



12/14/15
(Date)



QUESTIONNAIRE

To assist the Board of Commissioners in making appointments to the Board of Adjustment, please respond briefly to the following questions. There is no right or wrong answer. Your responses will provide a framework for discussion with the Mayor and Commissioners.

Overview: The Board of Adjustment consists of Regular and Alternate Members appointed by the Board of Commissioners. The Regular membership shall consist of six (6) members who reside within the corporate limits, and one (1) extraterritorial member. The number of Regular members appointed who reside in the extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction ("ETJ") shall at a minimum meet the requirement of NCGS §160A-362 for proportional representation, but shall in no instance be less than one (1). The Alternate membership shall consist of at least two (2) members who reside within the corporate limits, with the remaining alternate member residing in either the corporate limits or the ETJ.

The Board's primary function is to act upon variances, which are specific requests for deviation from the strict letter of the law of the Huntersville Zoning Ordinance. As an example, picture a property with a stream running through it thirty feet back from the road. If the Zoning Ordinance requires that every new house must be set back thirty feet from the road, the property owner is faced with a hardship and may request a variance. The Board of Adjustment acts quite literally as a court, with evidence presented, petitioners sworn in, and strict rules followed to determine if indeed a hardship exists. The Board considers the facts relative to the petition and formulates a legally-binding ruling.

1. Please describe the areas of community service in which you have participated, in Huntersville or elsewhere.

I volunteer for Council for Children's Rights, Lawyer Referral Service and Wills for Heroes.

2. Briefly describe your vision for Huntersville in the next 10 to 15 years. What factors during that time will shape the growth of our community?

Huntersville is growing at a fast pace. I envision a town that does not lose its charm and small town vibe even though we are expanding and welcoming business growth and new community members. Businesses are moving into our community as well as new residents. Our roads, schools and local businesses will all be affected. The decisions we make will affect the growth of this community.

3. Since the Board of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial body and must act essentially as a court, it is bound by strict rules of procedure and must use specific findings of fact in order to reach a ruling. As such, Board members must base their ruling on the facts alone, and not on emotion. As a potential Board member, how will you ensure that your decisions are formed objectively?

As an attorney, I must follow rules and regulations. It is my responsibility to read the local rules and apply them to my cases. Additionally, I must serve my clients and I can only achieve this goal by being objective and not emotional. I am comfortable and willing to form all decisions objectively and by the rules of procedure.



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4. With rapid development occurring in Huntersville and the surrounding area, the character and growth patterns of our community are changing rapidly. Please discuss briefly any problems that you perceive, anything that you would like to change, and/or anything you find particularly appropriate to Huntersville.

Huntersville's rapid growth will affect our local businesses as well as new rising business. Our roads will need to be expanded. Our residents will be affected by these changes. I can see problems within the community regarding these matters.

OTHER COMMENTS:

The Town of Huntersville Board of Commissioners sincerely appreciates the interest of all citizens in the Town's advisory committees and urges the public to nominate qualified persons for membership. Nominations may be sent to:

TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE
ATTN: Michelle Haines
P.O. BOX 664
HUNTERSVILLE, NC 28070

For more information on the responsibilities of various advisory bodies, applicants may contact the Planning Department at (704) 875-7000.

**Thank you for completing the application and questionnaire.
Please return them to the Huntersville Planning Department**