

**CITY OF DESERT HOT SPRINGS**

65950 Pierson Boulevard, Desert Hot Springs, CA, 92240 · www.cityofdhs.org · P: (760) 329-6411 F: (760) 288-3129

**CITY COMMISSION/BOARD APPLICATION****GENERAL / CONTACT INFORMATION**

NAME: Gardner Gary R.
 LAST FIRST MIDDLE

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
 STREET ADDRESS
 Desert Hot Springs CA 92240
 CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE: [REDACTED]
 HOME WORK CELL

EMAIL: [REDACTED]

DATE: January 23, 2017

Appointed Commissioners must be a resident and registered voter of the City (DHSMC §2.24.040)

Length of Residency in Desert Hot Springs:

Five Months

Registered Voter in Desert Hot Springs since:

2016

Indicate the following Commissions/Committees/Boards in which you are most interested in serving.

Number in order of preference (Example: #1 for 1st choice, #2 for 2nd choice, #3 for 3rd choice, etc.)

Select One Planning Commission

Select One Oversight Board to the RDA Successor Agency

(Members not subject to residency requirements)

1st Public Safety Commission

Select One Architecture and Landscape Review Committee

Select One Community & Cultural Affairs Commission (CCAC)

See attachment for Commission/Committee/Board descriptions or visit the City's website at www.cityofdhs.org for more information**Occupation and Employer:** Retired Government Affairs Consultant

(If retired, indicate last occupation/employer)

The following information consists of some of the factors used by the City Council, and/or subcommittee thereof to select final applicants: 1) Background, education, experience to demonstrate sound judgement; 2) Diversity in commission membership; and 3) attendance at commission meetings prior to interview

Background / Work Experience / Civic Involvement:

I have spent thirty years working in the public policy arena as an advocate for state agencies and private entities. From 1991 until 2013 I was the principle and owner of a government and political affairs consulting firm in Olympia, Washington. My firm represented a number of large companies in Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia before policy makers and commissions in those two states and that province. Among my clients were Costco, Comcast, Boeing Employees' Credit Union, MoneyTree, Washington Restaurant Association, National Candy Manufacturers Association, and others. I am well versed in state and local political processes and how government agencies and commissions operate and function. In addition I have served on the board of the Washington State Privacy Fund, The Association of Washington Business, and served three terms as a precinct committee chair, representing the precinct I lived in with the county election office.

Education / Training:

BA - Political Science, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 1984
 Master of Public Administration, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 1986
 Legislative Liaison, Arizona Corporation Commission
 Assistant Director, Arizona Racing Commission
 Director of Government Affairs, Arizona Credit Union League
 Vice President, Public Affairs, Washington Credit Union League
 Owner, GRG Government Relations, Seattle, Washington

Have you served on a City Commission or Board in Desert Hot Springs or any other City?

☒ No

☐ Yes

If yes, complete below:

CITY	COMMISSION/POSITION	WHEN	LENGTH OF SERVICE
CITY	COMMISSION/POSITION	WHEN	LENGTH OF SERVICE
CITY	COMMISSION/POSITION	WHEN	LENGTH OF SERVICE

Have you ever attended a City Council Meeting?

☐ No ☒ Yes

Have you ever attended a City Commission Meeting?

☒ No ☐ Yes

If yes, list which commissions and approximately how many.

Describe your knowledge of the functions, regulations and procedures of the Commission (1st choice) on which you would like to serve:

The Public Safety Commission is the interface between the public and the police department. In a city like DHS that is struggling financially to meet basic obligations, and has suffered from a somewhat undeserved reputation as a high crime rate city, this Commission can play a key role in making sure the police department gets the resources it needs, and is responsive to all the citizens in the city. Police today face a tremendous challenge dealing with crime, and citizen perceptions of their activities -- either not doing their job, or over-doing their job. Unfortunately it's a tough situation, and one that I believe the Commission can help with, both in giving input and reviewing the police budget, advocating for needed resources and making recommendations, and acting as a conduit for citizen review and input of the police department, its staffing, training and resources.

What specific skills, attitudes, and experience do you think you have that will enhance the work of the Commission?

I have spent my career working in the public policy arena, developing, and helping implement public policy initiatives and changes. As a government affairs consultant I have worked for years with both the elected/political side of the policy making process, as well as the general public side, working with elected and appointed officials and various groups to develop and implement public policy. My MPA is in Policy Development. I am passionate about improving my neighborhood and my city. I've chosen to make DHS my home. I love the small town feel. Yet this city faces a lot of big-city problems, and a very small tax base of which to fund its basic obligations. I think my skills as a policy advocate for 30 years, my ability to work with varying groups to gather input and feedback, and to develop policy initiatives that work well for all parties, as well as the fresh perspective of someone who is new to the city and wants very much to see it thrive and grow, will be a great benefit to the Commission and to my new home town.

What specific issues or problems face the commission? Do you have suggestions to address these issues or problems?

The biggest challenge I see facing the DHS Police Department is maximizing its limited resources in a town with a lot of challenges -- financially, demographically, and with public perceptions. At this time I don't have any specific suggestions, but if appointed I look forward to working with the other commissioners and the public on developing solutions that will benefit all of us here in DHS.

Appointed Commissioners may be required to submit a Fair Political Practices Act, Statement of Economic Interests (pursuant to Government Code §87200 and/or Desert Hot Springs Municipal Code Section §2.20.050)

NOTE: This document is a public record and is subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act. Personal contact information will not be released without consent. Your Application will be considered by the City Council, provided that a vacancy exists on a Commission or Board for which you have applied. If there is no vacancy, your application will be kept on file for two years, to be considered when an opening does occur.

I hereby certify that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge:

[Redacted Signature]

Applicant's Signature

1/23/17

Date

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

→ Save the application for your records →

AND → Submit the application to jsoriano@cityofdhs.org

OR → Print and mail to: City of Desert Hot Springs
Office of the City Clerk
65950 Pierson Boulevard
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240 →