



TOWN OF
AMHERST
MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Town Manager
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To: Town Council
Town Clerk

Fr: Paul Bockelman
Town Manager

Dt: October 31, 2019
Updated November 12, 2019

Re: Cultural Council Appointments

Appointments

With this memo, I refer to the Town Council and simultaneously file with the Town Clerk, the following names of people I desire to appoint as members of the Cultural Council in accordance with Section 2.11(b) of the Amherst Home Rule Charter. Terms are effective immediately unless otherwise noted.

Three-year term (3):

(expires June 30, 2022) Jennifer Lind, 94 Summer Street (reappointment)
Julianne Applegate, 279 Market Hill Road
Terry Rooney, 28 Teaberry Lane

Two-year term (2):

(expires June 30, 2021) Georgia Barnhill, 54 Larkspur Drive (reappointment)
Sondra Radosh, 57 Farview Way (reappointment)

Gina Chaplain and Robin Thompson will continue as members with terms expiring June 30, 2020. There continues to be one vacancy and one member will continue to serve until the seat is filled.

Profiles

Jennifer Lind: Ms. Lind has been in the museum field for over 25 years as a collection manager, exhibition registrar, and curator. She is currently the Registrar and Collection Manager at University Museum of Contemporary Art at the University of Massachusetts. She is very interested in organizing and supporting arts programming in Town.

Julianne Applegate: Ms. Applegate is a lifelong design professional and this would be her first service on a Town committee. She is eager to work with her fellow committee members to

cultivate inspiring experiences in Amherst that draws the community into conversation and collaboration. She is especially interested in seeing how art can be experienced at different scales.

Terry Rooney: Ms. Rooney served on the Town's Public Art Commission for nine years until 2013, chairing the Commission for many of those years. As an artist and curator, she has produced several large events in Town including: Shedding Light (lighting of the tobacco barn on the Swartz family farm) for Amherst's 250th anniversary, the Little White Houses (poetry houses at the Emily Dickinson Museum), and Art in the Park (contemporary art in Kendrick Park). She also started the Amherst Biennial (art in expected and unexpected places) that exhibited art at over 20 locations.

Georgia Barnhill: Ms. Barnhill's interest is in the visual arts and got involved in the Cultural Council when she moved to Town. Previously, she had served on the Worcester Cultural Commission. She works as a curator and produced an exhibit at the Mead Art Museum at Amherst College. She is an author and a recognized authority on American historical prints. She is the retired Andrew W. Mellon curator at the American Antiquarian Society.

Sondra Radosh: As children's librarian at the Jones Library, Ms. Radosh served as the staff liaison to the Cultural Council until her retirement in 2015. She subsequently was appointed to the Council where she brings a theater background to the Council's deliberations. She also serves as a board member of the Friends of the Jones Library.

Summary of Process

I assembled a team to conduct interviews. The interview team was comprised of Transportation Advisory Committee chair Georgia Barnhill and Jennifer Lind, co-chairs of the Council, staff support Cynthia Harbeson, and Paul Bockelman, Town Manager. No member of the Residents' Advisory Committee was available to participate in the interviews.

The interview team interviewed all new candidates. All team members asked questions and contributed to the discussion during the interview. At the conclusion of the interview, we agreed that the appointments and reappointments listed above would best serve the needs of the Committee.

Background Information

Below is the relevant section of the Charter for your review. Notice was posted on the Town Bulletin Board on September 19, 2019 in accordance with Section 9.12(e) of the Town Charter.

Section 2.11(b) of the Charter states:

Members of Multiple-Member Bodies: The Town Manager shall refer to the Town Council and simultaneously file with the Town Clerk, the name of each person the Town Manager desires to appoint as a member of a multiple-member body. Appointment of a member of a multiple-member body made by the Town Manager shall become effective on the 30th day after the date on which notice of the proposed appointment was filed with the Town Clerk unless approved or rejected by a majority of the full Town Council within the 30 days.

TOWN OF AMHERST
COMMITTEE CHARGE

Name: **AMHERST CULTURAL COUNCIL**

Appointing authority: SB
Type: Committee

Town bylaw: no

Number of voting members: 9

Member appointment: 3 yrs.

Voting members to include (where possible): Those who have demonstrated scholarship or creativity in, or distinguished service to, the arts and humanities, and who shall be broadly representative of all fields of the performing arts, the fine arts, and the humanities. Some experience in handling funds desirable. Members should collectively have knowledge of education, economic development, and tourism.

The Amherst Cultural Council follows all terms and conditions established by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. The council allocates state Arts Lottery funds, but it is directed to support and nurture arts activities in the community by seeking private or other public funds and initiatives. The state may request the assistance of the local council in promoting the sale of Arts Lottery tickets.

Members are elected for a 3-year term, which is renewable one time for a second 3-year term. Members must remain off the council for a one-year interval before serving additional terms.

Special Municipal Employee Status conferred by MGL Chapter 10 Section 58.

The original item was published from 9/19/2019 11:49:00 AM to 10/27/2019 12:00:04 AM.

In the News

Amherst Bulletin Board

Posted on: September 19, 2019

[ARCHIVED] Multiple Vacancies on Town Boards & Committees

The Town Manager continues to seek volunteers to serve on Town Boards. Boards and Committees that have or may have vacancies include the Agricultural Commission, Community Preservation Act Committee, Cultural Council, Disability Access Advisory Committee,

The Town Manager continues to seek volunteers to serve on Town Boards. Boards and Committees that have or may have vacancies include the **Agricultural Commission, Community Preservation Act Committee, Cultural Council, Disability Access Advisory Committee, LSSE Commission, Munson Memorial Building Trustees, Participatory Budgeting Commission, Public Art Commission, and the Transportation Advisory Committee.**

A current list of vacancies [can be found here](#). A complete list of all boards and committees [can be found here](#).

Here is a little about each of some of the committees:

- Agricultural Commission: The Agricultural Commission supports commercial agriculture and other farming activities in the Town by promoting agricultural-based economic opportunities; acting as mediators, advocates, educators, and/or negotiators on farming issues; working for the preservation of agricultural lands; pursuing all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community; and reviewing and advising on development proposed in farmland areas, as may be permitted under zoning and other development regulations. We are looking for active farmers for this Commission.
- Community Preservation Act (CPA) Committee: The CPA Committee studies the needs and resources of the Town regarding community preservation; makes recommendations to the Town Council annually for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, for the acquisition and preservation of historic resources, for the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use, for the creation, preservation and support of community housing and for rehabilitation or restoration of such open space, historic resources, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created as provided in the Community Preservation Act.
- Cultural Council: The Cultural Council allocates state Arts Lottery funds and works to support and nurture arts activities in the community by seeking private or other public funds and initiatives.
- Disability Access Advisory Committee: The goals of the Disability Access Advisory Committee are to serve as an advisory committee on issues of physical, programmatic, and employment accessibility, and ensure equal access for people with disabilities.
- LSSE Commission: The LSSE Commission – which is Amherst's version of a recreation department - assists the LSSE Department by advising on recreational facilities and a variety of leisure and recreational programs and supplemental education classes. The Commission develops

policies, rules and regulations governing the operation of the facilities and the delivery of LSSE programs. The Commission also advises on public playgrounds, parks, and athletic facilities.

- Munson Memorial Building Trustees: The Munson Memorial Building Trustees oversee the general use of the Munson Memorial Library building and act as the community representative for the town with respect to the building. The Trustees plant and tend the garden and take care of the shrubbery.
- Participatory Budgeting Commission: The Town Charter also calls for the creation of a Participatory Budgeting Commission to propose a measure to adopt participatory budgeting or other similar method of resident participation in the budgeting process in Amherst. Two residents have been appointed by the Town Council and three residents shall be appointed by the Town Manager. There is one opening available. The Commission shall propose a measure to the Town Council by September 1, 2020. The Town is seeking individuals of diverse backgrounds to serve on this commission.
- Public Art Commission: The Public Art Commission fosters a greater community awareness of the interaction with public art, and through public art, promotes cultural diversity and an improved quality of life for Amherst's residents.
- Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC): TAC is advisory committee to the Town Manager and the Select Board on all transportation matters. The TAC seeks address all transportation matters in a comprehensive and holistic manner. The TAC provides advice on current and proposed transportation regulations, policies, initiatives, and improvement projects. The Town Manager seeks residents who have relevant expertise or experience. The Town Manager is especially seeking individuals of diverse backgrounds to serve on all boards, committees, and commissions.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve, [please fill out a Community Activity Form here](#). If you have questions, you can reach out to our Community Participation Officers at getinvolved@amherstma.gov.

This notice fulfills the Town bulletin board requirement Charter Section 9. 12 (e).

The reference cited above is from [the Amherst Home Rule Charter](#).