

Agricultural Advisory Board

Applicants At-A-Glance

Four (4) Terms

Name	District	Gender	Ethnicity
Baez, Eliseo P.	3	Male	Hispanic/African American
Donovan, Michael	1	Male	Caucasian/Non-Hispanic
Jzar, Cherie	1	Female	African American
Lurz, Susan	1	Female	Caucasian/Non-Hispanic
Newman, Connor	3	Male	Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

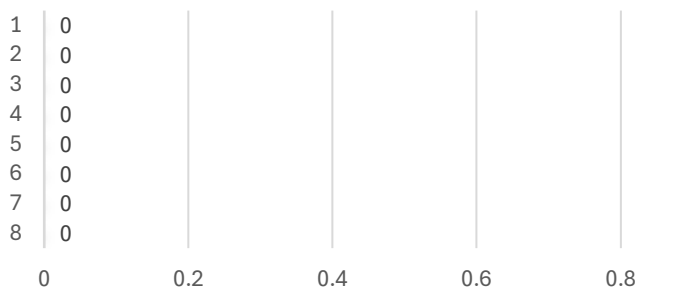
Note: The initial terms of the board will be staggered. One member will receive a one-year term, four members will receive two-year terms, and the remaining six members will receive three-year terms.

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD DEMOGRAPHICS

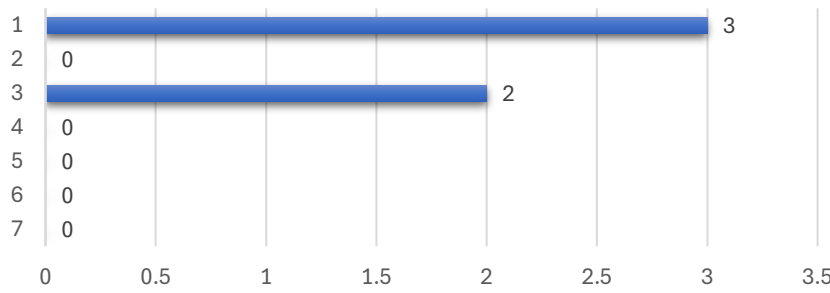
Districts

	Members	Applicants
District 1	0	3
District 2	0	0
District 3	0	2
District 4	0	0
District 5	0	0
District 6	0	0
Other	0	0
Total	0	5

Members by District



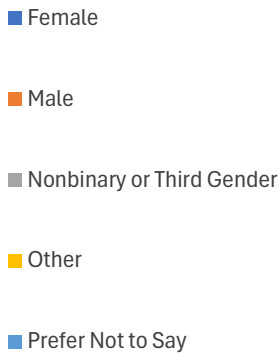
Applicants by District



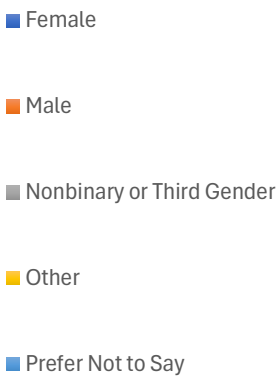
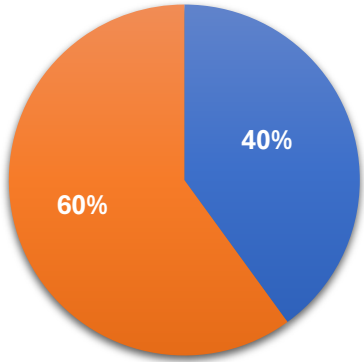
Gender

	Members	Applicants
Female	0	2
Male	0	3
Nonbinary or Third Gender	0	0
Other	0	0
Prefer Not to Say	0	0
Total	0	5

Members by Gender



Applicants by Gender



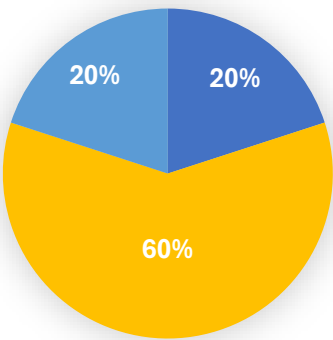
Ethnicity/Race

	Members	Applicants
African-American	0	1
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	0	0
Asian or Pacific Islander	0	0
Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	0	3
Hispanic	0	1
Prefer Not to Say	0	0
Two or More Races	0	0
Other	0	0
Unknown	0	0
Total	0	5

Members by Ethnicity/Race



Applicants by Ethnicity/Race



Recommendation Statement

Little, Madison S.

From: Reed, Kathleen
Sent: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 2:40 PM
To: Little, Madison S.
Cc: Stanforth, Erin
Subject: AAB recommendations

Hi Madison,

The newly established Agricultural Advisory Board (AAB) should represent, to the extent possible, all sectors of agriculture present in Mecklenburg County. As a reminder, a primary function of the AAB will be to approve/deny applications to the [Voluntary & Enhanced Voluntary Agriculture District](#). All five of the applicants are extremely qualified to sit on the AAB and our team would not hesitate to have any of them as part of the advisory board. We hope whichever candidate is not appointed will have the opportunity to serve in the future.

With that understanding, we believe the following candidates collectively showcase the diversity of agriculture in the County:

- Cherie Jzar (District 1)
- Connor Newman (District 3)
- Eliseo Pascual Baez (District 3)
- Michael Donovan (District 1)

All applicants have farms located in the northern half of the County. This is to be expected, as the largest percentage of our remaining agriculture is in northern Mecklenburg County. To ensure all areas of the County are represented on the Board, each Town and the City of Charlotte can select someone to sit on the Board. Mint Hill, Matthews and Pineville all have seats held on the AAB, helping to ensure that other areas of the County are represented within this space.

Let us know if you need anything else. Thanks, Madison.

Best,
Kathleen



Kathleen Reed
Sustainability & Resiliency Consultant
County Manager's Office
Mecklenburg County Government

MeckNC.Gov



Statement to Applicants

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Agricultural Advisory Board : Submitted

Profile

Eliseo Pascual Baez
First Name Last Name

info@pascualesfarm.com
Email Address

11237 Plaza Rd. Extension
Home Address

Charlotte NC 28215
City State Postal Code

Mobile: (704) 713-9346
Primary Phone Alternate Phone

What Mecklenburg County District do you live in? Please verify below. *

☒ 3

How long have you been a resident of Mecklenburg County? Please include months, or years.

10 years

My age range is (please select one): *

☒ Over 55

Ethnicity *

☒ African American
☒ Hispanic

Gender *

☒ Male

Interests & Experiences

Education

Agriculture, Economics

Self-employed

Employer

Farmer

Occupation

Business and civic experience

Reino Company, LLC, owner -13 years of operations in Real Estate, General Contracting, Financial Consulting, Farm Operator- Present Self Help Federal Credit Union- 5 years Commercial Loan Officer Bethesda Health Center/Word Reach, Inc- 3 years Executive Director Mi Casa Realty, Inc- 2 years. Administrative Assistant and Real Estate Agent

Area of expertise and interests/skills

Farming, Real Estate, General Contracting, Lending.

Additional Information

If you are or have ever served on a Mecklenburg County board/commission, please answer yes or no. If yes, please disclose the Board and term-end date.

No

Why are you interested in serving on the board(s) to which you are applying?

To advocate for the implementation of policies to incentivize the creation and development of urban farming in the county.

Have you attended a meeting of the advisory board(s) to which you are applying?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Hours Per Month Available for Position

4-5 hours

How did you learn of the vacancy? *

☒ NotifyMe Email

Disclosure

Are you a Mecklenburg County resident?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are you a current Mecklenburg County employee? (Mecklenburg County employees are prohibited from serving on any board where appointments are made by the Board of Commissioners. If you are a current, county employee who is to serve in an ex-officio and/or non-voting capacity on any board when required by law, please email clerk@mecknc.gov before submitting an application.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are you a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?

☐ Yes ☒ No

• Do you have any personal or business interest that could create a conflict (either real or perceived) if appointed? If yes, please explain the conflict.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board Specific Questions

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

Are you currently engaged in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, as defined in NCGS §106 581.1*?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If yes, what farming activities do you take part in? Check all that apply.

- ☒ Fruits
- ☒ Vegetables
- ☒ Poultry
- ☒ Small Ruminants
- ☒ Agritourism

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If you do not own or operate a farm or otherwise engage in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, are you currently engaged in other aspects of the Mecklenburg County food/agricultural system? Select N/A if you answered yes to the first question. *

☒ N/A

Disclaimer

I, hereby, authorize Mecklenburg County to verify all information included in this application. I certify that I have read the appointment policy and that the information contained in this application is true according to the best of my knowledge and belief. I certify that I am providing my legal name and address in which I reside. I understand that inaccurate or untrue information will be cause for removal from any appointed advisory board. By submitting this application, I agree to adhere to all County policies pertaining to advisory boards, including attendance. I understand if I do not achieve 65% annual attendance, I will be automatically removed from the board or commission to which I am appointed. I understand that this application is subject to the N.C. Public Records Law (NCGS § 132-1) and may be released upon request.

☒ I Agree

Signature of Applicant (Sign Your Legal Name):

Eliseo Pascual Baez

Statement to Applicants**Which Boards would you like to apply for?**

Agricultural Advisory Board : Submitted

Profile

Michael

First Name

Donovan

Last Name

michaeldonovan15@yahoo.com

Email Address

15205 ramah church rd

Home Address

huntersville

City

NC

State

28078

Postal Code

Mobile: (704) 517-7321

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

What Mecklenburg County District do you live in? Please verify below. *

☒ 1

How long have you been a resident of Mecklenburg County? Please include months, or years.

3 years

My age range is (please select one): *

☒ 46 to 55

Ethnicity *

☒ Caucasian-Non-Hispanic

Gender *

☒ Male

Interests & Experiences**Education**

St Johns Jesuit HS Toldeo Ohio. Kenyon College Gambier Ohio. Montreat College - Masters Business Admin. University of Pennsylvania - Executive Education with focus on Negotiation. 2 time All american soccer player in college and was Student-Athlete of the Year in Senior year.

Michael Donovan

Autism 360

Employer

Owner

Occupation

Business and civic experience

Long track record of success in Enterprise Sales, delivering global solutions to Fortune 500 companies for their marketing technology, data and media needs. My wife and I founded www.autism-360.com in 2020 and I went full time into autism services in 2022. We currently have over 200 employees and expect to be over 300 employees by year-end as we add two additional clinic locations in Gastonia and Huntersville. Please see my LinkedIn profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/donovanm/>

Area of expertise and interests/skills

Team-building. Negotiation. Sales. Human Services/Autism. Marketing. Data management. Recruiting. Farming. Livestock management. Equine showing (dressage) and sales of young colts/fillies. Community engagement.

Additional Information

If you are or have ever served on a Mecklenburg County board/commission, please answer yes or no. If yes, please disclose the Board and term-end date.

No

Why are you interested in serving on the board(s) to which you are applying?

My wife and I made a large commitment to Mecklenburg County in 2022 when we purchased our farm. Since then, we have put thousands of hours of efforts into planting 150 trees, veggies, fruits, as well as raising over 100 livestock/horses/small animals. We would love to pass on a legacy of farming and healthy living to our children and we recognize how hard it is to develop, protect and bequeath sustainable environments similar to what we have created. We look forward to learning from our neighbors and fellow farmers, with the support of Meck County, during our interactions with this board, as well as how we can use our resources to be integral educational partners in the CLT and Huntersville communities.

Have you attended a meeting of the advisory board(s) to which you are applying?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Hours Per Month Available for Position

10

How did you learn of the vacancy? *

☒ Other

If you answered other - Where did you learn of this vacancy?

Kathleen Reed sent a proactive email to us.

Michael Donovan

Disclosure

Are you a Mecklenburg County resident?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are you a current Mecklenburg County employee? (Mecklenburg County employees are prohibited from serving on any board where appointments are made by the Board of Commissioners. If you are a current, county employee who is to serve in an ex-officio and/or non-voting capacity on any board when required by law, please email clerk@mecknc.gov before submitting an application.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are you a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?

☐ Yes ☒ No

• Do you have any personal or business interest that could create a conflict (either real or perceived) if appointed? If yes, please explain the conflict.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board Specific Questions

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

Are you currently engaged in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, as defined in NCGS §106 581.1*?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If yes, what farming activities do you take part in? Check all that apply.

- ☒ Fruits
- ☒ Vegetables
- ☒ Flowers
- ☒ Ornamental Plants
- ☒ Trees and Timber
- ☒ Horses
- ☒ Poultry
- ☒ Small Ruminants
- ☒ Pigs

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If other, please explain.

I am on the owner of Five Filly Farm (www.fivefillyfarm.com) in Huntersville. Our farm is at the corner of Ramah Church Rd and Hwy 73/Sam Furr. We currently own over 35 acres that are in the farmstead exemption. We have over 20 large, raised beds for fruits and vegetables, 3 greenhouses, and recently planted over 50 fruit trees that we anticipate maturing in the coming years. We have figs, peaches, and persimmons and more among those fruit trees. In addition, we breed horses and have 24 total horses, 11 of which are pregnant and due to deliver next spring. My wife and I have 5 girls and our goal is to live more sustainably and organically as much as possible. We do not currently sell our farm-produced goods in any retail environment. We also have chickens, goats, llamas, pigs, guineas, ducks and are soon adding turkeys.

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If you do not own or operate a farm or otherwise engage in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, are you currently engaged in other aspects of the Mecklenburg County food/agricultural system? Select N/A if you answered yes to the first question. *

☒ N/A

Disclaimer

I, hereby, authorize Mecklenburg County to verify all information included in this application. I certify that I have read the appointment policy and that the information contained in this application is true according to the best of my knowledge and belief. I certify that I am providing my legal name and address in which I reside. I understand that inaccurate or untrue information will be cause for removal from any appointed advisory board. By submitting this application, I agree to adhere to all County policies pertaining to advisory boards, including attendance. I understand if I do not achieve 65% annual attendance, I will be automatically removed from the board or commission to which I am appointed. I understand that this application is subject to the N.C. Public Records Law (NCGS § 132-1) and may be released upon request.

☒ I Agree

Signature of Applicant (Sign Your Legal Name):

Michael Donovan

Michael Donovan

Statement to Applicants

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Agricultural Advisory Board : Submitted

Profile

Cherie Jzar
First Name Last Name

cheriej@deeprootscpsfarm.com
Email Address

2401 Primm Road
Home Address

Charlotte NC 28216
City State Postal Code

Mobile: (704) 287-7774
Primary Phone Alternate Phone

What Mecklenburg County District do you live in? Please verify below. *

☒ 1

How long have you been a resident of Mecklenburg County? Please include months, or years.

22 years and 11 months

My age range is (please select one): *

☒ 46 to 55

Ethnicity *

☒ African American

Gender *

☒ Female

Interests & Experiences

Education

Masters Degree in Urban Studies

Deep Roots CPS Farm

Employer

Farmer/Entrepreneur

Occupation

Business and civic experience

As co-founder and co-owner of Deep Roots CPS Farm, I have built a thriving multi-site urban agriculture enterprise dedicated to expanding food access, strengthening local food systems, and supporting the next generation of farmers. My experience spans from production and business management to community engagement, youth programming, and value-added enterprise development. I have also led and served in multiple civic and professional capacities, including work with the Gaston County School Farm-to-School Program, the Mecklenburg County Farm Service Agency Advisory Committee, and the Deep Roots Grower's Network, which connects and empowers small farmers throughout the Charlotte region. My civic involvement extends to health equity initiatives, DEI leadership, and partnerships that bridge agriculture, community development, and public policy.

Area of expertise and interests/skills

My expertise lies in land use, urban and regenerative agriculture, farm business development, and community food systems planning. I have practical and strategic experience in: Sustainable and organic production systems (vegetables, herbs, mushrooms, poultry, and value-added products) Agritourism, farmer training, and public education on food sovereignty My interests center on advancing policies that support small and mid-scale farms, equitable land access, soil health, and local food infrastructure. I'm deeply committed to ensuring that Mecklenburg County's agricultural future is inclusive, sustainable, and economically viable.

Additional Information

If you are or have ever served on a Mecklenburg County board/commission, please answer yes or no. If yes, please disclose the Board and term-end date.

No

Why are you interested in serving on the board(s) to which you are applying?

I am interested in serving on the Mecklenburg County Agriculture Advisory Committee because I believe that the future of our region's food system depends on collaboration between farmers, policymakers, and community leaders. As a first-generation farmer and owner of Deep Roots CPS Farm, I've witnessed both the opportunities and the challenges facing local producers, from land access and infrastructure needs to equitable market development and farmer education. Serving on this board would allow me to bring the perspective of urban and small-scale growers to the table and help shape policies that support a resilient, inclusive agricultural economy. I am passionate about advancing sustainable farming practices, promoting food access, and ensuring that Mecklenburg County's agricultural strategy reflects the diversity and innovation of its growers. My goal is to help create an environment where farming thrives not only as an economic driver, but as a cornerstone of community well-being.

Have you attended a meeting of the advisory board(s) to which you are applying?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Hours Per Month Available for Position

5

Cherie Jzar

How did you learn of the vacancy? *

☒ NotifyMe Email

Disclosure

Are you a Mecklenburg County resident?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are you a current Mecklenburg County employee? (Mecklenburg County employees are prohibited from serving on any board where appointments are made by the Board of Commissioners. If you are a current, county employee who is to serve in an ex-officio and/or non-voting capacity on any board when required by law, please email clerk@mecknc.gov before submitting an application.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are you a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?

☐ Yes ☒ No

• Do you have any personal or business interest that could create a conflict (either real or perceived) if appointed? If yes, please explain the conflict.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board Specific Questions

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

Are you currently engaged in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, as defined in NCGS §106 581.1*?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If yes, what farming activities do you take part in? Check all that apply.

- ☒ Fruits
- ☒ Vegetables
- ☒ Flowers
- ☒ Poultry
- ☒ Agritourism

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If you do not own or operate a farm or otherwise engage in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, are you currently engaged in other aspects of the Mecklenburg County food/agricultural system? Select N/A if you answered yes to the first question. *

☒ N/A

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☒ I Agree

Signature of Applicant (Sign Your Legal Name):

Cherie Jzar

Statement to Applicants

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Agricultural Advisory Board : Submitted

Profile

Susan L Lurz
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

What other names have you used? (includes, legal names, aliases, maiden names or professional monikers) NOTE: If none, please note N/A

slurz1@gmail.com
Email Address

14412 Beatties Ford Rd
Home Address

Huntersville NC 28078
City State Postal Code

What Mecklenburg County District do you live in? Please verify below. *

☒ 1

How long have you been a resident of Mecklenburg County? Please include months, or years.

52 years

My age range is (please select one): *

☒ Over 55

Ethnicity *

None Selected

Gender *

None Selected

Ethnicity *

☒ Caucasian-Non-Hispanic

Gender *

☒ Female

Profile

Susan

First Name

L

Middle
Initial

Lurz

Last Name

What other names have you used? (includes, legal names, aliases, maiden names or professional monikers) NOTE: If none, please note N/A

slurz1@gmail.com

Email Address

14412 Beatties Ford Rd

Home Address

Huntersville

City

NC

State

28078

Postal Code

What Mecklenburg County District do you live in? Please verify below. *

☒ 1

How long have you been a resident of Mecklenburg County? Please include months, or years.

52 years

My age range is (please select one): *

☒ Over 55

Ethnicity *

None Selected

Gender *

None Selected

Ethnicity *

☒ Caucasian-Non-Hispanic

Gender *

☒ Female

Interests & Experiences

Education

Business, Farming Practices, Education, Publishing

Sweetwater Farms LLC - Sole
Proprietor

Employer

Business
Owner/Agritourism

Occupation

Business and civic experience

42 years business experience in Mecklenburg County

Area of expertise and interests/skills

Business Strategies and Growth, Marketing, Personnel Management, Animal Husbandry, Food Production

Additional Information

If you are or have ever served on a Mecklenburg County board/commission, please answer yes or no. If yes, please disclose the Board and term-end date.

No

Why are you interested in serving on the board(s) to which you are applying?

I am interested in working with the farmers in Mecklenburg County and helping them where I can.

Have you attended a meeting of the advisory board(s) to which you are applying?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Hours Per Month Available for Position

6 Hours

How did you learn of the vacancy? *

☒ Word of Mouth

[Susan_Lurz_Resume.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

Disclosure

Are you a Mecklenburg County resident?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are you a current Mecklenburg County employee? (Mecklenburg County employees are prohibited from serving on any board where appointments are made by the Board of Commissioners. If you are a current, county employee who is to serve in an ex-officio and/or non-voting capacity on any board when required by law, please email clerk@mecknc.gov before submitting an application.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are you a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you answered yes to the question above, please explain.

I am a current vendor with CMS schools because I have field trips on my farm for many local schools.

• Do you have any personal or business interest that could create a conflict (either real or perceived) if appointed? If yes, please explain the conflict.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board Specific Questions

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

Are you currently engaged in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, as defined in NCGS §106 581.1*?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If yes, what farming activities do you take part in? Check all that apply.

- ☒ Fruits
- ☒ Vegetables
- ☒ Agritourism

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If you do not own or operate a farm or otherwise engage in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, are you currently engaged in other aspects of the Mecklenburg County food/agricultural system? Select N/A if you answered yes to the first question. *

☒ N/A

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☒ I Agree

Signature of Applicant (Sign Your Legal Name):

Susan Lorraine Lurz

Susan Lurz - Resume
Huntersville, NC 28078
980-253-1446
slurz1@gmail.com

Objective

I am an entrepreneur with a passion for innovation and business development always seeking new opportunities to drive growth and create an impact in my community. I am committed to expanding my farm into a thriving agritourism destination that connects people with the land.

Professional Summary

I am an experienced entrepreneur with a proven track record of successfully launching and scaling businesses. Skilled in strategic planning, business development, and team leadership I have a strong ability to identify market opportunities and drive business growth through innovation.

Experience

Owner/Manager
Baskin-Robbins Ice Cream (4 Franchises)
Charlotte, NC
1976 - 1988

- Managed three family-owned operations then purchased one individually in 1984.

Co-Owner/Manager
The Country Inn of Matthews Restaurant and Catering
1982 - 1990

- Worked with my family as an assistant chef and kitchen manager then started and ran the catering division

Co-Founder & President
B. Robert's Foods, Inc
Charlotte, NC
1988 - 2004

- Co-founded a business start-up in food manufacturing which resulted in a ten-year commissary contract with Harris Teeter grocery store chain and additional production for Lowe's Foods, Just Fresh restaurant chain, and MDI foodservice distributor.
- Developed and implemented food production activities that resulted in revenue growth and market expansion.
- Managed a team of 55 employees and fostered a culture of innovation and collaboration.

Children's Book Author

2005 – Present

- Wrote the children's middle reader book, Sweetwater Animal Society and the Hidden Mountain.
- Storybook spin-off for young children, Spencer's Wondrous Wish.

Co-Owner/Vice President

Proudtree Empowered Learning, Inc

Charlotte, NC

2009 – Present

- Co-founded a publishing start-up to publish middle reader novel which grew into an early childhood education company focusing on social and emotional learning, physical activity, nutrition, and oral health.

Owner

Sweetwater Farms LLC

Huntersville, NC

2017 – Present

- Founder and lead in funding, business strategies and growth, marketing, and management of all personal.

Statement to Applicants

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Agricultural Advisory Board : Submitted

Profile

Connor M Newman
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

connor@hodesfarmnc.com
Email Address

4475 rolling acres road
Home Address

Charlotte NC 28213
City State Postal Code

Home: (704) 577-1846 Business: (980) 867-1014
Primary Phone Alternate Phone

What Mecklenburg County District do you live in? Please verify below. *

☒ 3

How long have you been a resident of Mecklenburg County? Please include months, or years.

33 years

My age range is (please select one): *

☒ 30 to 45

Ethnicity *

☒ Caucasian-Non-Hispanic

Gender *

☒ Male

Interests & Experiences

Education

BS in Environmental Science

Hodges Dairy Inc

Employer

Operations Manager

Occupation

Business and civic experience

-Mecklenburg County Farm Bureau Board (Natural Environment and Resources Advisory Committee) -Advisory Board for Resilient Foodways; Specifically A.I. integration to assist small farms and local food shed -Farmland Protection Plan development -Hosting community events and educational experiences including farm tours, core curriculum aligned school programs, agricultural internships with students from NC State and UNC Chapel Hill, as well as cooperation with multiple departments within our local UNC Charlotte. -Agritourism activities including weddings, obstacle course races, corporate events, festivals, concerts - Direct to consumer sales of pastured proteins, hay, produce, and locally sourced retail

Area of expertise and interests/skills

-Regenerative farming and applied agroecology -Lean methodologies -Systems design -Team Management

Additional Information

If you are or have ever served on a Mecklenburg County board/commission, please answer yes or no. If yes, please disclose the Board and term-end date.

No

Why are you interested in serving on the board(s) to which you are applying?

My goal is to support and strengthen local agriculture at any level where my skills and experience might provide value.

Have you attended a meeting of the advisory board(s) to which you are applying?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Hours Per Month Available for Position

2-4 hours per month with flexibility to ensure effective participation.

How did you learn of the vacancy? *

☒ Word of Mouth

Disclosure

Are you a Mecklenburg County resident?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are you a current Mecklenburg County employee? (Mecklenburg County employees are prohibited from serving on any board where appointments are made by the Board of Commissioners. If you are a current, county employee who is to serve in an ex-officio and/or non-voting capacity on any board when required by law, please email clerk@mecknc.gov before submitting an application.)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are you a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?

☐ Yes ☒ No

• Do you have any personal or business interest that could create a conflict (either real or perceived) if appointed? If yes, please explain the conflict.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board Specific Questions

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

Are you currently engaged in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, as defined in NCGS §106 581.1*?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If yes, what farming activities do you take part in? Check all that apply.

-
- ☒ Fruits
 - ☒ Vegetables
 - ☒ Flowers
 - ☒ Horses
 - ☒ Poultry
 - ☒ Cattle
 - ☒ Small Ruminants
 - ☒ Pigs
 - ☒ Bees
 - ☒ Agritourism

Question applies to Agricultural Advisory Board

If you do not own or operate a farm or otherwise engage in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, are you currently engaged in other aspects of the Mecklenburg County food/agricultural system? Select N/A if you answered yes to the first question. *

☒ N/A

Disclaimer

I, hereby, authorize Mecklenburg County to verify all information included in this application. I certify that I have read the appointment policy and that the information contained in this application is true according to the best of my knowledge and belief. I certify that I am providing my legal name and address in which I reside. I understand that inaccurate or untrue information will be cause for removal from any appointed advisory board. By submitting this application, I agree to adhere to all County policies pertaining to advisory boards, including attendance. I understand if I do not achieve 65% annual attendance, I will be automatically removed from the board or commission to which I am appointed. I understand that this application is subject to the N.C. Public Records Law (NCGS § 132-1) and may be released upon request.

☒ I Agree

Signature of Applicant (Sign Your Legal Name):

Connor M Newman



Mecklenburg County, NC

Agricultural Advisory Board

Board Details

The Agricultural Advisory Board was established as part of the Voluntary and Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD) Ordinance. This Board serves to approve applications of farms into the Voluntary and Enhanced Voluntary Agricultural District (EVAD) Program. They will also conduct public hearings on proposed condemnation of VAD and EVAD-enrolled parcels by State or local public agency or governmental units, work to increase the visibility and voice of the agricultural community in Mecklenburg County and take on additional duties as assigned by the Board of County Commissioners.

Overview

- Size** 11 Seats
- Term Length** 3 Years
- Term Limit** 2

Contact

- Name** Anganette Byrd and Kathleen Reed
- Phone** (704) 617-9164

Additional

Qualifications

A majority of the board must actively be engaged in agriculture in Mecklenburg County, all members must be residents of Mecklenburg County.

Advisory Board Details

The board should represent, to the extent possible, all areas of the County as well as all sectors of agriculture present in the County. All municipalities within Mecklenburg County have the opportunity to nominate a member. This member should be actively engaged in agriculture.

Meeting Dates/Times

Meetings of the Advisory Board shall be held at the call of the chairperson and at such other times as the Advisory Board may specify in its rules of procedure or upon the request of at least a majority of the Advisory Board membership. A meeting shall be held at least annually and notice of any meetings to the members shall be in writing unless otherwise agreed to by all Advisory Board members.

Meeting Location

Land Use and Environmental Services Agency (2145 Suttle Ave., Charlotte, NC 28208)

Time Commitment

2 hours every other month or as determined by the Board Chair

Stipend

No

Special Notes

*Relevant State Statutes for the Agricultural Advisory Board: NCGS Article 61 §106-739(b): “The members of the agricultural advisory board shall be chosen to provide the broadest possible representation of the geographical regions of the local government and to represent, to the extent possible, all segments of agricultural production existing within the local government. A majority of the members of the agricultural advisory board shall be actively engaged in agriculture.” NCGS Article 52 §106-581.1.: For purposes of this Article, the terms "agriculture", "agricultural", and "farming" refer to all of the following: (1) The cultivation of soil for production and harvesting of crops, including but not limited to fruits, vegetables, sod, flowers and ornamental plants. (2) The planting and production of trees and timber, including pine orchards planted and maintained for the purpose of harvesting pine needles for sale, or the harvesting of pine needles for sale from land with a forest management plan. (3) Dairying and the raising, management, care, and training of livestock, including horses, bees, poultry, and other animals for individual and public use, consumption, and marketing. The raising, management, care, and training of horses includes the boarding of horses. (4) Aquaculture as defined in G.S. 106-758. (5) The operation, management, conservation, improvement, and maintenance of a farm and the structures and buildings on the farm, including building and structure repair, replacement, expansion, and construction incident to the farming operation. (6) When performed on the farm, "agriculture", "agricultural", and "farming" also include the marketing and selling of agricultural products, agritourism, biofuel production for commercial sale, the storage and use of materials for agricultural purposes, packing, treating, processing, sorting, storage, and other activities performed to add value to crops, livestock, and agricultural items produced on a farm, and similar activities incident to the operation of a farm. (7) A public or private grain warehouse or warehouse operation where grain is held 10 days or longer and includes, but is not limited to, all buildings, elevators, equipment, and warehouses consisting of one or more warehouse sections and considered a single delivery point with the capability to receive, load out, weigh, dry, and store grain.

Job Description

◀

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Agricultural Advisory Board

Board Roster

Vacancy

No Recruitment

Appointing Authority BOCC

Category CITY COUNCIL

Vacancy

No Recruitment

Appointing Authority BOCC

Category TOWN OF CORNELIUS

Vacancy

No Recruitment

Appointing Authority BOCC

Category TOWN OF DAVIDSON

Vacancy

No Recruitment

Appointing Authority BOCC

Category TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE

Vacancy

No Recruitment

Appointing Authority BOCC

Category TOWN OF MATTHEWS

Vacancy

No Recruitment

Appointing Authority BOCC

Category TOWN OF MINT HILL

□

Vacancy

No Recruitment

Appointing Authority BOCC
Category TOWN OF PINEVILLE

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Vacancy

Appointing Authority BOCC

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Vacancy

Appointing Authority BOCC

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Vacancy

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