

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): City Council

Your name: Dana W. Bierce Home Phone #: (828) 779-3262

Street address: 110 Deaver St. City: Asheville Zip Code: 28806

Mailing address (if different): _____

Employer: WNCA Cellular

Your position: Sales Office Phone #: (828) 255-8755

Resident of City Asheville County Buncombe Race White * Sex Male * Age 38 *

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? _____ 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

Worked for CoA in Athletics, Park Maintenance, and Park Ranger.
Lived in Asheville since 1992. Also experience in hospitality
(Grove Park, Biltmore Est.) and retail. 10 yrs w/ Montford Players.
9 yrs w/ Athletics.

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: DW Bierce

Date: Nov. 26, 2008

E-Mail: dweebfontaine@yahoo.com

Fax #: _____

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

1. What motivates you to apply for this position? I have not worked in politics beyond working at polls on election days, and the possibility of helping the public interested me. As someone who has worked with the city in a variety of ways, and worked with many other great people, I am concerned about helping improve the conditions of our workers and would like to make things easier for our workers to serve our community.

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

On fiscal policy I consider myself a moderate. I ~~don't~~ don't wish to see excessive taxes, nor want to see the city spend beyond its means -- which could be considered conservative, yet I feel is just being responsible. As someone who has worked with the city, I know firsthand the importance of the city as a business; one that sustains the local economy with its dealings and set a tone with its procedures (like demanding a "living wage" for example). This could be seen as liberal, yet again could be considered behaving responsibly.

On social policy, I believe in "Thinking liberally, Acting conservatively." I might not choose to live a particular way, but I would not force my views on others, nor try to change things unless public safety is affected.

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?

- 1) Balanced Budget - facing a \$6 mil deficit means making hard decisions, and we cannot mortgage our future to survive the present.
- 2) Assisting Small Businesses - Asheville will survive the economic downturn if the small and mid-size businesses are able to compete and provide jobs.
- 3) Affordable Housing - The people who work these jobs need reasonable rent to maintain their way of life.
- 4) Finish Water Deal w/ County.

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?

This basically is a continuation of Question #3. In this economic downturn, the city must not panic. Over the next few months in particular, city council needs to assure the community that business is still welcome here, and that involves speaking to the community frequently about ways to improve and encourage businesses. City council must still continue to champion workers as well, in insisting on jobs with sufficient wages to live on and ^{with} conditions that are safe and reasonable.

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?

My top funding priority would be maintaining the quality workers for this city. The city many talented and experienced people and retaining them is vital.

From my experience it seems that Asheville has spread its services out wide, with parks and community centers dotting the city landscape. While I don't advocate closing any down, consolidation should be considered and any future add-ons should be tabled.

Also, a continued look at the effectiveness of our festivals should be considered, especially in terms of community benefit or if the private sector could assist more.

Thank you for your time in considering my application.