

# Boards & Commissions Application



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

1. Community Policy and Management Team 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**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: Newman Kira L. Date: 11/24/17  
(Last) (First) (M.I)

Home Address: 750 S Dogwood, Harrisonburg Zip Code: 22801

Phone Number: 540-860-8048 Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: Student, Theater Dir & Educator Employer/Organization: Trackside Theater, Luray

E-mail: Kira.newman@icloud.com Harrisonburg resident for 4.3 years.

Were you referred by anyone:  Yes  No Name of Referring Party: n/a

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

**Why do you wish to serve on a board or commission?**  
I have been wanting to become more involved in serving the community that I have come to adore. Now that my children are in middle and high school, and we are feeling more settled, it's feels like the right time.

**What relevant experience or education do you have to this board or commission?**  
To begin, I was an at-risk youth so I understand the trauma and confusion from the youth persoective. My single mother had severe mental illness when I was young and we were very poor. At one point, we lived in our car.

I have worked with youth, doing drama, for the past decade including children with autism, anxiety, and ADHD.

I served as President if the Healthy Families Page County Advisory Board for 2 years.

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

I am concerned with education and health services for youth, particularly mental health. It is important that all the youth of Harrisonburg are getting the education and guidance they need to make healthy choices. For many of our kids, there are language and cultural barriers to factor in as well. Helping kids and families navigate the rougher waters seems like one of the more important tasks in our community.

I also believe the Harrisonburg must work with JMU to promote responsible growth. Making the city bicycle friendly, with good mass transit, can reduce our dependence on automobiles.

It is also important to keep the police departments funded and well-trained as the city grows. I grew up in a large metro area with too much crime and too few police. Public safety is important.

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

I volunteered at the Luray Library as the story time lady for 3 years.

I volunteer regularly at THMS, mostly for choir and drama, and at HHS.

I worked for HCPS as a drama instructor in the after school programs at Keister and Waterman for 2 years.

**-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**