

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 / HOLLY JONES SEAT

Your name: BARBER H. MELTON Home Phone #: 298-0559

Street address: 15 MELTON DR City: ASHEVILLE Zip Code: NC 28805

Mailing address (if different): _____

Employer: RETIRED FM ATFT / PT-TIME ATFT SINCE 10-2007

Your position: ADMINISTRATIVE ASST. Office Phone #: 258-7008

Resident of City yes County BUNCOMBE Race W * Sex F * Age 66 *

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

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA. NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVIST 25 YEARS.
SERVED 2 TEAMS ON PTZ. ONE AS CHAIR. SERVE NOW ON
STORMWATER, FLOOD & AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEES.
IN THE PAST WAS ON THE 2010, 2025 PLAN COMMITTEES & UDO.

I HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF A HOST OF ISSUES IN THIS COMMUNITY
AND FEEL I AM QUALIFIED TO SERVE ON COUNCIL.

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: Barber H. Melton
Date: 11-19-08
E-Mail: BARHES@BELLSOUTH.NET
Fax #: _____

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

Barber Melton
15 Melton Dr.
Asheville NC 28805
828 298-0559
barhes@bellsouth.net

Objective: City Council Vacancy

Qualifications: Neighborhood Activist for 25 years. Founding member of Co-alition of Asheville Neighborhoods, Haw Creek Community Associations. Served as president of both organizations over a number of years. I still serve as VP of CAN. Past member of Planning & Zoning Commission and served as its chair. I am presently a member of Flood Task Force, Stormwater Task Force, Affordable Housing Committee appointed by City Council. I have volunteered and served on the committees that wrote the UDO, 2010 and 2025 plans. I am very familiar with many of the issues that Council and the community have been dealing with over the years. As a member of the Haw Creek Association, I am proud to say we have partnered with the City and County to add a park with access to the Blue Ridge Parkway and raised one third of a \$700,00.00 price tag for the property. We also stopped a development of 6 acres in Haw Creek to establish a passive park on Avon Rd. and in doing that worked with City government as well as private business and raised money in the community to contribute to the cost of building that passive park. I serve as Captain at Precinct 21 and as Captain for One Stop Voting at the Board of Elections since 2002.

Employment: Retired from AT&T 2001 but was asked to return part-time as an Administrative Assistant to the Director of External Affairs in October 2007.

Education: High school diploma. Graduated Dale Carnegie Course thru AT&T, as well as numerous other courses on dealing with the public, management courses, etc.

1. What motivates you to apply for this position?

I am very involved in Community concerns and have been for 25 years. Having been born and raised here I have seen much growth and many changes which in some cases were not planned for and I would like to participate with the present members of Council to work on the many challenges facing the area. I have a wealth of knowledge of issues in this community and would not have as much of a "learning curve" as someone who has not been as involved with City, County & State Government. I know what hard work and how much time it takes to be on Council.

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

I'm in the middle. I believe in listening to all sides of a question. How else can you make an informed decision? In doing what's best for the community as a whole, we all have an obligation to be as open and educated on the issues as we can.

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 economy will set the stage for what the priorities will end up being, but if I could I would focus on growth!! Land Use Planning
Steep Slope - density - etc.

(2) What jobs are we creating that have a starting pay of at least \$20-25 an hour? Without this as a starting point affordable housing, tax base, ability to maintain our great Quality of Life which is a marketable tool, is not going to improve.

(3) Water agreement - we must press on to resolve this.

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?

a reliable revenue stream other than property taxes, a regional approach to a lot of our needs so we could "share the cost" before we "Share the Wealth". Expand, improve, and promote good bus service, but we also should be looking at light rail service on a regional basis, which I realize is extremely expensive & would be a challenge in this terrain, but that's what governments do to plan for the future.

Infrastructure - has to be upgraded and maintained.

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?

Essential services to our residents would be top of list, but would look very close at ways to do it cheaper. Look at combining departments with the county so services not duplicated. Must not raise property taxes. Find additional streams of revenue thru state if necessary.
