

# 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: Ford-Byrd Zanetta S. Date: 11/26/18  
(Last) (First) (M.I)

Home Address: 1115 Nathan Hale Ct. Own/Rent? Rent

Phone Number: 434-227-6393 Alternate Phone: 540-434-9916

Occupation: Executive Director Employer/Organization: Harrisonburg Education Foundation

E-mail: zfordbyrd27@gmail.com Harrisonburg resident for 8 years.

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

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

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

Strong and inclusive systems need good governance and proper resourcing. I believe that it is essential to play an active role in the community and take interest in local government issues. As a longtime resident and active member of Harrisonburg, VA, I will contribute organizational experience, sound judgement, creative energy, and exercise a productive voice on key local issues. I see this as a learning opportunity to better understand board governance and illustrate service to my two school-aged children and local community. My goal is to build valuable networks and relationships with fellow board members, grow as a leader, and exercise best planning practices to provide a progressive perspective in shaping the future of Harrisonburg, VA.

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

I possess a MBA and am currently earning a Doctorate in Public Policy and Administration. I am comfortable with making decisions regarding resource allocation, analyzing policy, monitoring progress, anticipating needs, and assessing data. As the Executive Director of the Harrisonburg Education Foundation and Community Outreach personnel for Harrisonburg City Public Schools, I continuously forge connections between different parts of the community with the aim to help teachers and kids in their post-K-12 lives through educator grants and scholarships. Also, as an adjunct instructor in JMU's Department of Social Work, I understand that planning for the city to work as a community means making systems work for everyone.

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

I want to enhance the quality of life for the community. Education is the basis of life and provides direction. Each change that takes place in the city should have education at its core. I'm aware that the rewrite of the Comprehensive Strategic Plan has been completed. The review of zoning in order to align ordinances with goals is on the horizon. I would like to play a role in educating the community on the future of Harrisonburg, so that they can understand what makes this city run.

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

Harrisonburg Education Foundation - Executive Director

Harrisonburg City Public Schools - Community Outreach

Empowerment 3 - Overcoming Barriers - Board Member

Sisters in Session - James Madison University - Member

United Way - Volunteer

The Community Foundation - IMPACT Harrisonburg

**-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.*

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