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#### Submission information

Form: [Application for Citizen Boards and Commissions](#) [1]

Submitted by Visitor (not verified)

Fri, 07/23/2021 - 11:55am

173.255.46.5

#### First Name

Aimee

#### Last Name

Shouse

#### Home Address

N. Lydia St.

#### City, State, Zip Code

Stephenville, TX 76401

#### Mailing Address

N. Lydia St.

#### City, State, Zip Code

Stephenville, TX 76401

#### Primary Phone Number

#### Alternate Phone Number

#### Email

#### Employment Status

Employed Full-Time

#### Employer

Tarleton State University

#### Please indicate what board you are applying for. (First Choice)

-Main Street Advisory Board

#### Please indicate what board you are applying for. (Second Choice)

-Library Advisory Board

#### Please indicate what board you are applying for. (Third Choice)

#### Are you currently serving on a board or commission?

No - New Applicant

#### Have you ever attended a Board or Council meeting?

No

**Availability**

Evening (after 5:00 pm)

**Are you registered to vote in Stephenville?**

Yes

**Are you a property owner within the community?**

Yes

**Do you or a family member own a business within the community?**

No

**Please indicate which category of the local economy that you represent.**

Education - Serving in higher education at high school level or beyond

**Reason for Applying**

My husband and I just recently moved to Stephenville (June, 2021), when I started a new position at Tarleton State University. I was active in my community when I lived in Macomb, IL (1993-2017), and for the four years we lived in Marshall, MN, I volunteered at the local Farmers' Market and served on the public library governing board. While I enjoyed the library board and would be willing to serve in that capacity again in Stephenville, if needed, I am hoping to do something different and the Main Street Advisory Board sounds interesting and like something I would enjoy.

**Educational Background**

Bachelor's degree in Political Science - University of Central Arkansas

Ph.D. in Political Science - Vanderbilt University

**Occupational Background**

Currently, I am the Associate Provost and Associate VP for Curriculum and Faculty Affairs, and Dean of Faculty at Tarleton State. Prior to coming to Tarleton, I was the Dean of the College of Arts, Letters, and Sciences at Southwest Minnesota State University.

From 1993-2017, I was a faculty member at Western Illinois University, then moved into the role of department chair from 2008 until I moved to Minnesota in 2017.

**Relevant Experience**

As mentioned above, I served on a public council (Marshall-Lyon County Public Library) in Marshall, MN, and enjoyed getting to know the community and contributing my experience with the university library to the board. I was also a volunteer at the local farmers' market, which was held weekly and actively sought grants to support low income people. The farmer's market could distribute tokens for EBT (food stamps) funds, that could be spent at the farmer's market for fresh produce from the vendors who would accept them... which was almost all of them. I served as a volunteer to run the EBT cards and distribute tokens to people at the market, and then collect them from vendors at the end of the market and record their sales from tokens. The market's administrator would distribute the equivalent cash funds to the vendors monthly. There were also grant funds to distribute different tokens ("The Power of Produce" tokens) worth \$2 to children aged 4-12 to spend at a vendor's stall on fruits or vegetables. Children could collect a \$2 token each week and save up if they wanted something pricier like a pumpkin in the fall. I helped keep track of the children who signed up and distribute the tokens to them, and again, collect those from vendors at the end of the day and record their sales for reimbursement from grant funds. Although I do not know that the Stephenville Farmers' Market is handled by the Main Street Advisory Council, I do know how events can promote downtown activity.

Lastly, and this is purely an observation on my part, both my children attended universities where the town and university worked closely together to promote activities in the community when the

university held events. For instance, at Truman State University, there was a \*huge\* craft and vendor fair in downtown Kirksville, MO the weekend of family weekend at the university. The university is about half the size of Tarleton but there would be a huge influx of people to town that weekend. Similarly, my daughter who went to Iowa State benefited from the relationship between merchants in town and the university when she served as the editor-in-chief of the student published fashion magazine there. And this wasn't just merchants donating things... this was collaborative relationships that benefited merchants as well. When I was at Western Illinois University, those sorts of relationships were starting to be developed (a picnic for incoming students hosted by the community), but there were a lot more opportunities to develop those partnerships. I have only been at Tarleton since July 1, so do not know what is already taking place, but those experiences and observations make me more more interested in the Main Street Advisory Council at this time.

### **Community Involvement**

Please see my response under Relevant Experience.

### **Submit Application**

Aimee Shouse

### **Date**

Fri, 07/23/2021

**Source URL:** <https://www.stephenvilletx.gov/node/791/submission/7237>

### **Links**

[1] <https://www.stephenvilletx.gov/bc/webform/application-citizen-boards-and-commissions-0>