

# Boards & Commissions Application



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

1. Planning Commission 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: Whitten Kathy Date: 04/27/2016  
(Last) (First) (M.I)

Home Address: 560 South Mason Street Zip Code: 22801

Phone Number: 540-476-4202 Alternate Phone: 540-433-3463

Occupation: retired nurse Employer/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: kawhitten@comcast.net Harrisonburg resident for 28 years.

Were you referred by anyone:  Yes  No Name of Referring Party: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about volunteering on a board or commission?  Cable  Website  Council Meeting  
 Other: Have previously served on PC & BZA

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

I feel that I can make a difference and be a voice for the neighborhoods of our City. I have been a resident for the past 28 years and care deeply for this city. I have been certified as a citizen planner by attending the Academy in the past and have most recently chaired and been a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals. I would like, in retirement, to be a voice for the people of the Friendly City. There are some real challenges in terms of zoning and density that must be addressed and I have the knowledge and ability to help.

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

Previous participation for eight and one half years on Planning Commission, as a member and chair. Also a member and chairman of Board of Zoning Appeals. I have also served as the City's representative on the Blue Ridge Community College local board and was chair of that board for a term. I am an avid supporter of our city and a founding member of Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance. I have remained active in advocating for my own neighborhood, Old Town.

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

I worked at the JMU Student Health Center as a nurse for 7 years and believe that students are a wonderful asset to our community. I also believe that a relatively small number of them give a "black eye" to the majority. I would love to see more collaboration and less talk about the behavioral issues surrounding the alcohol culture. I feel that we must work together with JMU and our state representatives to find solutions to the problems that stress our police department, zoning office, fire department and neighborhoods. We must explore all options for these solutions.

I have a tremendous love for Harrisonburg and for its downtown. I feel that tourism is so important to our viability as a small city and that promoting ourselves as a destination is imperative. I am a member of HDR and support their endeavors in our downtown. I also serve on the board of Explore More and feel that it is a wonderful driver in our region.

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

Explore More Children's Museum, current board member  
Past member and chair, Board of Zoning Appeals  
Planning Commission, past member and chair  
Former Trustee, Asbury United Methodist Church  
Past board member Harrisonburg/Rockingham Free Clinic  
Past board member, Blue Ridge Community College  
Past board member, Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance  
Founding member, Citizens for Downtown  
Past President of Old Town Neighborhood Association

**-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**