



TO: Urbana City Council
FROM: Diane Wolfe Marlin
RE: Board and Commission Appointments and Reappointments
DATE: July 11, 2022

I am pleased to submit the following Appointments for your approval:

Appointments

Arts & Culture Commission – term ending June 30, 2024

- **Shorma “Bianca” Bailey**

Bianca is a 5-year resident of Urbana and the CEO of Agriwater, a company that is designing a mobile water treatment system to help farmers turn animal waste in to clean water, fertilizer and carbon credits for improve agricultural sustainability.

“Music has been my therapy when life or school seemed challenging. I know that I want to share this gift of therapy with others that will appreciate it and I believe serving on the board would be a great opportunity to do so. I know that I have a uniquely creative mind that can help design events and programs that parents, children and the greater Urbana community would love and enjoy. Most importantly, I want to utilize this position to share art and musical opportunities with adults and children and show them that anything is possible. Thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to working with the Urbana Arts Commission.”

Arts & Culture Commission – term ending June 30, 2025

- **Alicia Rodriguez**

Alicia is a 34-year resident of Urbana and is an Academic Advisor & Administrative Coordinator with the Department of Latin/x Studies at the University of Illinois.

“I strongly believe that the arts, whether as a lover or maker of art, is important to all human beings. Sadly, the arts are not always easily accessible to all. Urbana is doing a lot to bring the arts to everyone. Over the years I have seen how the city's public arts programs has blossomed and I have been very happy about that. The programs have made the city more exciting and dynamic. I've always enjoyed walking, running or biking through Meadowbrook Park and encountering art everywhere, juxtaposed with the changing prairie grasses. I have also enjoyed the musical performances and programs sponsored by the City of Urbana. I believe it is important to do all that we can to promote artists, such as the park sculptors, musicians, and other artists as much as possible. I am very interested in being a part of these efforts.”

Historic Preservation Commission – term ending June 30, 2025

- **Dennis Roberts**

Dennis is a 26-year resident of Champaign County and is a former Urbana City Council member from 2005 until 2001.

“While being an advocate for preservation I am also interested in adaptive reuse of older buildings downtown. I believe there is a way to incentivize property owners to reinvest in and maintain their buildings while honoring their property’s architectural integrity. The historic downtown embodies the unique significance of our community as the County Seat and the legal center of our county’s development, and its preservation needs to be honored as it continues to grow and become more vibrant.”

Sustainability Advisory Commission – term ending June 30, 2023

- **Luke Westawker**

Luke is a PhD Student in Chemistry at University of Illinois researching the creation of sustainable catalysts to convert greenhouse gases into liquid fuels.

“I hope to serve the City of Urbana on the Sustainability Advisory Commission by using my experience in science policy from the research I conducted in the United States, Germany, and India. I am excited to contribute to my community and assist in our transition to a more sustainable economy that protects both our community members as well as our natural environment. I have 5 year left in my PhD program, during which I hope to volunteer my time and experience to help Urbana reduce its emissions while working hard to engage citizens in our efforts. I hope to build a career in science policy, and this opportunity would allow me to continue to pursue this passion for enacting real change and directly benefiting people’s lives, something that my day-to-day technical research does not involve.”

Tree Commission – term ending June 30, 2023

- **Scott Dossett**

Scott is a retired Assistant Professional Scientist at the Illinois State Water Survey and a 44-year resident of Champaign County. He served on the Urbana Park Districts Natural Areas Committee for 25 years and is a past member of the Civilian Police Review Board.

“Having provided public input on the recent MCORE tree issues and after following a couple of other issues, like the new Lincoln Elm on East Main and the ancient hackberry removal, I figure it might be time to try to help via a vis this committee.”