

CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE



Community Preservation Committee Position Description

The CPC is devoted to enhancing community preservation in Somerville. It has two primary responsibilities: 1) evaluating the needs of Somerville with regard to affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space/outdoor recreation; and 2) making recommendations to the City Council regarding expenditures of Community Preservation Act funding for historic resources and open space/recreation land projects (the Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund serves as the housing arm of the CPC and reviews the affordable housing projects).

The CPC consists of nine volunteers, including four members from the general public and a member from each of the following bodies: the Planning Board, the Conservation Commission, the Historical Preservation Commission, the Parks and Open Space Department, and the Housing Authority. To ensure the selection of the most qualified applicants, Mayor Curtatone has formed a review committee composed of experts from the City and the community to review applications, conducts interviews, and nominate candidates for appointment. The Mayor will then make final candidate selections with approval from the City Council.

The CPC typically meets once a month, on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. When the CPC is considering applications for funding, it is possible additional meetings will be held.

Being an effective committee member will require that you:

- Familiarize yourself with Somerville's affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space/outdoor recreation policies and needs
- Familiarize yourself with the law (Community Preservation Act, MGL Chapter 44B) that governs the Committee
- Attend meetings regularly
- Support CPA outreach and awareness raising efforts
- Foster good relations with other city departments, boards, and commissions
- Listen to and be responsive to community feedback
- Use fairness and objectivity when making decisions



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Application to be a Committee Member Submission deadline: October 25, 2019

Please complete Parts I and II of the application. Submit all materials by email or mail or in person to: employment_opportunities@somervillema.gov

Questions can be directed to:

Kristen Stelljes, Community Preservation Act Manager kstelljes@somervillema.gov
617-625-6600 x2107
City Hall- 93 Highland Ave. Somerville

Part I: Applicant Information Heather D Heimarck Address: Email: Primary Phone: How long have you lived in Somerville? 24 years How did you find out about this opening? Arn Franzen group email The following demographic questions are *optional*: Gender: Female Male Non-binary 18-24 25-34 Race/Ethnicity (you may select more than 35-44 one): 45-54 White 55-64 Black 65-74 Hispanic 75 or older Asian/Pacific Islander Other

Part II: Materials

Please include the following materials in your application:

- 1. A cover letter answering all of the following questions:
 - a. After reading the position description at www.somervillema.gov/cpa, why are you a good candidate for the Community Preservation Committee (CPC)?
 - b. How have you demonstrated a commitment to at least one of the three programmatic areas of the Community Preservation Act (affordable housing, historic preservation, and open space/outdoor recreation)?
 - c. What other skills or assets would you bring to the CPC?
- 2. A resume
- 3. Three references
- 4. A brief summary (150 words or less) describing than why you are a qualified candidate for the CPC. This information will be posted on the City website for public review between October 28 and November 11, 2019. If the summary provided is longer than 150 words, only the first 150 words will be posted on the website.

Please submit all materials by October 25, 2019 by email to: employment opportunities@somervillema.gov

October 24, 2019

To: Kristen Steeljes, Community Preservation Act Manager City Hall, 93 Highland Ave

Somerville, MA

RE: Application for Community Preservation Committee Member

Dear Members of the Committee:

I would be honored to serve on Somerville's CPA Committee. I am a long term Somerville citizen and parent who is committed to a vibrant, diverse, and livable city. I bring to the position almost thirty years of landscape architectural practice including the creation of parks, affordable housing, and the preservation of historic cultural landscapes.

As a business woman, sole proprietor of HighMark Land Design, my strengths include inclusive community design, sustainable landscape design, project implementation, cost estimation, knowledge of construction materials and best practices. I have had the honor of serving the city in the past as a member of the Design Review Board for the Assembly Square Preliminary Design Guidelines. I have been involved with successful applications for CPA funding in New Bedford, Somerville, and Boston.

I believe in and advocate for the transformative power of CPA funds to provide valuable support for much needed recreational/open space, affordable housing, and the preservation of our treasured history. I appreciate your support for my application. I look forward to joining the Community Preservation Committee as a contributing member to its important work.

Humbly,

Heather Heimarck, RLA, CLARB

Heather D. Heimarck

SKILLS

- Advocate for the broad integration of social and environmental health celebrating cultural expression
- Time and workflow management skills, ability to adapt to changing conditions, coordinate with consultants, committees, and team members
- Experience with large scale and small scale projects through design, construction and management plans, including the creative reuse of storm water, work in ecologically sensitive zones and food production
- Demonstrated fiduciary responsibility regarding budget management, public relations, community building, and partnerships
- Successful leadership through active listening, innovation, and building a strategic vision
- Ability to develop, showcase and promote others
- · Strong professional writing, public speaking and presentation skills

EDUCATION

HARVARD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN Janet Darling Webel Prize Recipient, Design Award from the Dept. of Landscape Architecture Master of Landscape Architecture

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR Merit Scholar; Golden Key Honor Society

Bachelor of Fine Art

SELECT RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

- 2019 Best of Houzz, Service Award
- 2017 Project featured in Black Spaces Matter exhibit curated by UMass Amherst Prof. Pamela Karimi.
- 2015 Award of Excellence in recognition of Civic Accomplishments from the Landscape Design Council of the Federated Garden Club of Massachusetts
- 2015 Boston Living with Water Competition, People's Choice Award for Site II, Team submittal
- 2014 Assisted in two successful Somerville CPA grants 1) Open Space Masterplan The Friends of Healey with Mystic View Housing 2) The Art Farm in the Brickbottom District
- 2010 Prism Award for project with Zero Energy Design Architects Innovative SF Green Home

- Abolition Row Park, New Bedford, MA. This project is the gateway to a new historic district in New Bedford celebrating Abolitionists who lived in the district. The park is a joint venture of the New Bedford Historical Society and the City of New Bedford and features Frederick Douglass who lived across the street, his first free home in America.
- Chesterbrook Housing Learning Center, Waltham, MA. Integrated outdoor patios and gardens associated with the creation of a new community center supporting residences academic and enrichment activities.
- Historic Residence, Northeast Harbor, Maine.
 Restoration of a modern masterpiece designed by Harrison and Isamu Noguchi, destroyed by fire. Architect- Hermann Design Studio.
- Island Parkside Housing, Lawrence, MA. 80 units of affordable housing on a historic mill island. This project will be built in two phases and includes a playground, multi-use recreational trails, community terraces and outdoor amenities to promote community interactions and strength.
- Manship Artists Residences, Rockport, MA. Support services to landscape historian, Pamela Hartford in developing and documenting a management and development plans for the transformation of a historic residence, home of Paul Manship into a non-profit artist residency organization.
- Minton Stables Community Garden, Boston, MA. One of several Boston community gardens and parks designed collaboratively by HLD/FDC; Client: Boston Natural Areas Network.
- Paige Academy Outdoor Classroom, Roxbury, MA. The creation of a community path and outdoor classroom for an independent non-profit k-6 school based on the schools principals of Kwanzaa. This project will be constructed through volunteer and contracted efforts.

RECENT TEACHING ENGAGEMENTS & PUBLICATIONS

- Adjunct Faculty, Northeastern University College of Arts, Media and Design School of Architecture; courses include "Introduction to Site Planning & Landscape Construction" and "Sustainable Site Construction and Detailing".
- "Designing Outdoor Spaces with Human Health in Mind" coauthor with Martin Michener, PhD, contributing chapter to a Bloomsbury Press professional publication on Human Health, Wellness, and Design.

SERVICE

- · Ecological Landscape Alliance, Board Member
- Community Outreach Group, Advisor and Mentor
- · New England Landscape Design and History Association, Advisor to the Board

150 word SUMMARY for posting - Heather Heimarck

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