

Application of Thomas F. Crawford

Your name: THOMAS F. CRAWFORD

Section 3. Questions for you to complete. (If you need more space, you may attach additional pages.)

A. Please review the following requirements from the Home Rule Charter for serving on the Commission on Parks and Recreation. How do you meet those qualifications?

“Qualifications. The members shall have demonstrated experience or skills relevant to the powers and duties of the Commission including, but not limited to: sports, recreation and athletic programming; natural lands management, watershed management, and environmental protection; tourism, marketing and public relations; business and finance; neighborhood revitalization; community leadership; historical and architectural preservation; landscaping and horticulture; and fundraising. The Commission shall also be reflective of the geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity within the City.”

First, I am a former Chief Assistant Philadelphia City Solicitor; and I have an extensive legal background, including real estate, land use and environmental issues. Second, I am an owner of a private company doing historic restoration. These projects are key to community revitalization. Among other things, I have primary responsibility for all design work, including landscape design, as well as construction management. Third, we are at a preliminary planning phase for a model athletic facility. Among other things, I am a former hockey and basketball coach, with extensive participation and experience in multiple sports, training and recreational activities. Fourth, I am a business owner, with responsibilities for fundraising and private financing.

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B. In these difficult economic times, what do you think the Commission on Parks and Recreation should do to support, promote, and invest in the City's park and recreation system? As a member of the Commission, what would you do to assist the Commission in achieving these goals?

B.

Privatize. A successful plan for the Commission on Parks and Recreation will depend upon a cooperative, public-private effort; with the public effort focused upon planning and facilitating; and the private effort focused upon financing and implementation. First, I have a vision for parks and recreation. Second, I know how to get things done.

C. Please review the role and responsibilities of the Commission, which are set forth in Part I of this application. Then, please attach a statement of no more than 500 words explaining why you want to serve on the Commission Parks and Recreation and why you believe you should be nominated to do so.

Simply stated, I have a vision for parks and recreation. This is coupled with private business experience in projects of the like. As an owner of companies performing historic restoration, in which I personally have skin in the game, I am responsible for acquisition, development, design, construction management and leasing of projects of the like. I have done it, and I am good at it.

This is a volunteer, unpaid position. There is no benefit to me. I am volunteering because I know that I can help; and I am willing to offer my vision, skills and services to the benefit of society. Among other things, I have done similar volunteer work for the Churchville Nature Center in Bucks County, where I designed the proposed exterior entranceway to the new Churchville Nature Center. Suffice it to say, to offer my services, I believe that it is the right thing to do.

Section 4. Resume: Please attach to this application an up-to-date resume. Include your name, but do not include any personal contact information (street address, phone number, e-mail address) that you do not wish to be publicly available. On the resume, please provide the following information: **Section 4: Resume: See Attached.**

- Your employment history – employers, job titles and responsibilities, and dates of employment. If you have been self-employed, include that information.
- Your education or training – schools attended, degrees attained, and dates.
- Your community and professional organizations, affiliations, and activities.
- Optional: Any additional information that you consider relevant to this application.

THOMAS F. CRAWFORD**FAMILY**

Spouse: Katerina
Children: Kimberly, Thomas, Jr., Christian, Ryan, & Nadia

**LEGAL EXPERIENCE
1982 TO 1987**

Chief Assistant City Solicitor
Philadelphia City Solicitor's Office
Responsibilities included many of the City's highest exposure cases, including the Enterprise Avenue Superfund cost recovery action; multi-million insurance recovery against Continental Insurance Co.; and defense of the Grandpop Squad police abuse cases.

1987 to 1989

Represented a group of interrelated corporations and partnerships owned by the largest landowner in South Jersey in a series of major land use, real estate, business, insurance and environmental claims. Litigation included such high profile cases as the Medford sewer case; the Evesham Taxpayer suit; and major inverse condemnation action against Voorhees Township.

1989 to Present

Private practice. General civil litigation, including personal injury, insurance, business and real estate litigation.

**REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPMENT**

Owner and managing partner in a group of interrelated companies doing restoration of historic properties, including acquisition, land development, design, construction management and leasing. Many, if not most, of the historic properties are on the National Register of Historic Places. Projects include the following:

- Perkiomen Bridge Hotel, circa 1743, Collegeville, Pa., reported as the oldest standing hotel in the United States.
- Central Trust Bank Building, circa 1893, Camden, NJ to be used as the Main Branch of the Camden Public Library.
- Mill Race Inn, circa 1789, Holland, PA, in land development phase.
- Randall Carriage House, circa 1869, Newtown, PA.
- Ft. Washington Schoolhouse, circa 1939.

EDUCATION

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
Juris Doctor, May 1982

LASALLE UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, May 1979
Maxima Cum Laude

INTERESTS

Real Estate Development, Politics, Foreign Policy.

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Section 5. Optional supporting materials. You are invited to submit up to three letters of recommendation. You may submit them along with your application or separately. If you have not submitted them by the time that Council holds its public hearing for applicants, please bring the letters with you and submit them when your name is called.

Section 5: To be Supplied.

Section 6. Signature. Please sign on the line immediately below. If you are submitting your application by e-mail directly from your computer, type your name instead.

Thomas F. Crawford

Section 7. Date. Indicate the date that you are submitting this application:

5-9-12

If you are selected to serve on the Commission on Parks and Recreation, you will be required to file the City's annual financial disclosure form. You will also be subject to ethics laws applicable to City boards and commissions (and to the jurisdiction of the Philadelphia Board of Ethics). In addition, the Mayor's Executive Order No. 3-10 requires that appointees to City boards and commissions be in compliance with tax laws and all City fines and fees; in that connection, you will be required to complete a "Tax Clearance Application," which will authorize the City's Department of Revenue to confirm that you are in compliance (or have entered into a voluntary payment agreement).

If you have questions about the application process, please contact Theresa Brunson at 215-686-3424 or Hal Fichandler at 215-686-7667.

This is the last page of the application.