



# TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH

## Advisory Board Application

If you are a Town of Hillsborough resident and willing to volunteer your time and expertise to your community, please complete this form. Volunteers for the Parks and Recreation Board must be at least 13 years old, and volunteers for all other boards must be at least 18 years old.

**Name:**

Linda Paynter

**Home address:**

115 E Tryon St

**Home phone number:**

2028122776

**Email address:**

lindanotatwork@gmail.com

**Birth date:**

June 29, 1973

**Gender:**

Female

**Ethnic origin:**

Other

**Boards you would be willing to serve on:**

First choice — Tree Board

**Reasons for wanting to serve:**

I just like trees a lot! In particular natives but open to all trees that can provide us with a good environment in town. I know from a former board member the kind of things that they did, but here are my special interests right now: I would love to see how we can offset the carbon from the increasing number of developments in town. And I see these fantastic sidewalks going up and am interested in getting some natural shade for them, for those who do not have an option but to walk in the summer heat, and for the rest of us who might walk more often if it were a better experience!

**Have you served or are you currently serving on a town board? If so, which ones and when?**

No

**Relevant work, volunteer or educational experience:**

I have an incomplete Horticulture Associate Degree from NOVA community college. Prior to that I worked in not-for-profits, mainly International Development, mainly in monitoring, evaluation, risk and process assessment (that's a lot of jargon - sorry!). Some work with Federal Government grants from that perspective. Monitoring and evaluation included grassroots community work, community organization and empowerment, community-led decision-making, women's rights and empowerment. Not sure how these might fit with the Tree Board!! But I take these inclusive concepts wherever I go these days.

**How are you connected to Hillsborough (live, work, play, shop, own property)?**

I have lived here 8 years. I am in the downtown bubble and keen to break out of that.

**Have you reviewed the Vision 2030 plan, and what are your thoughts about it?**

Yes to making this a community.

I think Hillsborough has some unique difficulties, and a tough history, but right now it is small enough that we could surely have a good shot at linking together.

Learning to make genuine time to listen, finding ways to demonstrate that people's opinions matter, making space for criticism, these are things that, in my experience, can foster long term positive change.

I am keen on finding ways to hear the busy people of Hillsborough regarding the green in their town.

**Have you reviewed other town documents (budget, strategy map, small area plans), and what are your thoughts about them?**

Not in enough detail to comment.

**What challenges do you see the town facing that could be addressed by the board or boards on which you wish to serve?**

I am concerned about developers. They appear to agree up-front to something and then slowly chip away at that commitment. I don't know if that is true or not.

In particular the carbon effect of development seems like something that developers need to address. And I feel there needs to be a genuine commitment from them to be proactive on that, now and in the future, if we find out there are better ways to address the issue.

(Right now, my interest is in tiny forests that seem to have a disproportionately high effect on carbon levels, and how they can be incorporated by developers. I think it is something worth exploring. )

**How you heard about this opportunity:**

Current volunteer

**Agreement:**

✓ I have been advised that I am committing to attend the volunteer board's regular meetings. Attendance at the regular meetings shall be considered a prerequisite for maintaining membership on the board. The Board of Commissioners may declare a vacancy on the board because of non-attendance.