

Mecklenburg County

Advisory Boards, Committees and Commissions

Board Appointments Due

Renewals From 5/1/2019 To 6/30/2019

PLANNING COMMISSION

Number of BOCC Members: 7

Term Length in Years: 3

Purpose

The Planning Commission was established to make studies of resources, possibilities and needs of the City, particularly with respect to conditions which may be injurious to the public welfare and make plans for the development of Mecklenburg County, including the City of Charlotte but excluding all other incorporated towns in the County. To consider the desirability, from time to time, of the extension of the limits of Charlotte and when found desirable, to prepare and present to Council a program of extension with statement of the reasons for the same. Appointments are made for three-year terms with no one serving more than two consecutive full terms. The Board appointments will be the following: seven (7) by the BOCC, five (5) by the City Council and two (2) by the Mayor. The Board of Education has two (2) slots, one of the City and County designated slots, but with approval of the BOCC and City Council respectively.

Qualifications

Must be a resident of Mecklenburg County.

The Planning Commission is a jointly appointed Board, administered by the City of Charlotte. Persons appointed to the Planning Commission must comply with the City of Charlotte's attendance requirement. Members are required to attend 65 percent of all regular, special and assigned subcommittee meetings from the time their term begins until the end of the calendar yr. and each subsequent yr.; and persons cannot miss three consecutive regular meetings. Failure to meet either of these two requirements results in automatic removal from the board. Persons must attend 50% of each meeting in order to be counted present.

Special Notes

REAPPOINTMENT RECONSIDERATION:

John Ham would like to be reappointed. He missed three consecutive mtgs, March, April, & May of this year, resulting in his removal, per Cnty & City Attendance Policies. Mr. Ham was informed by City staff of his potential removal, after missing the April mtg. Mr. Ham's father passed away in 2018 and as executor of his estate, it impacted his attendance. He is confident going forward that he will meet the requirements. See attached letters.

If reappointed, it would be for the remainder of his prior term, expiring 6/30/19 and a subsequent 3 yr. term expiring 6/30/22.

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS NEEDED FOR & TO FILL:

**One (1) or Two (2) three-year term(s) expiring 6/30/22, depending upon action taken with respect to Mr. Ham; and
One (1) unexpired term expiring 6/30/21.**

Note: Interviews will be required of persons nominated. This is a compensated advisory board.

3 Appointment(s) For 3 Year Term:

Name	Qualifications	Appointed:	Expires	Eligibility
Ham, John	(BOCC)	8/3/2016	06/30/2019	Has not met attendance requireme
Sellers, Rajahm	(BOCC)	6/5/2018	06/30/2021	Resigned
Sullivan, Michael	(BOCC)	7/2/2013	06/30/2019	Not eligible for Reappointment

Mecklenburg County

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PLANNING COMMISSION Applicants:

Name	BOCC Dist	Qualifications	Race/Sex
Butts, Emmitt	3	(BOCC)	B / M
James, Michael-Paul	2	(BOCC)	W / M
Kelly, Peter	5	(BOCC)	W / M
Mcgruder, Unithia	2	(BOCC)	B / F
Turnbull, Jeff	6	(BOCC)	W / M

PLANNING COMMISSION Members:

Name (* = Chairman)	BOCC Dist	Qualifications	Race/Sex	Appointed	Expires	Elig Code	Expired Position
Fryday, John	4	(MAYOR)	W / M	8/12/2015	7/30/2021	EL	
Gussman, Phillip	4	(MAYOR)	W / M	8/14/2017	7/30/2020	EL	
Ham, John	1	(BOCC)	B / M	8/3/2016	6/30/2019	AT	<==
McClung, Bolyn	6	(BOE)(BOCC)	W / M	7/7/2015	6/30/2021	NE	
McMillan, Elizabeth	4	(CITY)	W / F	7/1/2016	7/1/2019	EL	
Nelson, Dionne	2	(CITY)	B / F	7/1/2016	7/1/2019	EL	
Nwasike, Victoria	6	(CITY)	B / F	7/1/2017	6/30/2020	EL	
Samuel, Keba	2	(BOCC)	B / F	8/2/2017	6/30/2020	EL	
Sellers, Rajahm	5	(BOCC)	BR / M	6/5/2018	6/30/2021	RS	<==
Spencer, Sam	4	(CITY)	W / M	1/11/2016	7/1/2019	EL	
Sullivan, Michael	4	(BOCC)	W / M	7/2/2013	6/30/2019	NE	<==
Watkins, A. Cozzie	4	(CITY)	B / F	7/1/2015	6/30/2021	EL	
Welton, Douglas	5	(BOCC)	B / M	10/2/2018	6/30/2021	UEL	
Wiggins, Nancy	5	(BOCC)	W / F	3/18/2014	6/30/2020	NE	

Planning Commission

Applicants Demographics

**District 1 (0) – District 2 (2) – District 3 (1) – District 4 (0) – District 5 (1) –
District 6 (1)**

Black (2) – White (3)

Female (1) – Male (4)

Current Membership Demographics

**District 1 (0) - District 2 (2) -District 3 (0) -District 4 (5) - District 5 (2) -
District 6 (2)**

White (6) - Black (5)

Female (6) - Male 5)

Planning Commission

***Reappointment Reconsideration Request
And
Statements of Support***



Mecklenburg County Advisory Board Application

- **Name of Advisory Board:** Planning Commission
- **Name:** John Ham
- **Home address:** 6917 Sweetfield Drive
- **City:** Huntersville
- **Zip code:** 28078
- **Home Phone:** (704) 578-7939
- **Work Phone:**
- **E-Mail:** JohnFitzgeraldHam@gmail.com
- **Occupation:** Marketing Director
- **Place of employment:** American Product Distributors
- **Race:** Black
- **Sex:** Male
- **Age:** 49
- **Hours per month available for position:** 40
- **County advisory board currently serving on:**
- **Expiration date:**
- **Education:** BS Finance
- **How did you learn of this vacancy?** Online
- **If you selected Other, please explain:**
- **Business and civic experience:** Carolinas Virginia Minority Supplier Development Council
- **Areas of expertise and interests/skills:**
- **County Commission District:** 1
- **Signature of applicant:** John Ham
- **Date:** 08/03/2015

*From the desk of
John Fitzgerald Ham*

May 21, 2019

Mr. George Dunlap
Board of County Commissioners
600 East 4th Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

Dear Mr. Dunlap,

I am in receipt of your letter dated May 14, 2019 stating that I have been removed from the Planning Commission due to my inability to meet the attendance requirements. Be advised that this was not my intent, as I have enjoyed being on the Planning Commission and contributing to the development of our City.

Please accept this letter as my request to appeal this decision. My appeal request is based on the following:

- My father (James L. Ham) passed on July 4, 2018 in Greensboro, NC. I am the executor of his estate (see the attached Death Certificate and Letter of Testamentary). Due to circumstances related to my father's death and meetings required in Greensboro to administer his estate, I was unable to attend some Planning Commission meetings.
- During this difficult time, I was a regular and active participant in monthly City Council/Zoning Committee meetings (which lasted on average 4 hours in length). I was also a regular and active participant in Zoning Committee meetings. On August 2 and September 5, 2018, I participated in the Oxford Manor Subdivision appeal. This appeal process required approximately 8 hours of my participation to complete.

For these reasons, it is my hope that you will consider reappointing me to the Planning Commission. The majority of issues related to my father's estate have been resolved, so I am confident in meeting the attendance requirements moving forward. If approved, I am willing to be reappointed contingently under any criteria that you deem appropriate.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,


John F. Ham

From: Nancy B Wiggins <nancywigginscmpc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 7:49 AM
To: Paige, Janice <Janice.Paige@mecklenburgcountync.gov>
Subject: [External]John Ham

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Janice please send the following communique to the MCBC members before their vote.
John Ham has served on the CMPC with outstanding service. Not only has he shown up but had taken on many additional responsibilities for the CMPC. His attendance slump has been due to a serious family matter that he had for several months that he had direct involvement.
He works for us on a tireless basis & has given more than many with perfect attendance. Please reinstate him.
Nancy B Wiggins
Commissioner CMPC

Nancy Wiggins phone

From: Rajahm Sellers <rajahmsellers@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 2:58 PM
To: Leake, Vilma <Vilma.Leake@mecklenburgcountync.gov>; Scarborough, Ella <Ella.Scarborough@mecklenburgcountync.gov>; Fuller, Trevor M. <Trevor.Fuller@mecklenburgcountync.gov>
Cc: Paige, Janice <Janice.Paige@mecklenburgcountync.gov>
Subject: [External]Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board of County Commissioners,

I am writing you today for two reasons.

Reason one is for support of Commissioner John Ham. I believe that he is a great asset to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission. Though the rules are very clear, it appears that Commissioner Ham had a sudden, unfortunate family situation and demanded his attention. We are human and things do happen out of our control. We are also volunteering our time, regardless of stipend, and Commissioner Ham is needed on the commission, for his experience.

I do hope that you reconsider any decision rendered and allow Commissioner Ham to continue his seat on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission.

Reason two is to regrettably state that I must unseat my position as a member of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission. It has truly been a great year! However, I have unexpectedly took a career change in Houston, TX and will move June 14, 2019. I will be able to attend the last Planning Commission meeting on June 3, 2019. Per the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement, Section III, 3.32.1; I will not be a resident of Mecklenburg County.

I am not sure who else I would need to speak to regarding my personal situation but will be happy to speak to the appropriate personnel.

Thank you,

Rajahm Sellers

(646) 294-8152

rajahmsellers@hotmail.com

From: Sam Spencer <spencer@choosesam.com>

Sent: Friday, May 31, 2019 2:31 PM

To: Paige, Janice <Janice.Paige@mecklenburgcountync.gov>; Johnson, Sharekia L

<Sharekia.Johnson@mecklenburgcountync.gov>

Cc: Dunlap, George <George.Dunlap@mecklenburgcountync.gov>; Powell, Elaine M

<Elaine.Powell@mecklenburgcountync.gov>; John Fryday <johnfrydaycmpc@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: [External]County Applicants for the Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning Commission

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Janice -

I hope you will forgive my tardiness as I have had a couple of family emergencies over the past two weeks.

First, I would like to voice my strong support for the reinstatement of John Ham. I have had the opportunity to work with John both on the planning commission as well as off, and I can't say enough good things about him. He's a hard worker who has been willing to take projects and drill down for the good of the entire commission. Outside of the commission, he has been a prolific volunteer and fundraiser in the community. His perspective would be missed on the planning commission.

Second, I have had the opportunity to work with Peter Kelly on multiple projects over the past two years and cannot give a stronger recommendation for him. In addition to having the time and resources to fully commit to being an active member of the planning commission, Peter has worked in recent years to bring diverse communities from across Mecklenburg County together to address the Affordable Housing challenge. As our commission is losing our resident affordable housing expert, Dionne Nelson, next year, I believe that having a new member who is passionate about and educated on affordability can only improve the Commission. **I would give both John Ham and Peter Kelly my strongest endorsement.**

Finally, will the candidates for Commissioner Sellers' soon-to-be-vacant seat be considered out of these applicants, or will a new process begin?

Please let me know if I can be of further assistance, and thank you so much for your time.

Cheers,

Sam Spencer

Vice Chair, Planning Committee

Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning Commission

spencer@choosesam.com

704.902.5984

Planning Commission

Applicants



Mecklenburg County Advisory Board Application

- **Name of Advisory Board:** Planning Commission
- **Name:** Emmitt Butts
- **Home address:** 5028 Haybridge Rd
- **City:** Charlotte
- **Zip code:** 28269
- **Home Phone:** 704-599-1971
- **Work Phone:** 704-599-1971
- **Email:** Ebutts@Gardner-webb.edu
- **Occupation:** Teacher
- **Place of employment:** None
- **Race:** Black
- **Sex:** Male
- **Age:** 51
- **Hours per month available for position:** 15
- **County advisory board currently serving on:** None
- **Expiration date:** N/A
- **Education:** Doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction
- **How did you learn of this vacancy?** Other
- **If you selected Other, please explain:** Webb
- **Business and civic experience:** Advisory Board member for Hope Charlotte
State Advisory Board member for Middle school Forensics
- **Areas of expertise and interests/skills:** Data and trend analysis
- **Am I a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?** No
- **County Commission District:** 3
- **I, hereby, authorize Mecklenburg County to verify all information included in this application. I certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief. 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:** Emmitt Butts
- **Date:** 12/18/2018



Mecklenburg County Advisory Board Application

- **Name of Advisory Board:** Planning Commission
- **Name:** Michael-Paul James
- **Home address:** 412 North Crigler St
- **City:** Charlotte
- **Zip code:** 28216
- **Home Phone:** 704-965-0886
- **Work Phone:** 704-567-7789
- **Email:** jackelly3@hotmail.com
- **Occupation:** Manager
- **Place of employment:** Eye Dialogue
- **Race:** White
- **Sex:** Male
- **Age:** 41
- **Hours per month available for position:** 20 + hours
- **County advisory board currently serving on:** N/A
- **Expiration date:** N/A
- **Education:** Masters of Architecture, Masters of Urban Design, Masters of Real Estate.
- **How did you learn of this vacancy?** Other
- **If you selected Other, please explain:** John Fryday
- **Business and civic experience:** Concerning my business experience, I founded Eye Dialogue, an entertainment technology company, in 2004. Over the years, I have served in nearly every compacity both to develop new roles and serve in roles during transition periods. While executing those roles, I actively promoted Eye Dialogue through writing and networking. More than 20 projects were featured in nationally distributed magazines. Eye Dialogue has also won 17 national, regional, and local awards.

Concerning my commitment to civic engagement, I have worked with the YMCA, the Children's Theatre of Charlotte, CMS, and several other non-profit organizations over the last 30 years. I have consistently volunteered my time aiding public missions concerning education, the environment, poverty, and community. I have also attended public meetings concerning urban issues with the planning commission and the planning department.

- **Areas of expertise and interests/skills:** Concerning my expertise, I have three master's degrees in architecture, urban design, and real estate. My formal training will aid in the understanding of the built environment, the urban context, and the financing necessary to complete fiscally, socially, and environmentally sustainable development projects.

Concerning my interests, I am invested in the economic success of the city. I have lived in Hoskins Park (Thomasboro-Hoskins) since 2006. I am invested in the preservation and strengthening of community. I have traveled extensively and studied the urban context both nationally and abroad. I have observed and analyzed numerous solutions to urban issues. This study has expanded my understanding of both what is possible and what is reasonable..

- **Am I a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?** No
- **County Commission District:** 2
- **I, hereby, authorize Mecklenburg County to verify all information included in this application. I certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief. 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:** Michael-Paul James
- **Date:** 5/23/2019



Mecklenburg County Advisory Board Application

- **Name of Advisory Board:** Planning Commission
- **Name:** Peter Kelly
- **Home address:** 3011 Brandon Manor Lane
- **City:** Charlotte
- **Zip code:** 28211
- **Home Phone:** 704-377-1223
- **Work Phone:** 704-650-3651
- **Email:** peter.j.m.kelly@gmail.com
- **Occupation:** Retired Banker
- **Place of employment:** Retired Banker
- **Race:** White
- **Sex:** Male
- **Age:** 61
- **Hours per month available for position:** 20
- **County advisory board currently serving on:** None
- **Expiration date:** N/A
- **Education:** BS Wake Forest
- **How did you learn of this vacancy?** Other
- **If you selected Other, please explain:** Online
- **Business and civic experience:**
 - Over 25 years of Banking Experience in Executive Leadership in Technology.
 - Active in community advocacy for Affordable Housing and Social Justice issues.
 - Co-Chair of Myers Park United Methodist Affordable Housing Committee
 - Co-Founder of Equitable Communities CLT
- **Areas of expertise and interests/skills:** Strategic Planning, Executive , Stakeholder Communications, Process Change Management
- **Am I a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?** No
- **County Commission District:** 5
- **I, hereby, authorize Mecklenburg County to verify all information included in this application. I certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief. 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:** Peter Kelly
- **Date:** 4/17/2019



Mecklenburg County Advisory Board Application

- **Name of Advisory Board:** Planning Commission
- **Name:** Unithia Mcgruder
- **Home address:** 1242 Capps Hollow Dr.
- **City:** Charlotte
- **Zip code:** 28216
- **Home Phone:** 704-391-8726
- **Work Phone:** 980-498-8367
- **Email:** Rosenita@aol.com
- **Occupation:** Banking
- **Place of employment:** Wells Fargo
- **Race:** Black
- **Sex:** Female
- **Age:** 55
- **Hours per month available for position:** 30
- **County advisory board currently serving on:** None
- **Expiration date:** None
- **Education:** MBA- Global Management
- **How did you learn of this vacancy?** Other
- **If you selected Other, please explain:** Government Website
- **Business and civic experience:** Board of Equalization and Review; banking; licensed real estate broker/owner
- **Areas of expertise and interests/skills:** Operational Risk; Strategic Planning; Policy and Procedures; Certification in Project Management
- **Am I a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?** No
- **County Commission District:** 2
- **I, hereby, authorize Mecklenburg County to verify all information included in this application. I certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief. 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:** Unithia B. Mcgruder
- **Date:** July 9 2018



Mecklenburg County Advisory Board Application

- **Name of Advisory Board:** Planning Commission
- **Name:** Jeff Turnbull
- **Home address:** 5438 Meadow Haven Lane
- **City:** Charlotte
- **Zip code:** 28270
- **Home Phone:** 704-907-5218
- **Work Phone:** 704-907-5218
- **Email:** Turnbull1031@aol.com
- **Occupation:** Real Estate Development, NC Attorney, NC RE Broker
- **Place of employment:** Kodiak Mini Storage II, LLC
- **Race:** White
- **Sex:** Male
- **Age:** 61
- **Hours per month available for position:** 30
- **County advisory board currently serving on:** Former Chair of Mecklenburg County Board of Equalization and Review
- **Expiration date:** N/A
- **Education:** BS/MBA/JD
- **How did you learn of this vacancy?** Other --
- **If you selected Other, please explain:**
- **Business and civic experience:** Developed self storage stores and other commercial ventures in the greater Charlotte region for the past 25 years.
- **Areas of expertise and interests/skills:** Business, law, finance.
- **Am I a current vendor with Mecklenburg County?** No
- **County Commission District:** 6
- **I, hereby, authorize Mecklenburg County to verify all information included in this application. I certify that the information contained in this application is true and correct according to the best of my knowledge and belief. 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:** Jeffrey B. Turnbull
- **Date:** 12/18/18