

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BAINBRIDGE ISLAND CITY COUNCIL POSITION #4

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name DEBBIE HOLLYER

Residence Address [REDACTED] JANELLE PLACE

Home Phone 206 [REDACTED] Work/Cell Phone [REDACTED]

E-Mail [REDACTED]

Cover Letter & Resume

Please attach a one page cover letter and a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Bainbridge Island on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as a Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?
2. What strength would you bring to the Council?
3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Bainbridge Island community. Address its relevance to the position of Bainbridge Island City Councilmember.
5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?
6. What is your vision for our City and community?
7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

Please return this form, your cover letter, resume and answers to the supplemental questions to the City Clerk at Bainbridge Island City Hall (280 Madison Avenue North) **no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, April 13, 2018.** Applications received after 4:00 pm will not be accepted.

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

**Christine Brown, City Clerk
 Councilmember Recruitment
 280 Madison Avenue North
 Bainbridge Island, WA 98110**

April 12, 2018

Christine Brown, City Clerk
280 Madison Avenue North
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Re: Application for appointment to Bainbridge Island City Council Position #4

Dear Ms. Brown,

Enclosed is my application for appointment to the City Council Position #4 along with a resume, and responses to the supplemental questions.

I have resided continuously in the Central Ward on Bainbridge Island for twelve years and am a registered voter in our city. I am not involved in any contract(s) with the City of Bainbridge Island nor hold any elected public office.

Sincerely,



Debbie Hollyer

██████ Janelle Place
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Debbie Hollyer

Life Resume of Experiences

Kauai, Hawaii. 1963 – 1980

I stand on the shoulders and in the embrace of giants, indeed. I am of paternal Portuguese and maternal Korean ancestry. I was raised by my paternal grandparents and fed by their enormous resilience, work ethic, and family and community values. My giants were courageous immigrants, laborers in the sugar cane and pineapple plantations. They were the giants of a diverse working class village pooling resources and caring for each other. It was not until I was 29 that a trusted mentor referred to my upbringing as poor. I had never known nor felt that. As a ten year old, I eventually lived with my father who had worked his way into the middle class. He and my grandparents' generation all had giant hearts, served giant portions of generosity and aloha to extended family and neighbors. Everyone was welcomed. I had giant quantities of aunts, uncles and cousins. My giants passed on to me their resourcefulness, perseverance and gratitude for life's simple pleasures. They always took the time to 'talk story'. And I always felt loved. These treasures were free yet priceless.

Mixed in were hardships, whole, half and step siblings, divorces, attempted suicides, suicides, addictions, prison visits, abandonment, abuse, reverse racism, ethnic hierarchy, dark family secrets, and so on. Yet adverse life circumstances have a way of falling together to become propelling life gifts. I am grateful for my ability to empathize, to offer compassion, to feel the pain of others, to try to see the person behind poor choices, and to celebrate the little things in life. I try to remember to recognize the depth of complexities within people, the uniqueness and the history we each bring to the table. I know what it feels like to be judged by my cover and by the box I come in.

I have a deep appreciation for my colorful upbringing, for my husband of 34 years and adult children who have been my second set of teachers, and for the privileged life I get to share with them.

Bay Area, California. 1980-2006

1980 –1990 Studied at a variety of local community colleges because at first that is what I could afford, then eventually because day and night courses I needed toward an architectural degree were scattered amongst these

campuses. Early on I attended a year long technical training for I.C. Layout Design.

1982 - 1991 Worked as an Integrated Circuit Microprocessor Layout Designer for Advanced Micro Devices and as a Memory and Logic Layout Designer for startup Synergy Semiconductor, then as consultant in this field. 1991- 1993.

1991-2006 Work at home mother.

Business owner and partner of a design/build company, Hollyer Design and Remodeling.

Bainbridge Island, Washington. 2006- present

Two children who attended Sakai, Woodward and BHS.

Jan. 2007 – Dec. 2017 Designer and Proprietor of Hollyer Design Studio.

Jan. 2018 – Retired my business.

1967 - present. Community Organizer and life long learner.

Debbie Hollyer - Supplemental Questions:

•Why are you interested in serving as a Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?

My interest in serving on the council has everything to do with my heightened sense of individual responsibility to civic engagement since the November 2016 election. That moment was a wakeup call to increase my awareness and understanding of what led our nation to the election of D.Trump. Since then I've been immersed in political activism by forming, leading and being a member of a number of activist groups on the island, in our Legislative District 23, and in Kitsap County. I've been successfully organizing and encouraging engagement by ordinary citizens to step up and into action to uphold and restore our Democracy. I am a firm believer that this begins with living my values in my home and in community. I realize I need to 'walk my talk' by applying for this Councilmember position. I am committed to and involved in our community, capable, and resourced by an unshakable will, time and community support. I feel a responsibility to participate and take a turn in our city government. I look forward to an opportunity to serve and to learn more about the balance of a multitude of considerations before deciding upon the best course of action that will contribute to the wellbeing of our island and its people. I firmly believe that there is more that unites us than divides us. I believe that I make a difference in the world, that we all do and that our voices matter.

•What strength would you bring to the Council?

I value and strive for leadership that is ethical, truthful, transparent and inclusive.

We the people make up our government and as an appointed official I would first and foremost be responsible to my constituents, not to political parties or corporate interests.

My contribution to the Council would include listening skills for building: relationships, understanding, mutual trust & collaboration. Additionally, my skills of owning and operating a small residential renovation design and build company include but are not limited to: establishing a working relationship with clients & tradespeople, asking pertinent questions, discerning between wants vs. needs in establishing a master plan for the project, setting and meeting a budget and timeline, working through conflict and misunderstandings, as well as limiting change orders and surprises with detailed and thorough planning. Ultimately achieving long lasting relationships with satisfied clients.

I would provide strengths that include:

- a willingness to question & identify assumptions
- my belief that one can never ask too many questions for clarification and understanding
- my willingness to identify conflict and to organize for discussion and resolution
- to emphasize pause for reflection and integration.

•What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?

- Engaging and informing citizens by implementing a variety of consistent communications about the City Council's Top Priorities for 2018, citizen's FAQ's and what is seen by citizens as hidden agendas. There are reasons why attendees at council meetings consist primarily of

50+ year olds. I would experiment with meeting our younger citizens where they are: soccer fields, grocery stores, etc. There are often conflicting stories and opinions circulating particularly about contentious issues. Transparency of issues that we have absolutely no awareness of until it's too late is crucial. Council can help with the discernment between speculation and facts, and improve transparency, thereby improving citizen's trust in our city government. The posted Top Priorities list up in the council chamber is one such communication tool that will spark inquiry for those who attend meetings

- Learning more about Implementing the Comprehensive Plan specifically as it pertains to development: it's impact, balance, affordability, inclusivity, sustainability. I would need to clarify questions and conflicting information regarding the State Growth Management Act, aquifer recharge and sustainability, Critical Areas Ordinance, City Planning approval process of multiple residential building sites & it's design, sign off of building violation exceptions and overall enforcement of building codes. Inform citizens by mapping multiple dwelling permits as they are submitted

- Full commitment and plan toward a carbon free Bainbridge island that in turn will influence state priorities. Participate in the Sierra Club meetings that include representatives from Seattle and Vashon Island, participate in and promote local efforts by Climate Action Bainbridge, Citizens Climate Lobby, Community Forums. Use a city plan to influence PSE for their commitment to 100% renewable energy sources.

- Fiscal Responsibility. Balance a Budget. Consider the impact of decisions on all income levels of residents. Ensure a financial reserve and ethical investing.

• Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Bainbridge Island community. Address its relevance to the position of Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?

- Trained facilitator for Hand In Hand Parenting, Palo Alto, CA, 1991–2006. a non-profit family support and training organization promoting 'Parenting by Connection'. <https://www.handinhandparenting.org/>

- Member, Co-Chair and board member of Raising Resilience (formerly Just Know Coalition) Sept. 2007 – June 2017 - <https://www.raisingresilience.org/who-we-are> My years of commitment to Raising Resilience, and to Hand in Hand Parenting listed above, is a testament to my gratitude, dedication and priorities to the social and emotional well being and empowerment of youth, parents and caregivers who provide daily nurturing of our most precious human resources, our children. The work we do as parents is enormous and constant. Amongst the most significant life saving and life changing gifts I have received as a parent are that of being listened to and of learning to listen in return. With that sense of being seen and heard, we parents can in turn offer the same for our children and enjoy building lifelong fulfilling connections and family resilience.

- Emergency Preparedness Neighborhood Team coordinator for 11 homes on Janelle Place. Sept. 2016 - present. The Map Your Neighborhood project builds connections between people and that is relevant to every position in life.

- Community Activist leader & member participant of a number of Bainbridge Activist groups: The 4th Branch, Kitchen Table Activists Exploring Today's Issues, Indivisible Bainbridge, Voices of the Majority, Monthly public discourse at Cups led by Kat Gjovik, LD-23 Democrats, etc. Holding a space for and participating in an island activism circle allows for identifying calls to action, supporting, engaging, & informing citizens of events & issues at the local, state and national levels as well as increase participation in BI community events. November 2016 – Present.

- Sakai Bike to School Day committee and parent bike route chaperone. Fall 2006 – Spring 2010 I and my family support and value bicycling as a healthy & clean alternative transportation. I do and will continue to support the efforts by our city to implement a multimodal transportation vision and consider appropriate funding mechanisms.

My community involvement listed is relevant to the position of City Councilmember as it speaks to: leadership skills, living by my values, organizing people into action, a commitment to contribute to the wellbeing of our families, & engaging citizens in government.

•What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?

- Inform citizens of Council's process of considerations and costs related to the site selection of our police and municipal court building(s).
- Inform myself and decide on the Infrastructure Ballot measure for the Nov. 2018.
- Follow up with citizens on the bridge issue & implement the East-West Safe crossing solution utilizing the \$2 million federal grant that BI has been awarded.
- Weigh in and influence the direction of the Suzuki development.

•What is your vision for our City and community? I see an engaged and informed government and citizenry with a courageous, innovative and unified commitment to:

- preservation of our land, trees, aquifers, shoreline, ocean and air quality,
- respecting & maintaining the rural esthetic & character of our community,
- being fully prepared for anticipated emergencies, including expanding sustainable food and fresh water sources,
- growing and buying local,
- keeping our policies and dialogue focused on what we value and on the greater good,
- voting in every election.