



TOWN of GARNER

900 7th Avenue

GARNER, NORTH CAROLINA 27529

Phone: (919)773-4456 Fax: (919) 229-4052

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO ADVISORY BOARD OR COMMISSION

Name: Jihan Hodges		Date: 2023-04-20
Address: 1504 Buffaloe Rd. Garner NC 27529		For How Long? 11 years
E-mail Address: jihanhodges@gmail.com	Home Phone 336-706-0988	Work Phone

Board or Commission of Interest (in order of preference)

Planning Commission

Employment and Education

Employer: WakeMed Health and Hospitals	Occupation: Speech Language Pathologist
High School: Northwoods Collegiate School	Diploma: Diploma Equivalency:
College: University of North Carolina at Greensboro	Area of Study: Communication Sciences and Disorders
Graduate School University of North Carolina at Chapel	Area of Study: Masters of Science in Speech and Hearing

Recent Community Activities

While I have not recently been involved in formal community activities due to my work demands in healthcare during the COVID-19 pandemic, I do actively support local community events and activities by attending them when I can. For example, I have attended town-sponsored food truck rodeos, pop-up markets, and exercise classes at the rec center. In addition to attending community events, my work in healthcare involves working directly with people in their homes and providing them with information about community resources. This allows me to make a valuable contribution to the community by helping to connect individuals with the resources they need to live healthy and fulfilling lives. Overall, while my work demands have prevented me from recently participating in formal community activities, my active support of local events and my work in healthcare demonstrate my commitment to the community and its well-being.

Specific experiences, training, or interests which you have that you feel would be useful in the work of the Board, Commission or Committee

I have several experiences, trainings, and interests that I believe would be useful in the work of the Planning Commission for the town of Garner. Specifically, I served on the Downtown Garner Association Board for four years, first as a board member, then as a co-chair, and finally as chair. Through this experience, I sharpened my skills in community development and collaboration, and developed an understanding of the complexities of planning and executing community-focused initiatives. During my tenure on the board, I successfully planned numerous events, conducted volunteer recruitment procedures, developed and implemented retention strategies, skillfully managed various projects, and established long-lasting and productive working relationships with stakeholders to drive the economic development and overall growth of the community. I also promoted historic preservation and economic development through collaboration and served as a facilitator, decision maker, and change agent to establish the organization as a vital part of the community. Furthermore, I am currently enrolled in the Project Management Institute Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) course, which has further strengthened my understanding of project management methodologies and best practices. I believe that this training, coupled with my experiences on the Downtown Garner Association Board, will allow me to contribute positively to the Planning Commission, particularly in the areas of project planning and management, community engagement, and economic development.

Additional Comments

I am interested in joining the Planning Commission for the town of Garner because I am passionate about the community and its future. As a resident of Garner, I have seen firsthand the importance of thoughtful and strategic planning in shaping the growth and development of the town. I believe that serving on the Planning Commission will

allow me to contribute my skills and experience to help guide and shape the town's future growth and development in a positive way. Additionally, I have a strong interest in community engagement and development, and I believe that serving on the Planning Commission will provide me with an opportunity to work closely with other community members and stakeholders to identify and address the town's needs and priorities. I am excited about the possibility of being involved in the planning process and working collaboratively to ensure that the town of Garner continues to be a great place to live, work, and play for generations to come.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ashley Knotts Deputy Town Clerk, at 919-773-4456 (aknotts@garnernc.gov), or Stella Gibson Town Clerk at 919-773-4406 (sgibson@garnernc.gov).