Council.

I served on the Town Council from 1991 through 1999, including two years as Mayor Pro Tem. Since that time I have kept abreast of community issues. As a consequence, I can be an effective councilmember immediately and can offer further institutional memory to the council.

I have no plans to run for election again, nor do I have higher political ambitions. My only desire is to serve the people of Chapel Hill.

A frequent objection to a political appointment is that the appointee has not faced the citizens in an election. I have successfully done so -- twice. Indeed I still hold the second highest vote total ever achieved by a town council candidate. For this I credit two superb campaign managers and advisory committees. I recognize that reaching goals follows from collaboration with others.

I would be pleased to make a presentation at a council meeting or fulfill any other requirements that you might ask of applicants for this vacancy. Also, feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss my application in more detail.

With my thanks for your service to our town citizens,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Capowski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Capowski

To Whom It Concerns:

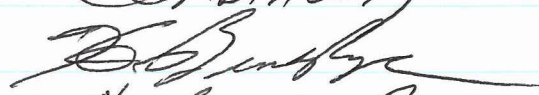
09/25/09
Received
9/25/09
1:40p.m.

My Name IS Brock Page.

I was Born In Chapel Hill. Graduated
From CHHS In 1989. Graduated From
The University of North Carolina At
Chapel Hill In 1993. Moved To Hudson,
NJ In 1996 To Work For CBS Sports
In 1996. Graduated From Rutgers - Newark
School of Law In 2006. Was Sworn In
As An Attorney In North Carolina
In 2007. Thank Goodness! Opened
Brock Page Law Office In Chapel Hill
In August of 2009. Also Work At



TIME OUT SPORTS BAR. MEMBER
OF UPL AND ALUMNI ADVISOR TO
AXA AT UNC. I AM CURRENTLY
SINGLE AND WANT TO HELP CHAPEL
HILL FIX THE DRUG PROBLEM.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

CORDIALLY,

H. Brock Page

H. Brock Page
Attorney at Law

Tel: (919) 619-7208
E-Mail: hbrockpage@yahoo.com

111 Cloister Court, Suite 120
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

2

Received
9/25/09
1:05 p.m.

Friday Sept 25th

I am formally placing my name to the town clerk for the open position on the Chapel Hill town council.
~~A to~~

I respect the request of the current council in asking all candidates to enter their name ~~to~~ for consideration and will look forward to working as a council member in the future

Jerry R

Penny Rich
109 Oldham Place
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
prich1@nc.rr.com
919-368-3516

"Today, September 25, 2009, I am submitting my application for the recently vacated Chapel Hill Town Council seat. The current council has indicated that they would like the option to select a replacement from the pool of candidates who are running for Town Council in November, and have encouraged all candidates to submit their names. I invite my colleagues and any other citizens interested in the seat to join me in applying for the vacancy."

About Penny Rich

Penny Rich was raised and educated in New York City, where she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the Pratt Institute and a Master of Arts in Communication Technology at New York University. She lived in Ft Lauderdale and New Orleans before moving to Chapel Hill with her family in 1998. Penny is a small business owner and a food columnist for Southern Neighbor and other print and broadcast media.

Penny has been married to Christopher Voorhees for 17 years. They have two sons. Mikko is a rising 9th grader at Chapel Hill High School and Brody is a rising 7th grader at Smith Middle School. Penny's mother, Jacky Rich, also resides with the family. Jacky is actively involved with the Reading Recovery Program at Carrboro Elementary and is proud to say that at 80 years old she is beginning to understand another language other than English and Yiddish. She loves learning Spanish from the children she helps, and they love teaching her.

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT:

Active Volunteer for the Inter-Faith Council's Community Kitchen
Current serving on the Ironwoods Home Owner's Association
Chairperson for the Neighborhood Impact Committee
Current member of Smith Middle School PTA
Former member of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) Board of Directors, 2001-2007.
Vice Chair
Secretary of the Board,
Chairperson of the Human Resources Committee
Chairperson Natural Resources Committee
Served on the Community Outreach Committee
Art Committee
Property Committee
Former Member of the Chapel Hill Technology Advisory Committee

Former President of the Chapel of the Cross Pre-School Board of Directors
Former Fundraising Chairperson for the Chapel of the Cross Pre-School
Former member of Carrboro Elementary School PTA
Served on the SGC at Seawell Elementary School
Member of the North Carolina Sierra Club
Member of the NRG, Chapel Hill
Member of the Orange Democratic Women

On the Issues

My approach to the issues facing our town can be summed up in one word: sustainability. Sustainability is a three legged stool (or a “triple bottom line”) that encompasses environmental stewardship, economic growth, and social responsibility. Each issue that comes before the Town Council should be evaluated in terms of all three legs. More specifically, my priorities are as follows:

A holistic approach to growth with an emphasis on accommodating and supporting the existing citizens and businesses.

Affordable and diverse housing options. We are losing graduates of UNC and other young professionals to Durham because of the lack of affordable and workforce housing in Chapel Hill, and should do what it takes to stop that outflow of talent.

Re-evaluation of what constitutes affordable housing. Will growth create affordable housing or will we continue to cater to the upper class?

Keep commercial tax base local. For every \$1.00 spent at a local business, 45 cents are reinvested locally. When that same dollar is spent at a corporate chain, only 15 cents are reinvested locally.

A new attitude toward trash. During the 2002 drought the citizens of Chapel Hill made behavioral changes that greatly reduced the impact of the drought. The same should be done for trash, as locating the transfer station has proven to be a difficult and inflammatory issue. Changes might include:

Implementation of a municipal composting program. 25 percent of solid waste in America comes from yard trimmings and food scraps. This waste could be processed as compost and sold back to residents at a reasonable cost.

A fee charged to those who dispose of trash above a threshold level, as is done with water consumption.

Required (and enforced) recycling by businesses, particularly bars and

restaurants

A walkable Chapel Hill with pedestrian and bicycle friendly roadways

Bike lanes linking neighborhoods to schools to reduce transit and enhance the health of our children.

Revitalization of downtown Chapel Hill, including filling existing vacant commercial space, emphasizing cultural tourism, protecting existing parking, and increasing limitations on areas where panhandling is legal.

Protection of entryways. The Comprehensive plan advocates preservation of the visual character and design quality of entryways to Chapel Hill, and this should be considered with all new development.

A revised permitting process

Ardent protection of property rights

Protection of open spaces for recreation

Preservation of historic places

Heightened citizen participation in direction setting and growth

Received 9/23/09
11:33 A.M.

402 Old Larkspur Way

Chapel Hill, NC 27516

September 23, 2009

Town Clerk

Chapel Hill Communications and Public Affairs Department

Chapel Hill Town Hall

405 Martin Luther King Blvd

Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Dear sir:

I am applying to fill the Chapel Hill Town Council seat vacated recently by former Council member Bill Strom. My credentials are attached, for your perusal.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua R Ravitch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joshua R Ravitch

JOSHUA RICHARD RAVITCH

402 Old Larkspur Way, Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Tel: 919-960-7574 (home), or 919-624-7599 (mobile)
Email: ravitchj@yahoo.com
Citizenship: USA

Executive Summary

Extensive experience in strategic planning, budgeting, and metrics assessment for both large pharmaceutical organizations and small nonprofit groups. Have served on a variety of boards and executive boards for nonprofit organizations for the past 20+ years. I believe I am well qualified to fill the vacancy on the Chapel Hill Town Council.

Community Service Leadership

- Currently serve on board of directors and/or executive boards for 3 local nonprofit organizations (Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish Federation, Larkspur Home Owners Association, Chapel Hill Kehillah Synagogue), including chairing committees and advising subcommittees.
- Past treasurer of Sycamore Preschool and co-chair of Victory Village Daycare Center finance committee, managing budgets of ca. \$1,000,000 for each organization.
- Coached both boys and girls basketball teams for many years in the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department leagues.
- Served as Guardian ad Litem of Orange County courts investigating alleged cases of child abuse and neglect, requiring expertise in timely, focused investigative work, excellent oral and written communication skills, and ability to testify convincingly under oath in court.

Professional Experience

Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish Federation (strategic consultant)	(2009-Present)
GlaxoSmithKline and predecessor companies, Res. Tri. Park, NC, USA	(1984-2009)
Investigator	(2004 - 2009)
Principal Scientist	(2000 - 2004)
Project Coordinator/Research Scientist	(1995 - 2000)
Research Scientist II	(1988-1995)
Research Scientist I	(1984-1988)

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Richard Ravitch
Sept 23, 2009

Received
10-12-09
12:50 p.m.

October 11, 2009

Donna Bell
611 Craig Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Mayor Foy

Please accept this letter as my application for the vacant town council seat. While I began my relationship with the town as an undergraduate at the University, I returned to Chapel Hill as a resident in 2002. Since my return, I have offered my services to the town and community by serving on the town's planning board, the EmPowerment board of directors, and the town's visioning task force. I would like to offer myself again to serve as a member of Chapel Hill's town council.

As a homeowner and resident of the Northside neighborhood, a young mother of a fourth grader and ten-month old baby, and an African American professional I would represent a variety of perspectives in regards to the growth, development, and values of Chapel Hill. From my work on the planning board, I understand the difficulties of balancing the vision of Chapel Hill with the market's demand. As a parent, I am concerned with Chapel Hill being a safe and engaging place for the citizen's children. As a homeowner, I have felt personal costs of maintaining the quality of life that drew me to this area.

While I believe I live in one of the best places in America, I also know there is room for change. While Chapel Hill prides itself on diversity, it could make strides on making its diverse populations feel more included. While the council has put some tools in place to try and protect affordability, there is still more that could be done.

It would be a great honor to serve the town of Chapel Hill in the currently vacant seat. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this with you in greater in detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna C. Bell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Donna Bell

rec'd. 10-12-2009
4:20 PM
Skline

I Aaron Daimon Shah am hereby
applying for the vacated Town of
Chapel Hill seat on Council

Aaron P. Shah

10-12-09

AARON DAIMON SHAH
605 NUNN ST
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
919.338.9734
aaron.shah@gmail.com

rec'd 10-12-2009
4:40pm Skelin

Jason Baker
jason@jasonbaker.us

800 Pritchard Ave Ext Apt C10 ▪ Chapel Hill NC 27516
PO Box 14 ▪ Chapel Hill NC 27514
home 338-1506 ▪ cell 442-8278 ▪ work 241-1794

Chapel Hill Town Council
Town of Chapel Hill
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

October 12, 2009

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of the Town Council,

I wish to join the numerous voices which have asked you to forgo immediately appointing the fifth place finisher to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Council Member Bill Strom. It may be the case that when the election is over and the dust has settled, that the person who ran and came in fifth is actually the most qualified for the appointment, but we don't know that. But appointing, by default, such a person is not any more democratic than any other method, and in fact, may be the least democratic. The fifth place finisher, whichever candidate that may be, will be a person that the majority of the voters chose not to vote for. The system for handling vacancies may be broken, but automatically appointing the fifth place finisher is not a way to fix it.

It would seem that there are two logical methods by which the seat should filled. First, the Council has the option of appointed a qualified placeholder with similar strengths and political positions to those of the person you are replacing. Former council member Joe Capowski meets that description astoundingly well, and has the added bonus of being someone who has been popularly elected twice by the citizens of Chapel Hill. Joe has been an excellent community leader, both during his two terms on the council and in the years since. It has been a pleasure for me to have worked with and learned from him over the past several years, and I believe he would be an excellent choice if the Council decides to take that route for appointment.

The second way which would make sense to fill the seat would be to use this as an opportunity to diversify the Council by appointing a member of a minority community, or other constituency whose perspective is not currently represented on the Council. I believe that the process is best served if the Council has a large and diverse pool of applicants from which to choose, and I hope that a variety of applicants from all walks of life choose to apply. To that end, I submit my own name for the Council's consideration to fill the vacancy. As someone half the average age of our current Council, as a recent graduate of the university, as a renter and a working class resident of our town trying to make ends meet with limited resources, I believe I would bring a different perspective which is currently missing from the Council.

Whichever method you opt to use to fill this vacancy, good luck, and you have my continued faith that whatever choice is made will be in the best interest of the town.

Sincerely,



Jason Baker

Jason Baker
jason@jasonbaker.us

800 Pritchard Ave Ext Apt C10 ▪ Chapel Hill NC 27516
PO Box 14 ▪ Chapel Hill NC 27514
home 338-1506 ▪ cell 442-8278 ▪ work 241-1794

Community Service

Chapel Hill Planning Board

I am currently in my second year of service on the town's planning board. There is little doubt in my mind that the recommendations of our board and other citizens of Chapel Hill during the formation of the Carolina North Development Agreement were crucial to developing a document which I believe will help to successfully guide the development of what is likely the largest single project Chapel Hill will ever see within my lifetime. I am grateful to have been a part of that process, as well as the consideration of the many other projects and issues which have come before us in my tenure on the board.

Chapel Hill Transportation Board

During my time on the Transportation Board in 2006 and 2007 I offered comments and recommendations on a number of major projects which will help to shape the future of our town, including Greenbridge, 140 West Franklin, and others, as well as our Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program projects.

Orange County Democratic Party

I served from 2007-2009 as Chair of Northside precinct, before being elected earlier this year to Third Vice Chair of the OCDP. I believe strongly in encouraging growth in the public dialogue in our community by helping citizens participate in the political process. In my short time as a party officer, I have worked hard to improve the way we use technology to communicate with the public, and I believe this is an important skill which I hope to transfer to the council.

Orange-Chatham Sierra Club

I have been an advocate in environmental issues locally, and have tried to make concern for true ecological sustainability a major part of my life, personally, professionally, and in my service in local government. I have been an active member of the Sierra Club for several years, now serving in my fourth year as a member of that organization's Political Committee, which I until recently chaired.

Orange County Local Revenue Options Education Advisory Committee

As a member of this committee, I helped to develop a plan for the county to communicate with citizens the importance of considering options for local taxation, specifically the land transfer tax. Though it did not pass, this experience highlighted for me the importance of developing alternative methods of revenue generation in our community to reduce dependence on ad valorem property taxes.

UNC Advisory Committee on Transportation

As a representative to the committee from UNC's Student Government Executive Branch, I watched closely and offered input on the behalf of the student body on a wide range of issues including parking, development, the Commuter Alternative Program, ZipCar program, and UNC's Safe Ride.

In addition to the activities highlighted above, I have been a committed community volunteer and activist on a variety of issues, both locally as well as at the state level and nationally. I believe strongly in the importance of civil rights and civil liberties, and am proud to be a card carrying member of the ACLU and NAACP.

Education

I came to Chapel Hill in 2002 to pursue an undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina. I received my BA in Political Science, though I also did substantial coursework in Environmental Science & Studies and City & Regional Planning.

During my time at UNC, I worked to engage the student body in the political process in a variety of ways, ranging from helping to organize a bus trip to Washington, DC for the largest anti-war protest since the Vietnam War, to heading up the UNC Young Democrats voter registration efforts in 2004 and personally registering hundreds of new young voters. In 2005, I sought to serve the town by attempting to become the second undergraduate student in recent history to be elected to the Chapel Hill Town Council. Though at the time I had little idea what was necessary to execute a successful campaign for municipal office, I remain proud of the issues, positions, and unique experiences I brought to the discussion. In 2006, I wrote a weekly column for the Daily Tar Heel, offering my perspectives on various political issues in our community.

Just before graduating, I had the privilege of working with Council Member Strom through the Bill Thorpe Undergraduate Internship program, which was a wonderful opportunity in which I was able to gain a much more thorough understanding of the interaction of our town and county budgets.

Professional Experience

Though my work history is considerably shorter than most other applicants, I believe it has prepared me well for service on the Town Council. Throughout my time as an undergraduate, I worked for an events management company, working primarily at colleges and universities, which allowed me to travel the country and visit many other places with similar characteristics to ours and see the ways in which they tackle the many issues unique to college towns. In 2004, I was a paid Get-Out-The-Vote organizer and trainer for a diverse group of volunteers in the Chapel Hill / Carrboro area. I also had the opportunity to work briefly as an intern for a land trust in western North Carolina on a project that involved coordinating efforts of a variety of local, state, and federal agencies in a water quality mitigation effort.

For the past year and a half, I have worked in the marketing department of Weaver Street Market, where my primary job responsibilities are coordinating events and membership, and providing outreach to our local community. To that end, I have been active in working as a member of the Hillsborough Downtown Merchants Group, serving on the steering group of Carrboro's emerging Business Alliance for a Local Living Economy, now named LocalMotive, and representing my employer with the fledgling Carrboro Merchants Association. In Chapel Hill, I have been working to ensure that Southern Village remains a vibrant commercial center through my participation in the Southern Village merchants group, and working with the developers and property manager to increase local purchasing to ensure a thriving business environment in that part of town.

For the second year, I have served as the staff facilitator for our Cooperative Community Fund, a committee which provides grants to nonprofits working in our area on food, hunger, and environmental issues. I am humbled to have received a Village Pride Award from WCHL earlier in this year for organizing our monthly Community Nonprofit Day, one of many events I help to organize.