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Submission information

Form: [CBJ Board Application](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Fri, 05/24/2024 - 4:27pm
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First Name

Matt

Last Name

Catterson

Residence Address

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Primary Phone Number

██████████

Secondary Phone Number

██████████

Email

██████████@yahoo.com

Board, Commission, Committee

Douglas Advisory Board

Current of Prior Experience on CBJ Boards/Commissions/Committees

My experience with CBJ Boards/Commissions/Committees is limited. I served on the West Juneau/South Douglas Area Plan Steering Committee. I am actively seeking opportunities to become involved in more civic activities.

Reasons for Applying

I live and work in Douglas: Douglas is my home. I am actively looking for ways to contribute to my community and help ensure that Douglas continues to be a prosperous, desirable, and unique place to live and work. I believe in the public process and that local community advisory boards can play an important role connecting local residents to our City government and help bridge the gaps between government processes and community members.

Qualifications

I have a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Architectural Studies from Hobart College in NY, a Bachelors of Science degree from UAF in Fisheries, and a Master of Science degree from UAF in Fisheries- I completed both UAF degrees in Juneau.

I currently work as fisheries biologist for the Sport Fish Division of ADF&G. I have worked in fisheries management for ADF&G in Southeast Alaska since 2015 in Sitka, and Yakutat, and am now located in the Douglas office. In my current position I coordinate two regional programs: the Sport Fisheries Boating Access program and Sport Fisheries Enhancement program. Both programs leverage federal funding to improve and maintain sport fishing opportunity for anglers in Southeast Alaska. Both programs involve significant planning, communication, and coordination to identify, evaluate, and implement projects that benefit sport anglers while meeting federal funding requirements. My current job depends on good communication and working relationships with other State agency staff, City and municipal staff in communities around Southeast, and the general public. I have also spent years living and working in the communities of Sitka and Yakutat, my experiences in these smaller and more rural locations have contributed significantly to my understanding of complicated dynamics of communities in Southeast Alaska.

Prior to beginning my professional career with ADF&G, I worked as an Economic Development Advisor for the State of Alaska, with a focus on fisheries and maritime industry research and development- this experience has diversified my understanding of the interactions between communities and the industries and government processes upon which their prosperity depends.

I served on the West Juneau/South Douglas Area Plan Steering Committee, which gave me some experience working with CBJ staff on the types of issues that the Douglas Advisory Board works on. I would like to continue that type of community based work, but I understand the area planning process has been delayed by staffing shortages.

When not working I am passionate about outdoor recreation, and spend a lot of time in the waters, forests, trails, and mountains of Douglas and the greater Juneau and Southeast Alaska areas. I have been an Eaglecrest season pass holder for about 15 years and utilize Douglas parks, roads, trails, and marine infrastructure for recreational purposes. I am regular user of both the North and South Douglas boat launch ramps and believe strongly in the importance of facilities that provide access to the outdoors.

Civic Activities, Memberships or Non-profits Involved With

I am on the board of the Douglas community garden and serve as the treasurer. The Douglas Community Garden is a small non-profit that provides vegetable growing space, information, and assistance to community members. We recently worked with CBJ to execute a cooperative agreement to expand our growing space to the area adjacent to the Fruiting Forest on Fourth Street.

I am actively looking opportunities to become more involved in civic activities.

Working with a Group

All of my current professional work requires effectively working with a team that often includes individuals from different agencies, communities, and organizations. My involvement with the Douglas Community Garden board and the Douglas Area Plan steering committee requires working closely with small groups of Douglas residents who have different perspectives but are passionate about our community.

My approach to working in a group is grounded in empathy and respect. I strongly believe that good communication begins with actually listening to people and working to understand their perspectives, even if I disagree. I know from my work and volunteer experience that it can be challenging to work through issues with people who have different or conflicting perspectives, it takes time and effort, but if the group can persevere to achieve a result it will no doubt be improved by the diversity of perspectives that contributed to it.

Meeting Schedule and Attendance

Yes, I have a lot of experience participating in meetings both virtually and in person.

Date of Birth (Optional)



Ethnicity (Optional)

Caucasian

Gender (Optional)

Male

Acknowledgement/Certification

Agree, Matt Catterson

Resume, Education, etc. (Optional)

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