



2 November 2022

Somerville Historic Preservation Commission  
93 Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02143

To Whom it May Concern:

I am submitting this letter to convey my interest in serving on the City's Historic Preservation Commission. As a resident, real estate broker, developer and artist I work, invest and create in Somerville.

**Resident:** I am a resident of Somerville and have great interest in the architecture, neighborhoods and streets that make up this wonderful city. I am currently living in a Local Historic District within the Victorian Gothic building [REDACTED]. Here I have great pride in living in such an architecturally significant structure. My husband is on the Condo Association Board there which gives me a firsthand view of some of the issues facing LHD residents. I am on the Board of another property [REDACTED]. This converted church (formerly a Kohler plumbing warehouse) has a myriad of challenges as we, the Board of Trustees, juggle and manage the repairs to the historic 1869 structure.

**Real Estate Broker:** As a local real estate agent I have a myriad of first-hand knowledge of what makes buyers attracted to Somerville, as well as experience with many historic properties within the great historic neighborhoods Boston is known for. My expertise ranges from first time homebuyers, developers and luxury homes sales in Boston, Cambridge and the surrounding areas that make up Metropolitan Boston. When selling a historic home I always research and present the history of the property the best I can. The history of the home, small or large, creates the lineage of shared human experiences that transcend time. The home was there before us, and will most probably remain after us. Honoring the history of the structure is important in my work as an estate agent as well as a responsible story teller of the homes history. [REDACTED]

**Developer:** To me, understanding the past is the best way to move into the future. I am also a licensed General Contractor in Massachusetts and have developed several properties in Somerville. I have won a Director's Award from the Historic Preservation Commission in the recent past. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Somerville Arts Council:** My interest in construction works in tandem with my career in real estate. My interest in history, real estate, and architecture collide in my artistic endeavors as a paper engineer as displayed in my *Freedom Trail Pop Up Book of Boston*. In that artistic work I was able to capture the historical elements of the buildings along Boston's Freedom Trail. I am a proud local artist and have participated numerous years in Somerville Open Studios. [REDACTED]

I believe these skills may be relevant as a board member and I look forward to hearing from you.

Many Thanks,



## S U M M A R Y

Having an extensive and unique career, Denise makes an interesting intersection of her paper and brick filled life as a publisher and paper engineer with her expertise as a REALTOR, licensed General Contractor & Developer. A top-producing luxury agent within Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices worldwide, Denise is an experienced executive with a demonstrated history of working in multi-facets of the real estate industry. Named a "**top 30 Under 30**" by the National Association of REALTORS®, Denise is skilled in Sales, Market Research, Management, Business Development, and Marketing Strategy along with Luxury Home Marketing. She is a strong marketing and business development professional with an MBA in Global Management

## Experience



### **Luxury Real Estate Specialist - Broker**

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Commonwealth Real Estate

### **Co-Owner**

ePlace, Inc.

Mar 2010 – Present (12 yrs.)

Representing buyers, sellers, renters, and investors in Boston and surrounding areas. Averaging over \$30 million in sales annually, recognized as a top 1% Luxury Sales Agent within the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices network worldwide. As a founding member of The LIV Group, we market homes a bit differently and represent buyers in a very personal way.

As a former co-owner of ePlace, Inc., with 34 agents working in Central Square, we were the largest independent real estate brokerage in Cambridge, MA when in 2018 we sold the company to Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices.

[www.LIVSomerville.com](http://www.LIVSomerville.com)



### **Publisher and Artist**

White Dharma, LTD

Sep 2007 – Present (15 yrs.)

Award-Winning Independent Publisher, Paper Engineer, Artist and Author of *The Freedom Trail® Pop Up Book of Boston*. This extraordinary pop up book commemorates the tour and the birth of the nation. Winding its way through Boston's Colonial- era streets, this legendary brick footpath includes sixteen nationally significant sites, among them the Old State House—an emblem of liberty for over 300 years—Faneuil Hall—known as the “cradle of liberty”—the distinguished Old North Church and the formidable USS Constitution. Bursting with incredible architectural detail, exquisite craftsmanship, and fascinating profiles of each landmark, the *Freedom Trail® Pop Up Book of Boston* has won over 15 publishing awards. As an artist, Denise is a proud member of the Somerville Arts Council and participates periodically in the City's Open Studios.

[www.WhiteDharma.com](http://www.WhiteDharma.com)



### **Board Member, Treasurer**

The Movable Book Society

Sep 2018 – Present (4 yrs.)

The Movable Book Society, a nonprofit organization, provides a forum for artists, book sellers, book producers, collectors, curators, and others to share enthusiasm and exchange information about pop-up and movable books. There are nearly 450 members worldwide.

[www.MovableBookSociety.org](http://www.MovableBookSociety.org)



## **General Contractor and Managing Director**

Domicile LLC

Mar 2003 – Present (19 yrs.)

As a licensed General Contractor in the states of Massachusetts and Colorado, Denise designs, builds, restores and renovates homes. With a passion for history, she recognizes the property's history in order to perform informed design decisions. She also works as a project consultant providing the marketing, public relations, project strategy and on-site management of sales, construction and lease ups of commercial spaces, condominiums, townhomes, mixed use, single-family homes and lots of both new construction and renovation projects.

*Major projects include:*

- Internationally-recognized Andres Duany TND project –Prospect New Town.
- Luxury coastline community development in Costa Rica, consulting for all stages of the developments process from land acquisition through design, marketing and sales management.
- Feasibility study, product design and pricing analysis for an international package development and pre-launch of a \$200m eco-development condominium and single family homes along the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica.

[www.OldHouseStories.com](http://www.OldHouseStories.com)

## **Education**

University of Phoenix

Masters of Business Administration, Global Management, 2001

Bachelor of Science, Business Management 1998

## **Licenses & certifications**

**Luxury Home Marketing Specialist** - The Institute for Luxury Home Marketing -Issued 2018

**Real Estate Broker** - Commonwealth of Massachusetts -Issued 1992

**Construction Supervisor** - Commonwealth of Massachusetts -Issued 2012

**Home Improvement Contractor** - Commonwealth of Massachusetts -Issued 2012

**Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS)** - National Association of REALTORS® -Issued 2006

## **Honors & Awards**

**Director's Award - City of Somerville Historic Preservation Commission**, Mar 2019, Director's Award from the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission [REDACTED]

**National Association of REALTORS®** 2003, Top 30 Under 30 REALTOR in the United States

### **Book Awards:**

*Indie Book Award*- Children's Non-Fiction and Gift - Next Generation Independent Book Award, May 2016,

*Independent Publisher Book Award* - Independent Publisher, May 2016

*Moonbeam Award* - Children's Book Award, Oct 2015

*Benjamin Franklin Book Award* - Children's Nonfiction - Independent Book Publishers Association Mar 2016

*Gelett Burgess Children's Book Award* - Gelett Burgess Center, Dec 2015

*Independent Publishers of New England Book Award Finalist* - Independent Publishers of New England, Sep

*New England Book Festival* - Children's Book Award - JM Northern Media, Feb 2016

*Eric Hoffer Award* - Eric Hoffer Foundation, Oct 2016