


**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
VACANT ELECTED POSITION
ASHLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONER¹**

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 541.552.2084 (p) or 541.613.0194 (c). **Attach additional sheets if necessary.** 

Name _____

Address _____

Occupation _____ Phone: Home _____

Work _____

Email _____

1. What do you think are the biggest issues facing the Parks and Recreation Commission currently?

2. Do you have experience working with local government, paid or volunteer?

If yes, please describe:

3. Do you have past non-governmental volunteer experience?

If yes, please describe:



¹ Article XIX of the City Charter establishes the position of Park Commissioner as an elected position. Article XXII establishes the Recreation Commission and states that the positions of Recreation Commissioner shall be filled by the elected Park Commissioners.

4. **What is your educational background?**

Please describe:

5. **Why are you interested in this position?**

Date

Eric Hansen

Signature



1.

I think the biggest issues are funding, and therefore funding related. We have both amazing parks, and a City in funding challenges. Funding affects staff, maintenance, growth, and all the issues of planning and budgeting those things.

Funding aside, I think issues around staff, maintenance, growth and modernization, and access to all are also big.

And I think the Parks and Recreation Commission also faces issues with balancing outside pressures and Commission itself.

2.

Yes. I'm Owner and CEO of True South Solar, and we're solar contractors working in the Rogue Valley with local, state, and federal government agencies. In that capacity I also volunteer in educational and workforce development opportunities, and advise on solar related issues.

3.

Yes. I serve on our Ashland Chamber Board, and in the Economic Development Subcommittee there. I'm also Treasurer of the Oregon Solar + Storage Industry Association, four years running. And I'm on the Solar Apprenticeship JATC Board, six years.

Over the years I've also volunteered in local Ashland trail maintenance, and youth programs.

4.

1996 SOU, BA Human Communications — Journalism

I moved to Ashland after I graduated Cleveland Highschool, Portland Oregon, in 1992 to attend Southern Oregon State College. Soon after graduating SOU I started working with Home Power Magazine as a writer, editor, and graphic designer. Five years later I left the magazine to work in the solar-electric trade, entered the apprenticeship program to obtain my solar electrician's license, and did a lot of that educational work at Rogue Community College. Since starting True South Solar in 2010 I feel like I'm working on my Masters in Business and Administration "on the job".

5.

I'm planning to run for a Parks and Recreation Commission seat in November. Our family of four loves Ashland Parks and I would like to serve. I have some experience with organizations coming together to get amazing things done. Some of that experience is also in turning around tough financial situations. I think our Parks are amazing and look forward to being a part of the continuation. I'm very supported at True South Solar to volunteer part of my time towards community service so I'm confident I have the time to fulfill the position as well.

Thank you for your considering my application.