From:	noreply@civicplus.com
To:	City Clerk Inbound
Subject:	Online Form Submittal: Application Form--Affordable Housing Citizen Oversight Committee
Date:	Saturday, February 6, 2021 8:40:54 PM

Application Form--Affordable Housing Citizen Oversight Committee

Information for Applicants

Thank you for your interest!

Applications are due February 10, 2021 by 5 p.m. If you have any questions or are unable to complete an online or paper application and would like to request an application interview, please contact Emily Harris-Shears by email: harris-shearse@ci.missoula.mt.us or call (406) 552-6394.

Please note: All applications are included in City Council packets and published on the City website.

Contact Information

Name:	Emily Shankle
Email:	emily.shankle357@gmail.com
Daytime Phone:	4064260047
Alternate Contact Phone:	NA
Street Address (if applicable):	1101 N. Russell St. Apt. 207
City, State:	Missoula, MT
Zip:	59808
Is your street address the same as your mailing address?	Yes

Position

On Monday, July 20, 2020 City Council adopted the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Ordinance and Funding Commitments Resolution. The Ordinance outlines the membership roles required for this committee. Please indicate below which roles apply to you.

Role	Community Member

Any other roles/affiliations you'd like to note:	*Field not completed.*
If you checked Housing non-profit, Field of housing or real-estate and/or Banking and/or finance, please provide the name of the organization.	*Field not completed.*
This committee will consist of nine (9) voting members and two (2) non-voting alternates. If you are not selected for a voting position, are you interested in an alternate position?	Yes
Background	
How long have you lived in the City of Missoula?	6 years total
How long have you lived in the State of Montana?	26
Pronouns:	She/Her
It is a community-held priority to seat the Affordable Housing Citizen Oversight Committee with members who reflect the varied experiences of Missoulians. Sharing how you identify is optional and is intended to help us ensure that the committee is diverse.	
Race:	White
Ethnicity:	White
Gender:	Female
Sexual Orientation:	Bi-sexual
Age:	30
Disability: yes or no	No

What is your current living situation?	Renter
What is your interest in serving on the Affordable Housing Citizen Oversight Committee?	I am passionate about poverty-alleviation policy and giving back to the Missoula community, which has given so much to me. I believe the committee has great potential to implement long-lasting and positive change during a critical moment for our community and community members. I would be honored to be a part of such a committee.
What skills and perspective will you bring to or draw on as a member of the Citizen Oversight Committee? Please include any experiences (lived and/or professional) or familiarity you have with affordable housing, zoning, funding, housing policy, or other relevant skills.	I received my Master of Public Affairs, focusing on nonprofit management and poverty-alleviation policy, from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University in 2015. During my time there, I studied US and International poverty-alleviation policies and significant events which included, but not limited to, the housing market crash of 2008, the historical practice of redlining, 10 year plans to end homelessness, and rapid rehousing programs. I also gained a solid understanding of the G.I Bill, Fair Housing Act of 1968, and Section 8 Housing Amendment. I applied the above studies while I worked as "mock-consultant" in a small team for an entire semester. Our team was tasked with determining a city that could utilize a 10 million dollar grant from Bank of America to aid in alleviating homelessness in young adults. The assignment focused on determining a city with the most need that also had the capacity and infrastructure in place to implement the grant. The process strengthened my ability to collect, compile, and analyze city data while converting it to a comparable rate (per 100,000 population). I believe I will be able to understand city data with a historical knowledge approach, if I am selected as a member of the Citizen Oversight Committee.
Describe your vision of a successful Affordable Housing Citizen Oversight Committee.	My vision for a successful Affordable Housing Citizen Oversight committee would be that every member feels comfortable voicing their concerns, opinions,and questions without fear of judgement. I believe open and clear communication can lead to surprising results if an avenue for it to take place is fostered. Innovation and collaboration is key to creating positive change where it counts most, especially in the time of Covid-19. I am delighted to see the committee taking a multi-faceted approach in obtaining diverse members of the Missoula community.
Why, in your opinion, are people in our community (Black, Indigenous, People of Color, those with lower incomes, young people, elderly people,	In my opinion, lack of affordable housing often goes hand in hand with poverty and is an extremely complex issue. Many are focusing on getting by day-to-day and being able to focus on long-term solutions is even more difficult to achieve. Many are struggling to pay hospital bills, student loans, long term care bills, car payments, and other necessary bills for their every day lives. Many may not have a social safety net they can rely on or may not know about or have access to the resources that are

etc.) being disproportionately affected by the affordable housing crisis in Missoula?	available to them. If they are aware of the resources, they may need to find child care or struggle to find the time between multiple low-paying jobs to make it to their appointments to begin accessing resources. These issues are magnified further when there is a sudden influx of well-off, white, middle aged individuals that are not experiencing the above issues and moving to a city that has a limited number of houses and area to build. It is also possible that the UM campus's drop in enrollment may also had an impact on long-time residents income and housing which further exacerbated the issue.
Please provide a brief summary of your background (such as life, work, educational, or volunteer experience that feels relevant to this opportunity).	I first moved to Missoula after I graduated from a small-town Montana high school in 2009. I attended all four years of college at the University of Montana, earning my bachelors degree in Sociology in 2013. While I was attending college, I served two AmeriCorps Campus Corps terms with the YWCA Missoula working directly with individuals and families fleeing domestic violence and seeking shelter. I also attended Dr. Rooks homelessness and housing course that was taught inside the old Poverello shelter. After completing that course, I worked as a fill-in staff member at the Poverello's temporary housing facilitates working with families and veterans. After graduating from UM in 2013 and then from Indiana University in 2015, I returned to Missoula to find my "first real job". However, I struggled to find work as a young professional. I realized after moving back to Missoula how expensive housing was compared to other parts of the country. After some time, I began working at Big Brothers Big Sisters of Missoula as the Enrollment Specialist. I would drive to families homes to conduct the intake process for those interested in enrolling their children into the program. The majority of the families were low-income, their homes varied in their conditions, and they all were doing their best to provide better lives for their children. I loved my job. However, my husband and I realized that he would have a better chance finding an entry-level position in his profession elsewhere. We moved to Anchorage, Alaska where we stayed for two years. Even though Anchorage has a higher cost of living compared to Missoula, we were able to create a more comfortable life for ourselves there. Was this simply a risk that paid off for us? Was the investment in our education finally paying off? Why did it seem harder to attain this type of life in Missoula? The last question hurts to think about as Missoula is a place both of us love and want to call home. In 2018, we moved from Anchorage to Billings and we planned our way back to Missoula. After a year of living with relatives and friends, we made it back to Missoula and we both have jobs with good benefits in our desired fields. We even saved enough to

potentially put down on a small house. We decided to rent first so we could take our time to look for a house. Then Covid-19 happened and, with it, the realization that we have to save even more to be able to consider buying a house in Missoula now. Sometimes it feels like our dreams of being home-owners in Missoula are slipping away from us. Sometimes it seems like it would be easier to move elsewhere and start over fresh, again. Despite these thoughts, I know that we are very fortunate to both be able to work from home and believe the Missoula community can get through this crisis for the better.

References

Please provide two references.

Reference 1

Name:	Nicole Martin
Phone:	[redacted]

Reference 2

Name:	Rebecca Pettit
Phone:	[redacted]

(Section Break)

If you'd prefer, you can mail or deliver your completed application and attachments to:
City Clerk Office
435 Ryman St.
Missoula, MT 59802
*Please note the City Clerk Office is currently closed to the public. There is a drop box located at the entrance to City Hall where you can place your materials.

Email not displaying correctly? View it in your browser.