



City Council Staff Report

REPORT DATE: June 4, 2021

HEARING DATE: June 9, 2021

SUBJECT **Appointments of Design Review Committee**

ITEM TYPE Public Hearing Work Session Action Item

PRESENTER Mayor Frohlich

APPLICABLE VICTOR VALUES

Culturally Historic Sustainable Connected to Nature
 Small Town Feel Family Friendly Administrative Need

PURPOSE & PROCESS

The purpose of this item is to discuss the appointments for the Urban Renewal Agency and the Design Review Committee.

BACKGROUND/ALTERNATIVES

The Design Review Committee was recently created by interim ordinance. The proposed appointment terms are set to expire with the interim ordinance on June 1, 2022. As this is an interim Committee no appointment policy has yet been created. If or when the Code is official changed to the intent of the interim ordinance appointment policies will be created and re-appointments will be scheduled.

The three appointees have knowledge and backgrounds in planning, construction, and architecture and are qualified County residence to service appointments by the City of Victor.

Alternatives to appoint of the DRC include:

1. Direct staff to advertise for additional letters of interest.
2. Leave seats vacant.
3. Other

ATTACHMENTS

- None

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF IMPACT

The City Clerk will work with the DRC to get all paperwork finalized.

LEGAL REVIEW

None

RECOMMENDATION

SUGGESTED MOTION

DRC Appointment:

Mayor: I hereby appoint Joel Ahlum to the Design Review Committee for a one-year term expiring on June 1, 2022.

Page | 2

Council: I move to confirm Mayor Will Frohlich's appointment of Joel Ahlum to the Design Review Committee for a one-year term expiring on June 1, 2022. (General Vote)

Mayor: I hereby appoint Laura D. Johnston to the Design Review Committee for a one-year term expiring on June 1, 2022.

Council: I move to confirm Mayor Will Frohlich's appointment of Laura D. Johnston to the Design Review Committee for a one-year term expiring on June 1, 2022. (General Vote)

Mayor: I hereby appoint Brent Sikora to the Design Review Committee for a one-year term expiring on June 1, 2022.

Council: I move to confirm Mayor Will Frohlich's appointment of Brent Sikora to the Design Review Committee for a one-year term expiring on June 1, 2022. (General Vote)

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my interest in being on the “Design Review Committee”. I live and work in Teton Valley and I’m excited to help shape the future of our town. I was on the committee to rewrite the guidelines and I would love to help any way I can in shaping and enforcing these guidelines. I own New West Building Company in Driggs. I have extensive experience with development, construction, and design. My contact # is (307)-920-1006. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Thank you,
Joel Ahlum
New West Building Company
307-920-1006

Brent Sikora, AIA
8525 S 1000 W
Victor, ID 83455
(e) brent@untitled-architecture.com
(c) 571.438.8877

June 02, 2021

Dear Mayor Frohlich,

I am writing to you to express my desire to be included as part of the City of Victor Design Review Committee recently approved by the City Council. As a home owner in Victor since 2019, and a resident of the greater Teton area since 2016, I have become engrained in the community of people as well as the design culture of both valleys. Most important on my list of reasons to become involved in this committee, is my love for what Victor is, who it is, and where it can go. I decided to settle my life here, so if given the opportunity, I would love to be a part of the committee that helps to shape what the community can become.

In academia, where I studied as an architect, I was a part of a design/build program that designed and constructed the Masonic Amphitheatre in Clifton Forge, Virginia in 2012. The project consists of the complete redevelopment of a post-industrial brownfield into a public park and performance space. While the architecture of the project was certainly successful, the realization that architecture has the potential to create a sense of place and identity for a town and its people was much more influential on the trajectory of my education and ultimately my career. A building, whether a home or a grocery store, is more successful when it is designed for the city rather than solely for its site or its intended purpose. I believe that what I learned from this experience is directly attributable to how Victor will grow, and what design considerations are important so that we can ensure the possibility of successful growth.

I have practiced as an architect and as an artist in both Jackson and Victor since my arrival to the Teton area in 2016. Working during the day for CLB architects in Jackson, and at nights for my own practice. At CLB, I have had the opportunity to expand on my knowledge and experience of a carefully crafted design process that results in a highly refined experience of architecture. My time at CLB has proven to me what well considered design can and should be. Ultimately, the goal of design is always to respect its place and serve to give its users a lens to experience that place.

In my own practice, and most relevant to my desire to be involved with the DRC, I recently completed the design of the Fitzgerald's and Fisher Creative building on Main Street in Victor with my colleague and fellow Victor resident, Danny Wicke. Our intent for the project was to enliven the street front and city scape of Victor. In other words, it was "designed for the city rather than solely for its site or intended purpose". When I walk down Main Street on a summer day and see the crowd of people congregating around the bike shop, I can't help but to envision a future for Victor that allows that experience to be expanded further back into town. I believe that the intelligent and well crafted design of future development is paramount to the success of the community of Victor. I believe that I have the right experience, interest, and intention to be involved with this committee. There is a future for Victor that will continue to enliven this community. I appreciate your consideration for my involvement in the community and the City of Victor Design Review Committee.

Best,

Brent Sikora

LDJ

7861 House Top Lane
Victor, ID 83455

Mayor Will Frohlich
City of Victor
10 S. Main Street
Victor, ID 83455

May 4, 2021

Dear Mayor Frohlich:

I understand that Victor is discussing the creation and implementation of an interim ordinance to create a Design Review Committee I also understand that this Committee will function on behalf of the Planning Commission, to undertake the review and approval applications for Design Review and Site Plan Review. I further understand that while this Committee is being implemented to help address the current high volume of submittals, it is yet to be determined as to whether the Committee will be needed long term.

I would like to formally throw my hat in the ring as a candidate for this Committee. While I am fairly new to Victor, I have a long history in community planning. As we briefly discussed previously (as you walked the neighborhood one day!), I started my professional planning career as a City Planner in Boise. During my professional career I worked on both the public planning side as well as the consulting side of the table. Experience on both sides afforded me a better understanding of the public planning process from both the applicant and the administrative perspectives. My duties ranged from early on as staff planner for the planning commission and design review committees to planning director as well as also leading a consulting practice for a large international engineering and planning firm.

I have a solid understanding of code interpretation and implementation, design requirements, site and landscape plans. I have the ability to read and interpret both municipal codes and building plans. Furthermore, I fully understand that the design review process is intended to protect property rights and values, enhance important environmental features of the city and ensure that the general appearance of buildings and site improvements are consistent with the goals of the city as outlined in the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan!

Please accept this letter of interest for your consideration of me as a member on the soon to be formed Victor Design Review Committee. I look forward to contributing to the City of Victor during this dynamic and active planning period. I can be reached via email at sljjohn@gmail.com and via cell phone at 225-955-2431.

Sincerely,



Laura D. Johnston