



NOVI CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
45175 TEN MILE ROAD
NOVI, MI 48375
(248) 347-0456
Fax (248) 347-0577
www.cityofnovi.org

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in serving on an advisory board or commission. The purpose of this form is to provide City Council members with comprehensive information about residents who would like to be considered for appointment. Please provide thoughtful, detailed answers. City Council will make appointments based on this application and a two minute introductory speech given by candidates during a City Council meeting. Boards and commissions candidate introductions typically take place in February, June and December. This application will be kept on file for one year, and is open for public inspection upon request.

Name (Please print): Adrienne Breznau

Nickname, if preferred: _____

Address: 41452 Burroughs Avenue, Novi, MI 48377

Preferred Phone Number: 303-503-7308

E-mail: adriennebreznau@gmail.com

Are you a registered voter in the City of Novi? Yes

How long have you lived continuously in the City of Novi? 5 years (Since September 2017)

Employed by: Retired

Educational Background: Master of Library and Information Science, BA in History

Please describe your professional qualifications, skills and/or work experience, and how you would use these to benefit the boards and/or commissions for which you are applying.

Prior to my retirement in October 2022, I was a professional librarian in progressively responsible managerial roles. Before becoming a librarian, I worked in various food service and retail customer service industries.

Professional Experience:

2007-2008: NEH Archivist at Missouri State Archives St. Louis

2009-2015: Librarian II at Denver Women's Correctional Facility

2017-2017: Public Services Supervisor at Kitsap Regional Library

2017-2022: Head of Access Services at Royal Oak Public Library (Interim Director from January-September 2021)

I will use my skills to benefit the Novi Public Library Board by being a good steward of taxpayer dollars while looking for opportunities to increase access to resources and add value for the citizens of Novi. I have had the opportunity to work with the current Library Director Julie Farkas while I was in my position at Royal Oak Public Library (ROPL), and I enjoyed having her as my colleague. During my tenure as the Interim Director at ROPL, I worked closely with the Library Board to re-open the library from our COVID shutdown, completed Phase 1 of the building renovation, went through a budget planning and approval process that made the library fine-free, and successfully advocated to promote part-time staff to full-time with minimal budget impact. Additionally, having worked within The Library Network system, I am an expert in the resource sharing opportunities that are available in Southeast Michigan and beyond.



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Please list any community groups with which you are currently or have previously been active and describe your role.

City of Royal Oak groups (2017-2022):

- Green Team (Chair): Promote sustainability initiatives within city buildings and for city staff, including composting, CD and other media recycling, toy recycling, Paper Retriever for book recycling, TerraCycle for pen and writing utensil recycling as well as Swiffer products
- P.E.E.R. Team: Promoting employee engagement and retention through planned events and giveaways throughout the year.

The Library Network Shared Automation Systems Users Group (2017-2022):

- Recommend and vote on policies for the 50+ libraries that make up the shared system.
- Served as Secretary from 2019-2021. Responsible for submitting monthly minutes for website publication.

Kitsap Public Facilities District Board of Directors (2016-2017):

- Oversee the regional facilities such as the fairgrounds and conference and event center.

What motivated you to apply to serve on a board or commission, and why did you select the boards and/or commissions that you did?

With my recent retirement, I am looking for opportunities to give back to the community and be involved. I am applying for the Library Board because it is in my wheelhouse as a retired librarian.

If appointed, what do you hope to accomplish during your term? What do you hope to learn?

When I worked for ROPL, I was always interested to see what Novi Public Library was doing because the service population is a similar size. Novi frequently had significantly more checkouts per month, so I am interested to learn more about the operation from an insider perspective. I hope to be able to use my skills, experience and perspective to help Novi Public Library continue to thrive.



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What do you think the City is doing well or could be doing differently when you think about the areas of responsibility for the boards and/or commissions for which you are applying?

I see that Novi Public Library has temporarily suspended fines, which I think is excellent. I would like to see the library move to being fine-free permanently to remove as many barriers as possible to service for residents. It seems like the City is proud of and supportive of the library and I would like to see that continue.

Is there anything else you would like for Council to be aware of, or know about you?

I am a Colorado native, and I have lived and worked in Colorado, Missouri, Washington, and Michigan. Having a variety of perspectives has allowed me to experience many good ideas and improve services for library patrons across the country.

I have experience with the Michigan Open Meetings Act and as a Secretary and Executive Board Member for the Technical, Professional, and Officeworker's Association.



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Please number the boards and commissions you're interested in serving on, in order of your preference, with "1" being the board or commission you're most interested in. For the boards and commissions you're interested in, check the corresponding qualifications/areas of expertise that apply to you. Not all boards and commissions have vacancies at this time; contact the Clerk's Office for further details.

_____ **Beautification Commission** evaluates entries for the City's Neighborhood Entryway Enhancement Matching Grant Program, and is involved in various beautification projects and public events.

- ☐ Gardening/Landscaping ☐ Leadership ☐ Fundraising

_____ **Board of Review** reviews property assessments as set by the City Assessor and hears appeals by individual property owners; then reduces, adds to or denies said appeal. A certification of the assessment role is required by the Board of Review per the state statute.

- ☐ Real Estate ☐ Construction ☐ Organization/Preparedness ☐ Logic/Reasoning

_____ **Building Authority** oversees the issuance of financing bonds for special projects within the City of Novi.

- ☐ Banking/Finance ☐ Property Appraisal/Assessing ☐ Real Estate/Development/Law

_____ **Construction Board of Appeals** exists as a "fact finding" body for builders and developers; hear appeals for questions of interpretation and proper application and equivalency.

- ☐ Architecture ☐ Construction ☐ Engineering

_____ **Corridor Improvement Authority** helps to correct and prevent deterioration in commercial business districts, and promote the economic growth within the districts.

- ☐ Reside/Own Property in District ☐ Codes/Regulations/Law ☐ Strategic Planning ☐ Resource Allocation

_____ **Economic Development Corporation** is a resource for reviewing requests for Industrial Revenue Bonds and for other economic development initiatives; meets only as needed.

- ☐ Professional/Business/Industry Background ☐ Finance ☐ Short/Long Range Planning

_____ **Election Commission** has the duties and powers conferred on City Election Commissioners by statute. The City Clerk is the chairman of the Commission.

- ☐ Registered Voter (required) ☐ Basic Knowledge of Election Process

_____ **Historical Commission** in cooperation with the Historical Society and the Novi Public Library, the Historical Commission is responsible for Old Township Hall (which serves as a museum), and for the collection, preservation and marking of historical sites.

- ☐ Love of History ☐ Organizational Skills ☐ Programming Knowledge ☐ Project Management

_____ **Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee** was formulated for the purpose of reviewing community development needs in regards to these Community Development Block Grant funds. The committee works in conjunction with City administration to develop annual CDBG goals for the City of Novi.

- ☐ Federal Grants ☐ Knowledge of Community Needs

X

_____ **Library Board** approves payment of bills, acts upon recommendations of the Library Administrator and handles various other business matters.

- ☒ Policymaking/Review ☒ Budget and Finance ☒ Marketing/Public Relations ☒ Customer Service



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_____ **Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission** sets policy for and makes recommendations to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department. The Commissioners work together with professional staff in the areas of programming, budget, facilities, planning and public relations. The Commission has the responsibility of meeting community recreational objectives, and reflecting community needs to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department and City Council.

☐ Recreation/Cultural Arts Programs & Services ☐ Strategic Planning ☐ Advertising/Marketing/PR

_____ **Planning Commission** prepares a Master Plan for Land Use and advises the City Council in regard to the proper development of the City of Novi. The Planning Commission reviews and recommends to City Council all requests for change in zoning and ordinance text amendments.

☐ Architecture/Landscape Architecture ☐ Engineering ☐ Land Use Planning ☐ Real Estate Development/Law

_____ **Zoning Board of Appeals** authorizes use in a zoning district in which it is not otherwise permitted, provided it is clearly shown that the land cannot be utilized for a zoned use. The board is empowered to act on matters where zoning ordinances provide for administrative review, interpretation, exception or special approval permit, and to author a variance as defined in section 3104 of the Zoning Ordinance and Laws of the State of Michigan.

☐ Architecture ☐ Construction ☐ Land Use Planning ☐ Real Estate Development/Law

I understand I am volunteering my services with no monetary compensation or benefits. I understand I am not a City of Novi employee. I further understand the City of Novi is not obligated to accept my offer of volunteering service to the City of Novi. The City of Novi reserves the right to terminate my volunteer service at any time. I have read the Volunteer NOVI Guidebook and Policies. I will adhere to the policies and procedures of the City of Novi.

I authorize fingerprinting, criminal background checks, search of sex offender registry, and Department of Motor Vehicle checks as deemed necessary by the City of Novi. I authorize investigation of any matter contained in the application.

*I understand as a volunteer I am **NOT** covered under the City of Novi's Workers' Compensation Policy for any injury or accident sustained during my volunteer assignment. I understand I am to report any injury or accident immediately to my supervisor. I further understand any medical costs or other costs incurred as result of incident will be my responsibility. I further understand if I fail to report the injury or accident immediately to my supervisor I may be released from my current volunteer assignment and may be Ineligible for any assignment in the future.*

I give the City of Novi permission to use, publish and republish, without compensation or obligation to me any photographs, videos or other media now in existence, which may be developed for future use along with reproduction of my likeness taken during my volunteer service to the City of Novi.

I declare under penalty of perjury all statements made in this application are true and correct of my own personal knowledge.

Adrienne Breznau

Signature

1/2/2023

Date