



NOTIFICATION FOR SERVICE FOR THE
TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE
PLANNING BOARD

NAME: Susan E. Thomas

HOME ADDRESS: 10215 Lasaro Way, Huntersville

DO YOU RESIDE IN THE TOWN LIMITS OR ETJ? Town Limits

PRESENT OCCUPATION: Technology Leader

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: Wells Fargo

EMAIL ADDRESS set0525@bellsouth.net or susan.thomas@wellsfargo.com

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APPROXIMATE HOURS AVAILABLE PER MONTH FOR SERVING ON ADVISORY BOARD: 15 to 20 hours

NAME OF ANY TOWN OR COUNTY BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS YOU ARE PRESENTLY SERVING ON:
Currently, not serving on any boards or committees

EDUCATION:

Duke University, Durham: Executive Education: Managing the Unexpected 2014

The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill: Executive Education

Kenan-Flagler Business School: Negotiation Skills for Effective Managers 2012

Kenan-Flagler Business School: Leadership Effectiveness Workshop 2003

Stanford University, Stanford, CA: Executive Education

Leveraging the Customer Relationship 2013

The Graduate School of Business: Managing Teams for Innovation and Success 2006

Hollins University, Hollins, VA

Master of Arts, 1992

Arizona State University, Tempe AZ

Bachelor of Science, 1985

BUSINESS AND CIVIC EXPERIENCE: Over 15 years of delivering and managing technology initiatives and serving as chief operating office for Wealth technology division. Key practice areas include: program/project management, strategy development/strategic planning, innovation, delivery standards and common practices, technology process and system integration/evolution, application development, technology compliance oversight, regulatory reporting, audit, customer service, and technology platform/infrastructure planning.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE AND INTERESTS/SKILLS: strategic planning, innovation, program/project management and planning, organizational communication, proposal and presentation skills, oral and written communication including strong negotiation skills, research, reading, and photography.

I, the undersigned, acknowledge that this application and questionnaire will remain active for a two (2) year period, unless withdrawn by me, the applicant.

02-18-2015

(Signature of Applicant) (Date)

NOTIFICATION FOR SERVICE FOR THE
TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE
PLANNING BOARD 2
QUESTIONNAIRE

To assist the Board of Commissioners in making appointments to the Planning Board, 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 Planning Board consists of nine (9) members who reside within the corporate limits and at least two (2) ETJ members who are appointed by the Mayor and Commissioners. The Planning Board acts as an advisory body to the Board of Commissioners on all matters related to the growth and development of Huntersville. The Planning Board considers the facts relative to rezoning applications, new subdivisions and site plans, and ordinance amendments, among other issues. The Board formulates a recommendation on each matter, which in turn goes to the Commissioners for final action.

1. **Please describe the areas of community service in which you have participated, in Huntersville or elsewhere.**
Average 200-300 hours of volunteering annually including: North Mecklenburg H.S. Band Boosters (board member- 6 years), High School Youth Group Volunteer & Mission Trip Chaperone, (Community in Christ Lutheran Church), Hough High School Band Boosters (committee service-2 years), Wells Fargo Championship volunteer (Marshall Committee-Hole #1), general CMS volunteering, Odyssey of the Mind Coach, Habitat for Humanity volunteer (San Francisco Bay Area), various experiences at soup kitchens, meals on wheels
2. **Briefly describe your vision for Huntersville in the next 10 to 15 years.** I support the Town of Huntersville's 2030 vision. The Huntersville community will continue to have a unique identity based on a rich history and social responsibility. With our prime geographical location and diverse population, we will balance our approach to "green" or sustainability, to land use, and housing, high quality employment, education, recreation, and art/culture opportunities while remembering we are a friendly, diverse community. We respond to change by molding our plans based on our history and vision while partnering across our region and state to deliver innovative and beneficial solutions to support growth (roads, transportation, land use, recreation, and services) and maintain our high standard living for all of our residents.

What factors during that time will shape the growth of our community? Population growth including the increase of the median age of residents and build out of already approved projects; the timing of state and federal road projects; the evolution of our public transportation; sustainability: preserving natural resources, energy efficiency; continued economic expansion; and sustaining/growing our tax base to support infrastructure so our community is able to scale critical services. Our ability to attract and retain educated and skilled citizens (keeping Huntersville a great place to grow-up, return to as adult to work, and retire) is highly dependent on decisions made by our Town Council and the support of the planning team.

3. **What obstacles do you see to achieving this vision?**
 - Retaining our commitment to prevent the suburban sprawl model from guiding Huntersville's growth
 - Adequate transportation to support growth and quality of living) supporting in-town and a cross-zone access including addressing state road capacity in high density areas (NC-73, NC-21, NC-115) and providing flexible transit system (public, rail, greenways, bike paths)
 - Balancing open space and greenways/recreation with economic and residential development (timing and land use)
 - Pro-active planning in partnership with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system to support high quality educational opportunities for our growing community

4. **What special opportunities could be used to achieve your vision?**
 - Leverage our community college, local college community, and area high schools to become an "entrepreneur" incubator to retain local talent and continue to support small businesses
 - Promote sustainability and green technology: Emphasize our "green" friendly community, identifying federal, state, and county programs that may assist our residents, existing small businesses, and attract new commercial opportunities
 - Continue partnership with Cornelius and Davidson to identify unique opportunities that will positively impact the lifestyle of our town (working together beyond economic expansion)
 - Harness innovative opportunities created by our residents lifestyle changes within our community(i.e. "baby boomers", Gen X, Digital Gen)
 - Continue/expand promotion of our attractive location and skilled residents including industry specific practices like film & television production generating opportunities for historic and natural area preservation
5. **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.**
 - Make it easier for small businesses (retail and commercial) to develop in Huntersville
 - Find and implement creative and economic alternatives to solve congestion issues, support growth, and quality of living vs. relying exclusively on state and federal road projects
 - Plan and deliver scalable community services and culture, education, recreational amenities for all residents
 - Timing! As our community grows, prioritizing and scheduling changes to ensure we retain our community's identity and lifestyle will be critical.
 - Continue to evolve our communication outreach to our residents and promote engagement.

Other Comments:

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if you'd like more information.

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