

Application of Dennis A. Waller

Your name: Dennis A. Waller

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.”

In my former position as the Fairmount Park Dep. Director for Properties and Business Development (1995-2007) I directed, managed and or participated in Projects that included all of the “qualifications” listed above. I have participated in Commission and community meetings, lease negotiations, recreation center revitalizations and historic house preservations.

I have always solicited to the best of my ability input from of all of Philadelphia’s racial and ethnic groups and neighborhoods in their visions for Fairmount Park. I believe with the leadership team currently in place at Parks and Recreation and a balanced Commission with the appropriate skills, this agency will continue to move forward. Additionally I can and will bring to the Commission my experiences in tourism, marketing, business development and public relations as Parks and Recreation continues to promote the City as a world class destination.

Your name: _Dennis A. Waller

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?

While funding for Parks and Recreation remains a challenge this agency does have a demonstrated record of securing funding for not only core programs and responsibilities but has been able to initiated new programs and projects. This has been accomplished thru dedicated funding from the City, grants from the State and Federal government and public and private partnerships. Other funding has been generated from business and concession fees. Careful development of business and concession opportunities I believe provide the broadest opportunity for expanded funding for Parks and Recreation. During my last years working at the Park Commission and my three years at Phila. Int'l Airport I participated in the development, initiation and monitoring of several successful for profit business and concession projects. While Parks and Recreation pose some different challenges, I believe I can provide business models, experience and insight that can generate funding opportunities for Parks and Recreation. As Commissioners we also have an obligation to continue to participate in various fund raising activities and a responsibility to lobby the City for dedicated funding.

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.

As a resident and former City employee I feel obligated to serve in a capacity where I can assist the City continue to move forward and realize its fullest potential. My family, the city of Philadelphia, and it's educational institutions afforded me a great education and opportunities. It would be an honor to utilize my experiences, education and energy to serve our City.

Record of Employment

**2007—12/31/09 Deputy Director of Aviation for Compliance
Director; Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Programs (DBE) US Dept. of
Transportation, (US-DOT), Penn Dept. of Transportation, (Penn-DOT)
DBE Liaison, Federal Aviation Administration, (FAA)**

Directed and Managed the Dept. of Aviation's activities relative to City of Phila. Government and Dept. of Transportation (DOT), Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) policies, regulations, executive orders and ordinances as they relate to the inclusion of minority, women and disadvantaged businesses (MW/DBE's) on City and federally funded contracts, construction projects and concessions. My responsibilities included insuring that the Phila. Dept. of Aviation is and remains in Compliance with DOT, FAA Division of Civil Rights regulations. Specific functions included re-writing the DOA's Airport Concessions Disadvantage Business Enterprise (AC/DBE) Program to comply with recently enacted FAA regulations (49 CFR, 23&26). This process requires the development of written procedures for the inclusion, certification and monitoring of Minority, Women, and Disadvantaged Businesses on City, State and Federally funded contracts, projects and concessions. Activities required interaction with private industry and businesses, City, State and Federal government entities, prime and subcontractors and related agencies. I reported to the Dep. Mayor for Transportation and Industry and the Director of Aviation.

**1995---2006 Deputy Director, Fairmount Park Commission
For Properties and Business Development**

Represented the Commission as directed regarding interagency concerns, Property Management, Park-Wide Concessions and Compliance with MBEC requirements. Responsible for the administration and management of annual contracts between the Fairmount Park Commission and for profit businesses including, parking and food concessions, facility rentals and event management. I conducted economic analysis for current and future contracts. Under my direction the Properties staff managed 113 properties, reviewed, terminated and initiated leases annually and made specific recommendations to the Director and Park Commissioners. Directed a staff of four (4), interacted with various depts., agency directors, City Council and elected officials.

**1983—1995 Deputy Director for Operations, Minority Business Enterprise Council
City of Philadelphia, Finance Department:**

My primary responsibility was to direct the operations of the Minority Business Enterprise Council (MBEC). Duties included insuring that the four operating units, Certification, Supplies Services & Equipment, Public Works and Professional Services functioned in accordance with City Ordinance "17-500, Goals for the Participation Minority and Women owned Businesses on City Contracts". I was the primary agency contact to the City's Law Dept. and the Procurement Dept. insuring that Bids and Contracts met the standards for compliance required by the ordinance. I also created methodologies to increase minority and women participation and developed technical assistance tools to inform program participants of the process and requirements for submitting a successful bid or contract. In 1995 I served as the Acting Director and reported the City's Finance Director.

Education: **1973—1975 University of Pennsylvania:**
Master of Social Work Administration, MSW
Public Administration; Organization of Service Systems;
Agency Management and Administration.

1967—1971 Wilberforce University:
Bachelor of Science, Secondary Education
Teaching Certificate, 1971- Secondary Education
Political Science, Civics, History and Social Studies

Board Memberships and Affiliations:
Civic and Community Involvement

Member	Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) 2007- 2010
Member	Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC) 2007- 2010
Commission Member	Phila. Bar Association, Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention: 2009-2010
Planning Committee	US Dept. of Transportation, Mid Atlantic Region, Small Business Transportation Resource Ctr. (SBTRC) 2008-2009
Member	Mt. Tabor (AME) African Methodist Episcopal Church 1983- Present: Vice Chairperson, Trustee Board 1988-1995
Board President	Institute for the Development of African American Youth- (IDAAY), 1998-2000
Board Member	1997-2001
Board Member	Penna.Convention and Visitors Bureau Multicultural Affairs Congress, (MAC) 2002- 2008
Member	Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.
Board President	Friends Housing Cooperative, 1994-1997
Board Member	1980-1997

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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 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.

Dennis A Waller

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

May 8th 2012

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.

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