

City of Asheville
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
Application Form

APPLICANTS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO ATTEND SEVERAL MEETINGS OF A BOARD PRIOR TO APPLYING AND/OR APPOINTMENT TO A BOARD

Name of board or commission(s): Vacant seat on Council

Your name: Randall Barnett Home Phone #: 252-7749

Street address: 21 Westchester Dr. City: Asheville Zip Code: 28803

Mailing address (if different): _____

Employer: The Buyer's Agent of Asheville

Your position: Buyer's Representative Office Phone #: 210-HOME (4663)

Resident of City 27 years County Buncombe Race White * Sex Male * Age 50 *

Are you a United States Citizen (circle one)? Yes or No

Residence location (check one): Central North _____ South _____ East _____ West _____

How did you become aware of the opening? Kenilworth
_____ Webpage _____ Current Volunteer _____ eNews _____
_____ Government Channel Newspaper Radio _____ Organization _____ Agenda _____ Other _____

Please indicate the area(s) of expertise that you can bring to the above board(s), and then in detail list education, experience, reasons for your interest, and other factors that support your interest in serving (use additional sheets if necessary). Expertise: _____ Legal Technical _____ Fundraising _____ Community Contacts _____
_____ Business Management (Financial) _____ Business Management (Operational) _____ Public Speaking _____

- Appalachian State University 1981 - major Urban & Regional Planning
- Served Community Development Division as Financial Advisor (21 years)
- Currently assist On Track Financial Services clients into homeownership as a licenced real estate broker.
- Serve as Boy Scout leader, deacon in church, Habitat for Humanity volun.
- Husband for 23 years, father of two: college student & AHS student

Return to:
Maggie Burleson, City Clerk
Post Office Box 7148
Asheville, N.C. 28802-7148

E-Mail: mburleson@ashevillenc.gov
Telephone: 259-5601
Fax #: 259-5499

Signature: Randall Barnett

Date: November 25, 2008

E-Mail: randall@ashevillehomebuyer.com

Fax #: 210-4664

* This information is requested for the sole purpose of assuring that a cross section of the community is appointed.

Randall Barnett, ABR
 randall@ashevillehomebuyer.com
 (828) 210-4649



The Buyer's Agent of Asheville
 37 Montford Ave
 Asheville, NC 28801

OBJECTIVE: To assist and enable you to accomplish your real estate goals.

QUALIFICATIONS: ► I earned the designation of Accredited Buyer's Representative (ABR) from the National Association of Realtors in January of 2004.
 ► I spent 21 years (1981-2003) serving the citizens of Asheville through Housing and Urban Development programs at the City's planning department and the redevelopment commission of the City's Housing Authority. I became a city planner because I was interested in fighting poverty and improving the living conditions of substandard housing. I assisted developers in creating affordable housing for first-time homebuyers.
 ► As an exclusive buyer's agent with The Buyer's Agent of Asheville, I have assisted many families to achieve their dream of homeownership. I was awarded the 2007 Good Neighbor Award-Top 10 National Finalist from the National Association of Realtors for my volunteer service in the community. And the 2006 Customer Service Award from The Buyers Agent.

EDUCATION: North Carolina Association of Realtors-ECO Realtor Designation-2007
 North Carolina Real Estate Broker's License-May 2004
 North Carolina Real Estate Salesperson License-January 2003
 Cumbie Institute of Real Estate Certification-November 2002
 Basic Housing Counseling for Housing Professionals-November 2002
 Housing Development Finance Professional Certification-May 2002
 Bachelors of Science Degree-Urban and Regional Planning-
 Appalachian State University-1981

EMPLOYMENT: Housing Authority of the City of Asheville-1981-1995
 Community Development Division-City of Asheville-1995-2003
 The Buyer's Agent of Asheville-March 2003 to present

ACTIVITIES: Husband for 23 years, father of daughter for 20 years and son for 14 years:
 Hosted several Foreign Exchange Students: currently high school Jr. from Thailand.
 Past Deacon at 1st Baptist Church of Asheville; Sunday School teacher;
 Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 85 for special needs boys;
 Tutor Slavic Immigrants in English as a Second Language;
 Special Olympic volunteer; Little League Coach; Club Advisor at UNCA;
 Habitat for Humanity volunteer; PTA Parent; High School Band Booster;
 Cyclist-touring, mountain biking, racing; camping, canoeing, hiking, skiing;
 2004 Volunteer of the Year-Affordable Housing Coalition homeownership class

CORE VALUES To work exclusively and in complete confidence for my buyer;
 To save homebuyers money on their real estate transaction;
 To show an unbiased look at the market;
 To provide information to make an informed decision prior to purchase;
 To utilize the Multiple Listing Service to provide access to all listings;
 Be available to answer any questions or concerns throughout this process.

Transactions to-date: Nov. 2008	Residential	Lots	Commercial	\$
67	56	10	1	10.5 mil

28 out of 56 were first-time home-buyers

1. What motivates you to apply for this position?

I am applying for the open position on the Asheville City Council because after serving as a public servant with the City of many years I wish to continue helping our citizens. My service gave me great satisfaction and I want to give back to further help our citizens.

I am very thankful for the hard work that each council member does and the difficult decisions that must be made to accomplish a desirable outcome that would be good for all citizens.

I am not looking for power or prestige. I worked for the City of Asheville for 21 years. From 1981 to 2003. The first 14 years, I was contracted by the Community Development Division at the Housing Authority to implement the many Housing & Urban Development programs the City was granted. In 1995, the contract was eliminated and the City hired me to continue the HUD programs as a full-time staff in the Planning Department for 7 years.

I went to most Council meetings and aided Council's Community Development Committee. I was the liaison from the City to the Eagle/Market Street Development Corp.

As a former city employee I would serve to give broadmindedness and a non-judgmental attitude when dealing with staff effectiveness to support and confirm their many successes and help the city refrain from any shortcomings.

2. Where do you fall on the conservative-liberal spectrum in terms of fiscal and social policy?

I consider myself a moderate in most spectrums.

I would be unbiased on all circumstances. I would consider both sides of every situation before making a decision.

You would think after working so long for an entitlement program that I would lean more for the liberal handouts. But I've seen firsthand how government can waste time and money while being too obliging.

On the more conservative spectrum, I would like to see more non-profits help in the social programs than the government. The government may need to provide seed money to get a program started and once proven successful, the non-profit should raise their own funding.

3. In your eyes, what should be the top 2 or 3 priorities our City Council should be focused on in the upcoming year and why?

The Council needs to focus on a financial plan to keep the City fiscally sound. Whether that means to merge departments with the county or privatize services provide by staff. We need to be more sustainable with our funds if we want others to sustain themselves without our funds.

The safety of our citizens is the utmost responsibility of the government. This would be covered by Council concentrating their concerns in many areas of public safety for neighborhoods, housing, traffic, commercial, tourist etc.

Affordability for our citizens in the necessities of life should always be in the forefront of Councils priority. This would include assisting with job creation.

4. What do you consider the most crucial problem, need, or cause for the citizens of Asheville? How would you approach its resolution or champion the cause?

I believe improving our city's infrastructure would help the largest portion of citizens. We need to include capital improvement on structures like the civic center or privatize it. The city's future problems could be resolved by concentrating on long-term planning and fiscal responsibility.

I developed the housing trust fund for the community development division about eight years ago. One of our goals for one future year was to spend the entire trust fund allotment to create a bond program to invest millions of dollars for affordable housing the next years. We consider pooling funds with parks and rec and splitting the bond funds in each department. A bond program could address capital improvements and infrastructure needs.

Another crucial problem is openness of our leaders to listen to the citizen's needs and wants. Council could hold one council session a month in the community at a rec center etc. Teams of leaders could tour the neighborhoods and commercial district on foot with an entourage of local citizens to witness the needs. Each department would have a representative to record a need to respond to as quickly as possible.

**5. 2008-09 and 2009-10 fiscal years will be financially tough for the City.
What will be your top funding priorities and what would you like to see
reduced to balance the budget?**

Basic human needs should come before lifestyle wants. The safety of our citizens would be my top funding priority. Policing, fire, public works, housing safety, water and transportation are basic needs the city government should support first. While cultural arts, recreation and entertainment could carry a lighter load. Privatizing services or merging departments could reduce elements of the budget. We could have Holly send over some funds from the county coffers.