

MEMORANDUM

TO: Urbana City Council
FROM: Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin
DATE: 23 May 2022
RE: Board and Commission Reappointments

I am pleased to submit the following Reappointments for your approval:

Arts & Culture Commission – terms ending June 30, 2025

- **Barbara Hedlund**

Barbara Hedlund is a Broadway veteran, recipient of multiple awards. She enjoys an active career as orchestral & chamber musician, solo and recording artist, orchestral and college administrator, music editor and publisher, university professor, competition adjudicator, young artist scholarship sponsor and mentor. Barbara is particularly fond of her work as an Urbana Arts and Culture Commissioner. The Urbana Arts and Culture Coordinator reports that Barbara stepped into the role of Chair this past year and has done a remarkable job. She has been on the commission since its founding and continues to provide important historical perspectives and dedication in all areas of UAC's programming.

- **Luis 'Gonzalo' Pinilla**

Gonzalo Pinilla is a visual artist and scholar who specializes in Latin American modern and contemporary art particularly print media, photography, colonial studies, contemporary urban cultural production, race, gender, and culture. He's a past recipient of Urbana Arts Grants and has curated cultural programs and exhibitions locally and with Urbana School District #116. His strong awareness of cultural work, consistent participation in Urbana Arts and Culture programs and initiatives, and visual arts expertise make him an excellent commissioner. The Urbana Arts and Culture Coordinator recommends he continue in his role.

Civil Service Commission – term ending June 30, 2025

- **Traci E. Nally**

Traci Nally has served on the Urbana Civil Service commission since 2014. She has been an attorney for 40 years and during 35 of those years practiced in the area of employment and labor law. She was in charge of HR at News-Gazette Media for over 15 years. She wants to remain on the commission because she feels her experience on the commission and in employment and labor law provides her with an understanding of the issues presented to the commission by Urbana's HR staff. She agrees that Urbana's civil service system helps to keep merit as the focus of its hiring, promotion, and discharge processes.

Design Review Board – term ending June 30, 2025

- **Adam Rusch**

“I would like to ask your approval to continue my service on the city’s Design Review Board. As a resident of Urbana for over a decade and an Architect licensed in the state of Illinois, I have a passion and vested interest in both helping Urbana grow and prosper economically, while still allowing the character of our neighborhoods to be preserved. I hope my expertise as an architect, with knowledge of current and past building trends, reading and interpreting plans, and the design and construction process can continue to serve the Design Review Board well.”

Firemen’s Pension Fund Board of Trustees – term ending June 30, 2025

- **Elizabeth Hannan**

Historic Preservation Commission – term ending June 30, 2025

- **Alice Novak**

“I am interested in being reappointed to the Historic Preservation Commission. I want to stay on the HPC to continue working on projects which promote the preservation of our houses, neighborhoods, and commercial properties in Urbana. During my current term, I worked with my students’ materials/research projects to create the nomination of the Downtown Urbana Historic District, which is now officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The HPC and planning staff have discussed walking tours for this summer and I would like to officially be part of that effort. I am one of two original commissioners who were appointed when the HPC was created and my more than 30 years of professional experience bring both institutional memory and knowledge that no other commissioners have. I am so very proud of the work that my students have done for about 20 years now. Our planning staff have been superb in supporting preservation efforts.”

Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals – term ending June 30, 2025

- **Gary Burgett**

“I’ve been employed by and am currently the owner of a professional services firm providing architecture, engineering, planning and interior design services. The current firm, Smith/Burgett Architects, Inc., has a history since 1970 in downtown Urbana. Over my 47 years with this firm, we’ve been involved and seen the growth in Urbana as well as surrounding communities. Our interest in seeing the community grow and prosper is important in our mission. We’ve maintained a strong relationship and respect for the Community Development Services in the use of the adopted codes to better serve this community.”

Sustainability Advisory Commission – terms ending June 30, 2025

- **Tomas Delgado**

Tomas Delgado is the Program Manager at the National Farm to School Network. He has an interest in sustainable land use practices, geospatial analysis, public/green space accessibility, and conservation areas.

- **Jessica Lehmkuhl**

Jessica Lehmkuhl is the Dean of Students at Franklin STEAM Academy. She hopes to help Urbana become a model community when it comes to environmental sustainability and create a stronger, healthier, more beautiful community.

The Urbana Free Library Board of Trustees – terms ending June 30, 2025

- **Beth Sheid**

“Please consider my reappointment to The Urbana Free Library Board. As one of the longest serving members, I bring continuity to the Board with my knowledge of challenges and issues we have worked through in the past and how lessons learned can be applied to present and future discussions and decisions. I am so pleased by the Library's progress in serving the community over the years, and using the current dynamic strategic plan, I am excited to be a part of all the potential areas The Urbana Free Library can contribute to the community in the future.”

- **Gloria Yen**

“It's been an honor to serve on The Urbana Free Library Board over the past 1.5 years. I would like the opportunity to put the knowledge and tools I've been equipped with during my term to continue supporting the implementation of TUFL's strategic plan together with my Board colleagues and TUFL staff. Building an ever more welcoming library that is accessible to all is close to my heart and it would be a privilege to continue doing so through budget planning, policy updates, and inclusive initiatives.”

- **Urbana City Council Representative Shirese E. Hursey**

“I appreciate and am delighted to serve as a Trustee on the Urbana Free Library Board of Trustees. When I began my service, I had just been appointed to complete a position on the Urbana City Council. I felt that the vacancy on the library board was an answered prayer because it was my first choice, yet an already filled position. And just when I was going to call the mayor to request my second choice, she called me to tell me that there was a vacancy on the library board because the current city council member had wanted to sit on another commission/board. When she asked if I was interested I enthusiastically said yes. I believe that libraries are important to every community. It is an equalizer of sorts. No matter one's culture, background or socio-economic status, the library is a sanctuary of knowledge. I believe that having a literate and informed citizenry is a very important service for any library to provide; and that the Urbana Free Library serves it very well. I would very much like to continue to serve as a board member and to contribute my service, in my own small way, to the city of Urbana.”