

Council Business Meeting

February 18, 2020

Agenda Item	Appointment of Robert Kaplan to the Climate Policy Commission	
From	Melissa Huhtala	City Recorder
Contact	Melissa.huhtala@ashland.or.us ; (541) 488-5307	

SUMMARY

Confirm Mayor's appointment of Robert Kaplan to the Climate Policy Commission.

POLICIES, PLANS & GOALS SUPPORTED

Ashland Municipal Code (AMC) Chapter 2.19.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION

N/A

BACKGROUND AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This is confirmation by the City Council of the Mayor's appointment to the Climate Policy Commission.

FISCAL IMPACTS

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A

ACTIONS, OPTIONS & POTENTIAL MOTIONS

I move to approve the appointment of Robert Kaplan to the Climate Policy Commission with a term expiring April 30, 2021.

REFERENCES & ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Application

November 21, 2019

Dear Mayor Stromberg and city councilors:

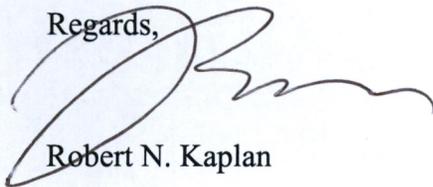
I am attaching my application for appointment to the climate policy commission.

My wife and I have recently resettled in Ashland after spending most of our lives on the east coast. We were attracted to Ashland for many reasons, including its actively engaged citizenry and forward-thinking city government. Since arriving here in July, I have been a regular attendee at meetings of the city council and a few of Ashland's citizen commissions. I have also read many of the city's master plans, its budget, and its climate and energy action plan. It has been a terrific way to learn about the city!

I understand that the climate policy commission may have a vacancy. I have spent my career working on policies, programs, and projects in Latin America and the Caribbean. Much of that work was directly related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as community development and social cohesion, albeit in an economic, social, and political context that is quite different than Ashland. Although I am a newcomer here and still have much to learn, I believe that I can contribute to achieving the city's goals. I look forward to the opportunity to do so in whatever way I can..

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert N. Kaplan", written over the typed name.

Robert N. Kaplan

CITY OF ASHLAND

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO CITY COMMISSION/COMMITTEE

Please type or print answers to the following questions and submit to the City Recorder at City Hall, 20 E Main Street, or email melissa.huhtala@ashland.or.us. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the City Recorder at 488-5307. **Attach additional sheets if necessary.**

Name Robert Kaplan (Bob)

Requesting to serve on: Climate Policy Commission (Commission/Committee)

Mailing Address 333 High St, Ashland, OR 97520 (after Dec 6)

Physical Address 333 High St, Ashland, OR 97520 (after Dec 6)

Occupation Economist Phone: Home 202.258.5398

Work _____
Email bobk5815@gmail.com
Fax _____

1. Education Background

What schools have you attended? University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

What degrees do you hold? Princeton University
B.A. from UNC majors in public policy analysis and political science
Master in Public Affairs (public policy) from Princeton

What additional training or education have you had that would apply to this position?

"Infrastructure in a Market Economy" Two-week senior executive program
at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government

2. Related Experience

What prior work experience have you had that would help you if you were appointed to this position?

World Bank. Several positions, 1988-1994

Inter-American Development Bank, Several executive positions, 1994-2010

Inter-American Foundation, President and CEO, 2010-2017. This is a small independent US federal agency that works across the region.

Do you feel it would be advantageous for you to have further training in this field, such as attending conferences or seminars? Why? Yes! Always useful. For example,

I participated in Sustainable Northwest's Fall Symposium in Klamath Falls, "Making Energy Work for Rural Oregon."



3. Interests

After spending my career in Latin America, I Why are you applying for this position? am excited about getting involved in local issues close to home. I think we have tremendous opportunities here in Ashland to do our part to mitigate climate change and also to make sensible investments to adapt to changes that will not be mitigated. This will require clear analytic thinking and social sensitivity. I look forward to contributing my energy and experience however I can

4. Availability

Are you available to attend special meetings, in addition to the regularly scheduled meetings? Do you prefer day or evening meetings? Yes. Either is fine

5. Additional Information

How long have you lived in this community? Since July 2019

Please use the space below to summarize any additional qualifications you have for this position

I have spent my whole career working on environmental, social, and economic development issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. While the context and setting are different than Ashland, I believe that much of my professional experience is relevant to the challenges and opportunities we also face. Perhaps most relevant thematically was the nine years I served as chief of the environment and natural resources division at the Inter-American Development Bank. With a staff of 40, the division was responsible for all of the IDB's lending and technical assistance to Mexico, Central America, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti related to environment, agriculture and rural development, water and sanitation, municipal development, and natural disaster risk management. The policies and projects we supported are directly relevant to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as to the social and economic stresses faced by communities in a changing environment.

November 21, 2019
Date

[Signature]
Signature

