

Boards & Commissions Application



I am interested in serving on the following boards/commissions. (Please indicate the order of preference).

1. Planning Commission
2. Downtown Parking Advisory Committee

As an applicant/member of a Council-appointed Board or Commission, your name, address, and phone number will be available to the press and public. Information will be kept on file for three years. Public discussion of information contained herein may occur in the meeting at which appointments are considered by the City Council.

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr. (Please type or print clearly)

Name: Finks Mark D **Date:** 05-10-2016
(Last) (First) (M.I)

Home Address: 618 Stuart Street **Zip Code:** 22802

Phone Number: 540-810-4200 **Alternate Phone:** _____

Occupation: Theater Manager **Employer/Organization:** Arts Council Of The Valley

E-mail: DJFINKS@gmail.com **Harrisonburg resident for** 37 **years.**

Were you referred by anyone: Yes No **Name of Referring Party:** Deb Fitzgerald-Stevens

How did you hear about volunteering on a board or commission? Cable Website Council Meeting
 Other: Word of mouth

Why do you wish to serve on a board or commission?

As a life long resident of Harrisonburg I've grown up watching our city grow and change, and I think I have a unique point of view that will positively contribute to the future growth of Harrisonburg. I've lived at all rungs of the ladder in society of Harrisonburg. From a middle class student in the public school system, to underemployed college student living in transient housing, to working class resident renting in various neighborhoods, to married homeowner. I've lived in various neighborhoods across Harrisonburg, and as a result I've witnessed first hand the outcomes of excellent and poor planning. I think Harrisonburg has a bright future ahead of it, and I want to be a part of shaping it if possible.

What relevant experience or education do you have to this board or commission?

I've worked in a variety of fields in and around Harrisonburg. From construction, to food service, sound engineering, radio personality, talent Booker, convenience store clerk, grocery store associate, and movie theater manager. With my varied experience in Harrisonburg I think I can relate to a variety of property and business owners in our friendly city. My work running a non-profit theater, has given me insight into the limits of public funding. My father served on Planning Commission from 2005 - 2012, and during his tenor I got insight on how the process of approving planning appeals works. As a manager of a business in downtown Harrisonburg, I have an acute knowledge of various issues that affect the downtown area.

What other interests or concerns do you have regarding the community?

As an entertainment provider for the city of Harrisonburg, I'm concerned about the balancing the needs between residential neighborhoods and business that provide entertainment. I think the city should plan future projects with more green space, and provide public art in appropriate areas. My major concern in regards to planning and future growth in Harrisonburg is providing adequate infrastructure (roads, intersections, sidewalks) for new developments. As the city grows our traffic problems will grow, and we need inventive new ways to keep Harrisonburg citizens moving. With our new designation as the bike capital of Virginia, we have to keep bicycle paths at the forefront. The future of Harrisonburg rests in the infrastructure we build today, we have to lay the groundwork for the ever-expanding population of our city.

Please list any past or present community involvement e.g. City Council, Board and Commissions, Citizen Academy, etc. in Harrisonburg or elsewhere:

Current Vice Chair for outreach of the Harrisonburg Democratic Committee, Staff for The Arts Council Of The Valley, Member / Talent Buyer for The Valley Fourth Committee, Past Co - Coordinator for The Harrisonburg Rock Lotto benefit concert series, Advisor / Talent buyer for MACROCK LLC

-Please return completed application to the City Manager's Office-

Applicants are encouraged to attach a resume or other supporting information that may be helpful to Council in considering their application.

409 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Tel:(540)432-7701 **Fax:**(540)432-7778 **E-mail:**Erica.Kann@harrisonburgva.gov