

To: Mayor Joseph A. Cutatone

From: Appointments Advisory Committee

CC: Kristen Stelljes

RE: Recommendations for Appointment to Somerville Licensing Commission.

The Somerville Appointments Advisory Committee, interviewed four candidates to fill the vacancy on the Somerville Licensing Commission. All of the candidates were asked a set of questions designed to elicit information on the candidates motivation for seeking the position and their qualifications to undertake the assigned duties.

The committee recommends Christopher Allen for appointment to the Somerville Licensing Commission. In the event that Mr. Allen is deemed ineligible or withdraws his application to the Commission, the Committee recommends Christine M. Lindgren be considered for appointment to the Commission.

Christopher Allen is a Software Engineer and has worked in the area of astrophysics with the Smithsonian.

He is an active member of the Somerville community and has participated in a number of community activities. He is an advocate for walkable and vibrant neighborhoods and was a member of the Somerville Pedestrian & Transit Advocacy Group and was the lead on analysis of city provided parking data, which included:

- Per-capita use of parking by Ward and census district.
- Created a tool kit for citizens to draw a geographic area in Google Maps and see how many permits were issued there.
- Created toolkits and scripts to lead hackathon for groups to further analyze data.
- Cross-correlated against the City Assessor's data base to find commercial businesses that were claiming residential permits.

Mr Allen also served as a member of the Somerville YIMBY, working with Steering committee to draft statements on zoning overhaul to the Board of Aldermen. He also attended Union Square Neighborhood council meeting on US2 and Bow Street developments projects.

Mr Allen has extensive knowledge of the city and regularly attends Aldermen and various board meetings. He believes that decisions made by the licensing board should be data driven and is committed to bringing his expertise to the Licensing Commission. He fully understands the duties and responsibilities of the Commission and has attended meeting to familiarize himself with the issues and the decision making process undertaken by the Commission.

His knowledge of the Somerville community coupled with his

Christine M Lindgren, is a senior Marketing executive in the biotech field. Currently she is Director of Programming at MassBio and is responsible for strategic oversight, management and development of programs and oversees a 15 member working group.