

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [Kelly Passauer](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board Application
Date: Monday, July 13, 2020 2:53:56 PM

Board Application

Board Applying For:	Tree Board
Name	Tim Haynes
Date	7/13/2020
Address	1200 N 2nd St.
Email Address	
Phone Number	
Educational Background:	
High School Name and Location	Lawrence High School - Lawrence, KS
Graduated/Degree	<i>Field not completed.</i>
College Name and Location	Baker University
Graduated/Degree	B.A.
Major	French, German, and International Studies
Other Education Name and Location	Northern Arizona University - Flagstaff, AZ
Graduated/Degree	M.A.
Emphasis	Sustainable Communities
Do you reside inside the corporate limits of the City of Independence?	Yes
If no, do you reside within 3 miles of the corporate limits of the City of Independence?	<i>Field not completed.</i>

What experiences have you had that you feel would assist you as a board member?

I helped draft the tree ordinance and apply to the Arbor Day Foundation that helped establish the Tree Board for the City of Independence and become a participant in the Tree City USA program. I am an outdoor enthusiast, and I enjoy landscaping and keeping a garden. I have studied and invested much time in learning how plants, and especially trees, contribute to community health and wellness.

Why do you want to become a member of the board?

I want to become a member of the board because I want to use my talents and interests to improve the City of Independence's treescapes. We have a rich tradition of appreciating and celebrating our wonderful tree canopy, but many in the city don't understand how it could be even better than it is. I've heard some people even question the need for trees downtown, but I feel like if they could see mature trees downtown they might understand. Also, poorly maintained trees can become a nuisance and lead people to believe trees are a problem, when they aren't. If our trees are well-maintained, I don't think anyone would ever make such a claim.

Do you feel that there are any issues needing immediate attention by the board? If so, please explain.

Due to COVID, it's understandable why there wasn't an Arbor Day celebration. I wonder if there might be opportunities to use social media or virtual meetings to host a "plantathon," where people all plant trees simultaneously, or if we could set up some kind of online forum for Q&A regarding tree maintenance or advice for species selection? I know many people want to plant trees, so they just plant whatever they can, without much consideration to the mature size, growth rate, or proximity to utilities or roads and sidewalks. Before long, their red maple, which looked so good in the fall, is too big, their grass won't grow beneath the thick foliage, and their sidewalk is getting pushed up. We could also help cheerlead for the next community orchard, which I've heard could be planted in the next several month.

Other comments:

I feel a bit embarrassed that I did not try to join the Tree Board sooner. Due to having kids and the pressure being a dad comes with, I felt I couldn't take on another responsibility at that time. Now, I'm ready to transition off the Historical Preservation Board in favor of something that aligns more closely with my interests.

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