Johnson, Patrick

From: Araminta Everton <aramintaeverton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2013 4:44 PM
To: District Applications
Subject: Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission Application - Araminta Everton
Attachments: Application for Redistricting Committee.pdf

Good afternoon. Please find attached my application for the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. Should you need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,
Araminta Everton
512/496-0272

10483

APPLICATION FOR THE INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Application Period:
January 18, 2013
through
February 22, 2013

Please submit your completed application
by email to district.applications@austintexas.gov
by mail or in person to:
Office of the City Auditor
301 W. 2nd Street Suite 2130
Austin, TX 78701

APPLICATION FOR THE INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION 2013

FOR ASSISTANCE WITH INTERPRETING KEY TERMS, SEE THE GLOSSARY AT THE END OF THIS APPLICATION

MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS CAN BE FOUND IN THE CITY AUDITOR'S INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE AND THE CITY CHARTER AT WWW.AUSTINTEXAS.GOV/10-ONE

You must submit an electronic application to district.applications@austintexas.gov
or provide a signed application to the Office of the City Auditor in person or by mail at:
301 W. 2nd Street, Suite 2130
Austin, TX 78701
Submission Deadline: February 22, 2013

DUTIES AND TERMS OF SERVICE

Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission **duties** include:

1. Conduct duties with integrity and fairness.
2. Conduct an open and transparent process to enable full public consideration of and comment on the drawing of district lines to include an open hearing process.
3. Draw district lines in accordance with specific redistricting criteria in the Charter.
4. Adopt a final redistricting plan and certify the plan to the Austin City Council.
5. Issue a report that explains the basis on which the Commission made its decisions.

Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission Member **terms of service** include:

1. Members of the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission) will not be compensated for serving, but are eligible to receive reimbursement of reasonable and necessary expenses related to Commission duties. Guidance on what is considered "reasonable and necessary" will be provided by the appropriate authority at a later date.
2. Serve a term of office that expires when the first member of the succeeding Commission is appointed in the year after the next national census is taken.
3. Members of the Commission will be subject to the following restrictions on their future activities:
   - For a period of **10** years beginning from the date that a person is appointed to the Commission, the person **will not** be eligible to be elected to the Austin City Council.
   - For a period of **three** years beginning from the date that a person is appointed to the Commission, the person **may not** hold appointed office for the City of Austin.
   - For a period of **three** years beginning from the date that a person is appointed to the Commission, the person **may not:**
     - Serve as a City employee or as a paid consultant to the City of Austin.
     - Serve as a paid consultant to a member of the City Council in the council member's private capacity; or
     - Receive a non-competitively bid contract with the City of Austin.

APPLICATION FOR THE INDEPENDENT CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION 2013

Please complete this section legibly.

Name of Applicant: Everton (Last) Araminta (First) L. (Middle) (Suffix)

Voter Registration Number (VUID): 1143020771

Residence Address (must be a fixed location in the City of Austin):

3307 Perry Lane (Street Address) Austin (City) Texas (State) 78731 (Zip)

Mailing Address (if different from Residence Address)

PO Box 1284 (preferred address) (Street Address or PO Box) Austin (City) Texas (State) 78767 (Zip)

Contact Phone: 512/496-0272

Contact Email Address: redistrictingaustin@gmail.com

Spouse's Name: N/A (Last) (First) (Middle) (Suffix)

13-02-22P06:51 RCVD

Please check YES or NO by each requirement. If you answer YES to question one (1), you may skip questions four (4) and five (5).

1. Are you a student enrolled in a community college or university in the City of Austin? ☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

2. Do you reside in the City of Austin? ☑ **Yes** ☐ **No**

3. Are you registered to vote in the City of Austin? ☑ **Yes** ☐ **No**

4. Have you been continuously registered to vote in the City of Austin for the five years immediately preceding the date on which you submit this application? ☑ **Yes** ☐ **No**

5. Please indicate whether you voted in the following City of Austin general elections (or corresponding runoff if applicable):

City of Austin General Elections	Candidate Response
May 12, 2012	☑ Yes ☐ No
May 14, 2011	☑ Yes ☐ No
May 9, 2009	☐ Yes ☑ No
May 10, 2008	☑ Yes ☐ No
May 13, 2006	☑ Yes ☐ No

Conflicts of Interest

The information below is required to help the City Auditor identify any conflict of interest you may have.

Within 5 years of the application date, have *you or your spouse*:	
Been appointed to a state or city office?	☐ Yes ☑ No
Been elected to a state or city office?	☐ Yes ☑ No
Been a candidate for a state or city office?	☐ Yes ☑ No
Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a political party?	☐ Yes ☑ No
Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of the campaign committee of a candidate for elective state, county, or city office?	☐ Yes ☑ No
Been a registered state or local lobbyist?	☐ Yes ☑ No
Within 3 years of the application date, have *you or your spouse* been:	
A paid employee of the City of Austin?	☐ Yes ☑ No
A person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to the City of Austin or the City Council of the City of Austin?	☐ Yes ☑ No
A controlling person of a person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to the City of Austin or the City Council of the City of Austin?	☐ Yes ☑ No
A person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to any member of the City Council of the City of Austin?	☐ Yes ☑ No
A controlling person of a person performing paid services under a professional or political contract to any member of the City Council of the City of Austin?	☐ Yes ☑ No
In the last City Election did *you or your spouse*:	
Contribute or bundle one thousand dollars ($1,000) or more in aggregate to candidates for City of Austin elective office?	☐ Yes ☑ No

Personal Background Information

- **Ethnicity:** Caucasian
- **Race:** White
- **Gender:** ☐ Male ☑ Female
- **Age: (Please check your response)**

  ☐ 18 to 24 ☐ 25 to 34 ☑ 35 to 44 ☐ 45 to 54 ☐ 55 to 64 ☐ 65+

- **Education level: (Please check any that apply)**

  ☑ High School Diploma or GED

  ☐ Some College (major_____)

  ☐ Associate's Degree (major_____)

  ☑ Bachelor's Degree (major Public Relations)

  ☑ Post-Graduate Degree, indicate highest degree attained: (subject Org Leadership & Ethics)

Qualifications

Please describe your relevant analytical skills.

As a state agency director of administration, I oversee such programs as financial services, human resources, media, grants, records, and public outreach. My daily work involves analyzing numerous pieces of information coming from managers and staff in order to make informed decisions about division matters and agency policy. I tend to utilize deductive reasoning in coming to logical conclusions. I process information quickly, am highly organized, am concise in my communication, and am extremely detailed. With a master's degree in organizational leadership, I am skilled at analyzing business systems and processes to maximize operational efficiency.

Please describe your ability to be impartial.

For me impartiality stems from a scientific approach. I am a strong believer in the use of factual analysis and statistics versus anecdotal experiences and emotion. In analyzing data, I tend to use empirical assessment and analytical judgment.

During my graduate school experience at St. Edward's University, I studied critical thinking at length and wrote numerous papers on the need for a balanced approach to leadership, coupled with the ramifications of ethics in decision-making. I have debated the subtle and overt influences that help create decisions, and quite literally, my graduate degree is oriented around making informed, yet impartial decisions. In my current work for the state of Texas, I commit daily to creating fair and impartial policies to affect necessary changes in the organization.

Having several years of experience working for the Texas Legislature, I am accustomed to hearing emotionally charged rhetoric. Through many legislative sessions I have learned how to afford that rhetoric the proper weight for evaluation. I have over 15 years of daily exposure to the balancing act of public policy and societal needs and am comfortable in drawing conclusions from subjective matter.

Please describe your appreciation for the City of Austin's diverse demographics and geography.

As a 30+ year resident of Austin, I love our city and consider myself most fortunate to be part of a vibrant and growing community. I am a product of local public schools, the University of Texas, and St. Edward's University. I have never taken up residence or worked in any other city and cannot imagine a good enough reason to do so.

Having grown up in Northwest Austin, gone to school in central and south Austin, worked for a legislator who represented the majority of south/southwest Austin, and now living in central Austin, I have a healthy appreciation for the city's diverse demographics and geography. My peer group throughout my school years and in my professional life has been drawn from a cross-representation of Austin lifestyles.

I am a patron of the arts, sing in my church choir, and am an actively involved in service to the community through leadership opportunities in my church and in the Junior League. I work and play with people of all political stripes and backgrounds. As a member of the current class of Leadership Austin, I continue to learn about issues affecting our city while making friends and acquaintances from varied and diverse sectors of the community.

My community service and work experiences have allowed me to see much of Austin, and I am acutely aware that the large majority of the city does not have a council member near their neighborhood or community group. In reviewing current records, there are no council members living north of 2222, south of Lady Bird Lake, west of Mopac or east of 183. This leaves a large portion of the city under-represented where single-member districts can bring city government much closer to the residents its policies affect.

The city demographer recently reported that Austin can expect long term, sustained, and rapid population growth that will be decidedly suburban, less urban, and dominated by growth among the Hispanic and Asian communities. The current makeup of the council does not represent the suburban population or an increased minority presence in the community. Additionally, the demographer suggests increasing socio-economic gaps among residents and an age structure of the projected growth to be the very young, baby boomers, and senior adults. Again, the current council does not reflect these demographic trends. I believe single-member districts can be drawn fairly to ensure collective council representation for current and projected populations.

Please provide any other information you wish to be considered during the selection of the most qualified applicants for the Commission.

Although I have not had responsibility nor involvement in any redistricting process before, I do have some experience and have developed a familiarity with mapping software used for redistricting. I have been involved in discussions about demographics, recognizing the importance of keeping communities of interest intact and utilizing identifiable boundary lines instead of splitting like areas.

From a leadership perspective, the 10-1 redistricting plan brings a historic opportunity to Austin residents by having localized representation on the city council. The redistricting process itself brings a critical imperative to bear for those who will draw its boundary lines -- a need to:

1) congeal around a specific goal from the outset of the commission's meetings
2) collaborate versus compromise in order to ensure buy-in and win-win situations wherever possible
3) actively listen to ALL stakeholders and proactively seek input from all interested parties; and
4) draw a map that is representative of the diversity and individuality of the city and its residents

Without these four principles in play, I believe it is possible that council seats could be drawn in a way that silos neighborhoods and pits communities against each other. It is the responsibility of the redistricting commission to find an equitable, yet efficient method to bring the city's residents together on this plan.

In reviewing a map of voter turnout by precinct for the May 2012 city elections, it became clear that residents outside the central city did not vote in any large numbers. It appears voter apathy exists in the northeast, north central, southeast, and south central areas of the city. In applying to serve on the redistricting commission, I would like to bring my analytical, managerial, and people skills to bear in order to help all of Austin find a seat at the governance table. Each resident of our city deserves to feel a part of representative city government.

DISCLAIMER

By submitting this application, I understand that I am giving the City Auditor permission to release my information to the public. In particular, I affirmatively consent to the release of the contact email address I have provided.

If I am appointed, my address, contact phone number and contact email address will be included on the City of Austin's website.

I understand my application is public information under the Texas Public Information Act. The information will be kept according to the City Auditor's records retention policies.

I understand that my participation on the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission is voluntary.

I understand the duties and terms of service for the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission as described above.

Under penalty of law, I swear or affirm that the preceding information in this application is in all things true and correct.

Araminta L. Everton
Signature of Applicant

If submitting electronically, please type your full name in the signature box.

02/22/13
Date

GLOSSARY

- "Bundle" means to raise money as an intermediary for a council candidate by soliciting contributions on the candidate's behalf.
- "Campaign committee" in regard to an "officer, employee or paid consultant of a campaign committee" means a candidate or a specific purpose political committee supporting or opposing a candidate.
- "Candidate" for elective office means a person whose name appeared on a ballot, or who was a declared write-in candidate, in a general or primary election. It does not mean a person who merely announced a candidacy or only filed campaign finance filings. This definition attempts to construe the term against ineligibility, avoid ambiguity and disputes of fact, and use the term in the way most commonly understood by a lay person.
- "City" means Austin.
- "City elective office" means the office of mayor and city council member.
- "City employee" means an employee on the City payroll, including a temporary or part-time employee. The term does not include an independent contractor. This definition follows the definition in Section 2-7-2 of the City Code.
- "City office," with respect to appointment, means a municipal court judgeship (including a substitute judgeship), and membership on a commission, committee, board, task force, or other City body appointed by the mayor or the city council. This definition follows the definition of "city official" in Section 2-7-2 of the City Code, excluding those City officials who are covered separately as City employees.
- "Community college or university in the City of Austin" means a degree-granting post-secondary educational institution, accredited by a recognized accrediting agency under the Education Code, that grants one or more of the following: an associate's degree, a bachelor's degree, a master's degree, or a doctorate, and that regularly conducts classes where the instructor and two or more students are physically present in a physical location within Austin's city limits.
- "Contribution," for purposes of calculating aggregate contributions to candidates for City elective office, includes all contributions to candidates for mayor and city council, and contributions to specific purpose political committees supporting or opposing those candidates.
- "County" refers to a county in which the City of Austin has territory.
- "County elective office" means an office that is voted on county-wide or an office that is voted on by the voters of a precinct drawn by a commissioners court.
- "Employee" with respect to a political party or campaign committee means a person who was paid a salary by the political party or campaign committee.
- "Local lobbyist" means a person required to register under Chapter 4-8 of the City Code.
- "Non-competitively bid contract" means a contract which must be awarded as provided in Section 252.043 of the Local Government Code ("lowest responsible bidder" or "best value for the municipality").

- "Officer" with respect to the "campaign committee of a candidate for elective state, county or city office" means:
  - the campaign treasurer of a candidate for an elective state, county, or city office;
  - the campaign treasurer of a specific purpose political committee that supported or opposed a candidate for an elective state, county, or city office; or
  - an officer or director of an incorporated specific purpose political committee, incorporated for liability purposes only under Section 253.092 of the Texas Election Code, that supported or opposed a candidate for an elective state, county, or city office.

- "Officer" with respect to a political party means a precinct chair, a county chair, or a member of a party executive committee under Title 10 of the Texas Election Code.

- "Paid Consultant" with respect to work done for a political party or campaign committee means a person who was paid monetary consideration for providing legal services, accounting services, public relations services, statistical or polling services, or political or campaign-related services or advice.

- "Paid Consultant" with respect to the three year ban on paid consultancy with a council member, means having a "political or professional contract" with a council member as defined in this guidance.

- "Political or professional contract," in the context of a contract with a council member, means a contract with a council member under which, in return for consideration, a person provided expert advice or personal services related to a council member's duties or to the council member's service as a council member, or provided advice about the conduct of campaign activities or holding office, or provided services to a council member that would be reportable on the council member's required campaign and officeholder filings under Title 15 of the Texas Election Code; Article III, §8 of the Austin City Charter; or Chapter 2-2 of the Austin City Code. This does not include a contract solely for the sale of goods.

- "Political party" means a political party that appeared on the ballot in any of the last three general elections for state and county officers.

- "Professional contract," in the context of a contract with the City means a non-competitively bid contract other than a contract solely for the sale of goods.

- "State" means Texas.

- "State office" means an office held by a "state officer" as defined in Section 572.002 of the Government Code.
  - In the context of an appointment to a state office, "state office" means: the office of Secretary of State, an office of a state agency subject to appointment for a term of office specified by the Texas Constitution or a statute of this state; an office subject to appointment with the advice and consent of the senate; the position of executive head of a state agency; or a state office subject to election but filled by appointment because of a vacancy or because the office is newly created.
  - In the context of candidacy or election to a state office, "state office" means a seat in the legislature, an executive or judicial office filled in a statewide election; a judgeship of a court of appeals or of a district court; membership on the State Board of Education; or the position of district attorney or criminal district attorney.

- "Student" means a person actively enrolled in a community college or university on the date of the person's application to the Commission.