SPECIAL MEETING  
Thursday, September 21, 2023  
6:00 PM  
West Branch  
1125 University Avenue

Commission Members:
Amy Roth, President; Sophie Hahn, Vice President; Beverly Greene, John Selawsky

To submit an e-mail comment during the meeting to be read aloud during public comment, email BOLT@cityofberkeley.info with the Subject Line in this format: "PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM ##." Please observe a 150 word limit. Time limits on public comments will apply. Written comments will be entered into the public record.

Please be mindful that the teleconference will be recorded as any Board of Library Trustees meeting is recorded, and all other rules of procedure and decorum will apply for Board of Library Trustees meetings conducted by teleconference or videoconference.

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Eve Franklin, Administrative Secretary, (510) 981-6102. The Board of Library Trustees may take action related to any subject listed on the agenda.

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Call to Order
B. Ceremonial Matters: In addition to those items listed on the agenda, the President may add additional ceremonial matters.
C. Public Comment (Limited to Agenda Items)
   Speakers are allowed 3 minutes each for up to 10 speakers; if more than 10 individuals have filled out and submitted cards to speak, the time for all speakers will be reduced to 2 minutes per person and if more than 20 individuals have submitted speaker’s cards, the time per person will be reduced to one minute each, for a maximum of one hour of public comment.
D. Comments from Board of Library Trustees

II. ACTION CALENDAR

A. Trustee interviews
   From: Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services
   Recommendation: Trustees will conduct interviews of candidates for the current vacancy on the Board of Library Trustees in order for the Trustees to make a recommendation to City Council. Packets of candidate applications are included in the agenda packet.

III. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

   These items are not scheduled for discussion or action at this meeting. The Board of Library Trustees may schedule these items to the agenda of a future meeting.
A. Discussion of items to be added to future agendas

IV. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to Tess Mayer, 510-981-6195, tmayer@cityofberkeley.info.

Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City’s electronic records, which are accessible through the City’s website. Please note: E-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required but, if included in any communication to a City board, commission, or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information.
Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Berkeley Public Library Administration Office located at 2090 Kittredge Street - 3rd Floor Admin Wing, Berkeley, CA 94704.

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair-accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

I hereby certify that the agenda for this regular/special meeting of the Board of Library Trustees was posted at the display case located near the walkway in front of the Maudelle Shirek Building, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way and in front of the Central Public Library at 2090 Kittredge Street as well as on the Berkeley Public Library’s website, on September 14, 2023.

//s//

Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services
Serving as Secretary to the Board of Library Trustees

Communications:
To: Board of Library Trustees
From: Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services
Subject: Trustees will conduct interviews of candidates for the current vacancy on the Board of Library Trustees in order for the Trustees to make a recommendation to City Council.

INTRODUCTION
Background and description of Trustee candidate interview and nomination process.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION
There is no fiscal impact from this report.

BACKGROUND
The Board of Library Trustees (BOLT) consists of five members appointed by the City Council upon recommendation of the Board of Library Trustees. Board members are appointed for terms of four years, shall not serve more than eight consecutive years, serve without compensation, and must be Berkeley residents.

Trustee Davenport’s term ended on May 15, 2023. To ensure a replacement would be selected and confirmed by City Council in as timely a way as possible, the process to fill this vacancy began on March 3, 2023.

Applications were accepted from March 3 through April 17, 2023.

The Library received and reviewed 25 applications for the vacancy. An ad hoc subcommittee consisting of Trustee Davenport, President Roth, and Director Mayer (serving as Secretary to the Board), was appointed at the April 19 regular BOLT meeting to review applications and select candidates to interview. Per the Board of Library Trustees Nomination Policy, the subcommittee reviewed each application based on the applicant’s submitted information, and identified nominees that met the search objectives, will be able to carry out the duties and functions of the Trustee as stated in the Bylaws, will advance the Vision and Mission of the Library, will be a resource for collaboration and partnerships on behalf of the Library, and meet the criteria as described in the BOLT Selection Criteria Summary.

The ad hoc subcommittee recommended six candidates for BOLT to interview. Five of those invited agreed to participate; one declined.

The interviews of the five recommended candidates took place at the regular Board of Library Trustees meeting on May 3, 2023. Following the interviews, BOLT engaged in an informal discussion of the candidates. There was a motion to recommend Lupe Gallegos-Diaz, and a vote on the motion. The motion carried.

BOLT referred the recommendation to City Council to be included on the June 6, 2023 agenda.

Director Mayer was informed by the City Clerk’s Office that there was a concern with the recommendation that related to the candidate’s eligibility for service under Section 9.5 of the Berkeley City Charter. For this reason, Director Mayer needed to withdraw the recommendation pending further resolution and advisement from the City Attorney’s Office.

(iv) No person, within two years after the termination of their service on the Commission, will be eligible for employment as a paid staff member for the Mayor or any Councilmember or to serve on a City of Berkeley board or commission.

BOLT’s recommended candidate, Lupe Gallegos-Diaz, served on the City’s Redistricting Committee from 2021-2022. According to this requirement, Gallegos-Diaz is not eligible to serve on the Board of Library Trustees until April 2024.

The City Attorney’s Office has reviewed and established that this is the correct interpretation and application of this language.

It was also determined by the City Attorney’s Office that Gallegos-Diaz’s appointment to the Board may not be delayed for one year.

In response to a request by Councilmember and Vice President Hahn, the City Clerk’s Office has confirmed that they will update the Commissioner Application Form used by City commissions to ensure that there is a disclaimer that addresses the issue of people having served on the Redistricting Commission within the past two years not being eligible to serve on other City boards and commissions.

At the June 7 Board meeting, Trustees Hahn, Greene, Roth and Selawsky discussed how to proceed with the current vacancy.

The BOLT Bylaws do not explicitly address what occurs in the event that someone is selected by BOLT and is unable to serve. For this reason, it was necessary for the Board to act to delineate the process. If this did not occur, the process would default to the existing process enumerated for new vacancies in the BOLT Vacancies Policy.

The recommendation was to amend the BOLT Bylaws to clarify the process when this occurs. Amendments to the Bylaws may be adopted by a majority vote at any regular meeting of BOLT. Proposed amendments must appear as Action Items on a Regular BOLT Meeting Agenda. This Action Item was placed on the June 7 meeting agenda. Due to the complexity of the situation, the Trustees decided to postpone the amendment of the Bylaws to and focus on the situation at hand.

A motion to follow the following process carried at the June 7 BOLT meeting:

**Process:**
- The President appoints a new nomination subcommittee
- Staff sends a letter to all current applicants (or a specific subset) and asks if they would like to be considered again, due to the change in the original recommendation
- The new Subcommittee reviews the applicants still in the pool, and either:
  - Recommends up to five for consideration by the full board - OR -
  - Recommends that a new process be initiated, that would allow both past applicants, and new applicants, to participate
- On the basis of the recommendation by the subcommittee, the staff either coordinates interviews for the next possible BOLT meeting, or reinitiates the recruitment process, as summarized in Process A

Additionally, President Roth appointed a new ad hoc subcommittee including herself and Vice President Hahn.
President Roth, Vice President Hahn, and Secretary Mayer met on Wednesday June 21, 2023 and determined that staff would send an inquiry to all current applicants, inquiring as to whether they still want to be considered for the current vacancy. Then, the subcommittee met on August 3 to review the applications of those expressing continued interest and prepare to recommend to BOLT a subset of candidates to interview at an upcoming BOLT meeting. After consulting with the City of Berkeley Clerk in addition to the City Attorney’s Office to ensure that voting procedures established are in accordance with the Brown Act, Secretary Mayer met with President Roth and Vice President Hahn to review and confirm the approach to voting to be used in the future.

BOLT scheduled a special meeting on September 21 to conduct interviews of the candidates selected to participate that have confirmed their participation. Then, at the October 4 regular BOLT meeting, the trustees will vote on which candidate they recommend for nomination to the City Council, following discussion.

The voting will proceed as follows:

1) The President calls for nominations for the Trustee vacancy. Every Board member has the opportunity to share their nomination for the vacancy at this time, in the beginning of the process. No one is required to make a nomination.

2) A random voting order for each name is established.

3) Each Trustee receives one vote per round.

4) When each name is called, Trustees may vote yes, no, or abstain.

5) Any candidate that receives three votes will be the nominee for the BOLT vacancy that will be submitted to City Council.

6) The candidates that follow the candidate having received three votes will not be the nominee.

7) If no one receives a majority of the votes, the President will call for nominations for a second round.

8) A random voting order for each name will be established again.

9) The process will continue until a candidate receives a majority (three) of the votes.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Library originally received and reviewed 25 applications for the vacancy. 17 candidates later responded and confirmed that they wanted to continue to participate in second round of the process. The ad hoc subcommittee consisting of President Roth, Vice President Hahn, and Director Mayer (serving as Secretary to the Board), reviewed applications and selected six candidates to interview. Five people will participate in the interviews scheduled on September 21.

On October 4, BOLT will engage in an informal discussion of the candidates, followed by a vote as described above.

BOLT’s recommendation will be referred to City Council. A majority vote of all the members of the City Council is required to appoint a member to the board.
The new Trustee’s term is anticipated to begin in November 2023.

CONTACT PERSON
Tess Mayer, Director of Library Services, Administration, 510-981-6195

Attachments:
1. Candidate list
2. Interview questions
3. BOLT Selection Criteria Summary
4. BOLT Rating Worksheet
5. Candidate applications
# Trustee Candidate List

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Board of Library Trustees
Interview Questions

Question #1:

If you could pick one strength that you would bring to the Board of Library Trustees, what would it be? How would you use that particular "super power" in your work on the Board?

Question #2:

As a Trustee, you will be asked many questions by our patrons about Library happenings. Imagine this scenario: You are a member of the Board of Library Trustees. A neighbor approaches you and asks: “I heard that North Branch is having a Drag Queen Storytime Program for young children. What does this have to do with the library?” How would you respond?

Question #3:

What do equity, diversity, and inclusion mean to you?

Why is it important for our Library to engage in equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts?

Question #4:

What are the highest priorities that public libraries should focus on today?
Board of Library Trustees,
Selection Criteria Summary

Desired Qualifications:

- Candidates should be public library champions, passionate about lifelong learning and community engagement.
- A demonstrated commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion is essential.
- Candidates with executive leadership, technology, business, financial management and/or administrative skills are encouraged to apply.
- Candidates with leadership experiences in community-based, non-profit, or government agencies

General Qualifications

- Demonstrated interest in and enthusiasm for the library
- Readiness to devote time and effort
- An open mind coupled with respect for the opinion of others and, a steadfast belief in intellectual freedom and privacy.
- Ability to plan creatively.
- Courage to withstand pressures and resist influences based on prejudice
- Ability to analyze the business and administrative procedures, and to be part of the accountability process to the public and provide oversight.
- Possession of common sense
- Reflects the diversity of the Berkeley community, including a diversity of experiences working in different sectors of the community as well as age, ethnicity, religion, gender identities, abilities, and sexual orientation
- Willing and able to work with management, staff and the union.

Practical background and/or direct experience in one or more of these areas is desirable:

- Involvement in community organizations
- An understanding of local government operations, of public boards, and commissions; previous experience highly valued
- An interest in long-range planning
- Personal experience in one or more of these areas:
  - Education
  - Architecture/Construction Accounting/Finance Business
  - Personnel management Technology Law/Government
  - Humanities
  - The Arts
- Availability and openness to the public
Board of Library Trustees  RATING WORKSHEET

Candidate________________________________________
Interviewer_________________________________________
Date___________________________________________________

Level 1: Basic
Satisfactorily performs the rudimentary skills in this area

Level 2: Intermediate
Above average in this area; consistently performs well in this area

Level 3: Advanced
This is a notable strength; better than most in this area; could be a coach in this area

Level 4: Expert
A model in this area; one of the best I've seen; gifted in this area; people often seek out this person for guidance in this area

Qualification Rating: Strong public library advocacy, passionate about lifelong learning and community engagement

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**Qualification Rating: Demonstrated commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion**

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**Qualification Rating: Executive leadership, technology, business, financial management and/or administrative skills**

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**Qualification Rating: Leadership experience in community-based, non-profit, or government agencies**

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**RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATION:**

YES  NO
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BERKELEY
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CITY OF BERKELEY - CITY CLERK
2023 APR 3 PM2:13

NAME: Tanir Ami

PREFERRED PRONOUN(S): She/Hers

RESIDENCE ADDRESS:

Street
City
Zip

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS: Tanir Ami Coaching

Street
City
Zip

EMAIL ADDRESS:

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: Non-Profit Administrator and Professional Coach

HOME PHONE: BUSINESS PHONE:

I have been a resident of Berkeley since: 1997

I am interested in being considered for appointment to the following Berkeley board(s)/commission(s):

Name of board/commission: Berkeley Public Library Board of Library Trustees

Name of board/commission:

List any qualifications (work experience, education, attributes and training) which you feel would provide positive
input to the work of the commission and the reason why you are interested in being appointed:

See attached separate sheet of paper.

Please use another sheet of paper, if necessary.

The following individuals are qualified to comment on my capabilities:

NAME
Jane Sperling Wise
Tamar Kurlaender
Seonaid Dickinson
Jodi Ravel

ADDRESS

PHONE NO

***PLEASE COMPLETE DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY***

Please indicate gender: □ Male  □ Female  □ Nonbinary  □ Prefer not to say

Please indicate whether you are currently a student: □ Yes  □ No

Please indicate the racial / ethnic category which you most closely identify with below (response optional - please check only one category):

□ WHITE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East

□ BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa

□ HISPANIC or LATINO: All persons of Central / South America or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race

□ ASIAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the
Indian Subcontinent. This includes, Cambodia, China, Japan, India, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam

□ AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of
North, Central, and South America, and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

□ NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the peoples of Hawaii,
Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands

□ TWO or MORE RACES (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons who identify with more than one of the above six races
AFFIDAVIT OF RESIDENCY*

I, Tanir Ami, hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am a resident of the City of Berkeley. I understand that, with the exception of a temporary relocation outside of Berkeley not to exceed six months, I may no longer serve on a Berkeley Commission should this cease to be true.

Signature of Applicant: __________________________ Date: March 29, 2023

*Not required for Police Review Commission, Loan Administration Board, Elmwood BID, Solano BID, or BUSD appointees

Return this form to the City Clerk Department: 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, 94704

APPOINTMENT FORM - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
(For Mayor and Council use only)

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER __________________________

NAME OF APPOINTEE __________________________

RESIDENCE ADDRESS

Street __________________________

City __________________________

Zip __________________________

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS __________________________

Name __________________________

Street __________________________

City __________________________

Zip __________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS __________________________

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION __________________________

HOME PHONE: __________________________ BUSINESS PHONE: __________________________

Check appropriate box: □ New Appointment □ Reappointment □ Temporary Appt.

Temporary Appt.: From (date) __________________________ To (date) __________________________

(only if appointing for more than one meeting)

Please send mail to: □ Home □ Business

Please indicate the name of the board/commission to which you are appointing this individual

Board/Commission Name: __________________________

***Please indicate the SPECIAL CATEGORY being fulfilled, if appointment is to ANY of the following boards or commissions: Elmwood BID Advisory Board, Human Welfare & Community Action Commission, Loan Administration Board, Solano Avenue BID Advisory Board.

Special Category __________________________

Signature: __________________________ Mayor/Councilmember __________________________ Date: __________________________

For Mayor/Councilmember and City Use Only:

Interview Date | Appoint. Date | Process Date

G:\CLERK\COMMISSIONS\Admin\Applications\General Application and Appointment Form REV 2022.docx
List any qualifications (work experience, education, attributes and training) which you feel would provide positive input to the work of the commission and the reason why you are interested in being appointed:

I would love to join the library board of trustees for the city of Berkeley. I grew up locally (in Albany) and then raised my three children here in Berkeley and have been a long-time and heavy user of the library’s services and programming. As I state in my supplemental questionnaire, I am deeply passionate about books and the democratization of access to information. Beyond even those two feelings, I hold a vision of the library as a central and critical hub of a community and place where needs get met and questions get answered. When I think about new immigrants, or people experiencing homelessness, or young people without a safe place to be – I imagine the library as a haven for all of them.

I think my work and volunteer experience make me well suited for the role because I have served on many non-profit boards, and even some quasi-public agency boards. In my paid professional career, I got my MBA at UC Berkeley and have been working in non-profit administration every since. The focus of my work has been on providing health care services for historically underserved populations, including migrant farm workers and people experiencing homelessness. I was the CEO of a Federally Qualified Health Center and spent many years thinking about how to broaden services to populations who lack traditional resources. I am now the CEO of a health care foundation that focuses on improving EMS services throughout California with a racial equity lens. All of this is to say that in my day jobs, I have vast experience with boards of directors and know very well what the role of a board is, and what makes a great board member. I have had many opportunities to fine tune this by volunteering on boards, both through my work (ex. Trustee on the Board of the Partnership Health Plan, the Medicaid service insurance plan for Northern California) and in my personal life (ex. Urban Adamah the Jewish Farm in Berkeley).

I have comfort reading financial statements, and serving in board leadership roles as well as doing the important work of board committees like executive, finance, and nominating. I also know what a good partnership with library’s CEO could look like and would build strong relationships with the other Trustees. Finally, I have been a part of many strategic planning processes and very much enjoy the visionary thinking that this process allows for.

As is evident in my application, I identify as a White, Jewish woman. I deeply appreciate my own privilege and have done extensive learning and self-reflection on how I hold and use my power. The journey is by no means over and I am always open to opportunities for continued learning. My adult life has been devoted to manifesting equity in my community, state and country and I would bring that to the work of Library board as well.

It would be a privilege to serve my community in this very special way.
SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the “Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions”, candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.
   I have a long-standing commitment and passion for public libraries. Some of my earliest and fondest memories are getting lost in stacks of books for hours, running my hands over titles and finding treasures I could not have imagined existed. Later, in college, a friend and I fashioned a cross country road trip with small town libraries as the rest stops along the way. When I became a parent, I savored children’s story time and art project afternoons with my kids. Not only do I love the libraries themselves, but I believe that libraries sit at the core of a solid democratic society, standing proudly as a statement that information should belong to everyone. I would love to help preserve this resource for our community.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?
   I think good board members are engaged in board processes. An ideal trustee will ensure the basics are being met, like; showing up to all meetings, being on time, reading materials in advance, participating actively in discussion, debates and decisions, while all the while being very mindful of respectful discourse. Above and beyond that, a good Trustee will support the executive leader by serving on committees as needed, being a sounding board for difficult decisions, and going above and beyond as the organization demands it. A good board member can offer feedback appropriately and can step up and do things that are asked of them like building relationships in the community and being a great ambassador for the work of the library in general.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.
   Although I do not currently serve on a board, I have served on many boards over the past 20 years, including several in the city of Berkeley. I was a founding board member of Urban Adamah, served as a trustee of the Berkwood Hedge School, the Redwood Community Health Coalition, and the Partnership Health Plan. On all of those boards I eventually served on the Executive Committee and served as Board Chair and or Treasurer.

4. What do you see as the Library’s role in the community now and in the future?
   I think the Library’s role in the community now and even more so in the future, will be to provide a consistent, neutral community hub. A place where people go to feel safe, and to access resources well beyond books. I love the addition of the cafe to the Central branch and would support more social service programming, education classes for new immigrants and other community training programs like civic engagement. I think the library could serve as non-religious version of how some folks feel about their church - a place to gather, learn and be a central point of contact and communication for a vibrant and engaged population.

Please return this form and the Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions to the Office of the City Clerk.

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CEO AND HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR

Over 20 years of demonstrated success leading organizations through the complexities of the current healthcare environment. Successful advocate and subject matter expert for health service organizations at the local, regional, and national level. Dynamic communicator before elected officials, appointed decision makers, and the media. Driver of growth and innovation by strategic planning and development of health-related services and programs, new models of care, service lines, products, and the strategic deployment of and investment in technology to reach across diverse populations.

Experienced financial and operational steward of budgets from $1M to $27M, including leading fund development and fiscal management of organizations through periods of growth and strategic change. Highly skilled in building and expanding lasting professional relationships with funders, government appointees, and elected officials. Recruited to serve in leadership roles on multiple boards, commissions, and health coalitions. Navigate and manage organizational transitions and evolve internal culture.

HEALTHCARE SERVICE | ADVOCACY | COMMUNITY | EDUCATION

- Board Governance and Development
- Financial Analysis & Reporting
- RFP Development
- Financial & Legal Transactions
- Contracts & Negotiation
- Corporate Healthcare Compliance
- Team Engagement & Optimization
- Fund Development
- Labor Cost Management
- Long-Range Planning and Visioning
- Operations Management
- Strategic Planning & Execution
- Process & Program Improvement
- Multi-Unit P & L Analysis
- Stakeholder Communication

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
- CARESTAR Foundation, Berkeley, CA
- 2018-Present

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
- OLE Health Foundation, Napa, CA
- 2018

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
- OLE Health, Napa, CA
- 2011-2018

CEO/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- Community Clinic Consortium, Richmond, CA
- 2006-2010

PROGRAM OFFICER
- Blue Shield of California Foundation San Francisco, CA
- 2001-2005

EDUCATION

Hudson Institute – Certificate of Completion for the Executive Coach Certification Program

Emerge California, San Francisco - The premier political training program for Democratic women in California

University of California at Berkeley, Haas School of Business - Masters in Business Administration Certificate in Health Services Management. Edgar F. Kaiser Fellowship recipient

University of California at Santa Barbara - Bachelor of Arts in Women’s Studies and Latin American Studies. Magna Cum
TANIR AMI, MBA

CEO AND HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR

RECENT EXPERIENCES

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CARESTAR Foundation, Berkeley, CA
2018-Present

The CARESTAR Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization founded in 2017 as a result of the sale of CALSTAR (California Shock Trauma Air Rescue) an air ambulance company based in Northern California, and honors CALSTAR’S legacy and lifesaving work in the field of emergency and trauma transport and care by funding innovative projects that strengthen connections and foster partnerships in California’s emergency response and trauma care landscape to improve health outcomes for all Californians. The Foundation has an endowment of approximately $65,000,000.

Founding CEO of the Foundation. In the first year included comprehensive research of impact strategies, a rethinking of the board of directors, implementation of all grant making systems and processes and development of a multi-year staffing plan.

✓ Managed the organization successfully through start-up mode, including defining and executing on all basic operational functions and appropriate staffing
✓ Built relationships with potential partners in the appropriate fields of interest and produced a ‘white paper’ on options and opportunities for high impact strategies and efforts in the field of emergency response and traumatic injury prevention
✓ Built trust between board and staff, and prepared legacy board members for a major growth and recruitment effort to more than double the size of the board over 18 months
✓ Began distributing grant funding; approximately $1.5M in year one and $3M in year two
✓ Produced the first long-term strategic plan after convening a diverse and highly effective advisory committee of experts in the field.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OLE Health Foundation, Napa, CA
January 2018-July 2018

OLE Health Foundation is a 501(c)3 Supporting Organization to OLE Health. Responsible for the fund development of over $3M annually to support the programs and operations of the health center.

Orchestrated a $15M capital campaign for a new health care facility. Overhauled the board of directors to have a fully engaged highly productive group of volunteers working collaboratively to meet annual fundraising goals

✓ Launched and completed a $15M capital campaign for a new ground up outpatient health care facility.
✓ Created a signature fundraising event that grossed over $500,000 in its first year
✓ Rebuilt the board of directors that resulted in a stronger and more diverse volunteer base.
✓ Increased and improved communications to a larger stakeholder group, resulting in a 10% increase in annual fund giving.
✓ Created lasting relationships with institutional funders as well as individual donors.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OLE Health, Napa, CA
2011-2018

OLE Health is a Federally Qualified Health Center with 9 sites throughout the Napa Valley, including six locations in the city of Napa, as well as Calistoga, St. Helena, and Fairfield. OLE Health provides comprehensive health services to approximately 33,000 Napa residents. There are 250 employees and a budget of $27M.

Orchestrated a robust financial turnaround on the heels of two years of significant financial losses. Moved organization from $300,000 losses to an operating margin of over 4% within 18 months in the position. Facilitated multiple strategic planning processes together with the board of directors and senior staff, including a revision of the mission and vision of the organization. Most recent strategic planning process includes preparation for a Republican Administration.

✓ Managed and aided in the strategic merging and acquisition of 5 private practices, each requiring a different approach.
✓ Overhauled several large departments struggling with significant losses; organizational changes resulted in a 40% reduction in expenses while maintaining optimum service levels and access.
✓ Rebuilt trust between board, staff, and administration after a period of significant uncertainty by reconstructing Executive and Director level leadership teams, including new CFO, CMO, COO, Controller, Senior HR, and Senior IT
Completed a comprehensive rebranding initiative that included renaming the organization, a new logo, and strengthened mission and vision statements.

Opened a new health center in Fairfield, CA – for the first time crossing county lines that required successful navigation of political dynamics across multiple counties.

The Community Clinic Consortium is a nonprofit organization that secures comprehensive health services to diverse communities in Contra Costa and Solano counties through advocacy and program development on behalf of community health centers. Accomplishments include:

- Led successful advocacy campaign to defeat a County plan to eliminate services for undocumented immigrants. Advocacy resulted in County allocating $1.5M to continue the services at local community health centers.
- Facilitated a strategic planning process together with the board of directors that included a 100% growth rate in staffing, 50% increase in budget, and a revision of the mission and vision of the organization.
- Led successful advocacy campaign to reverse 18% budget cut by Solano County Board of Supervisors for county funding to community clinics. Full allocation ultimately granted to clinics from the County General Fund.
- Represented member clinics in negotiations with local health plan regarding controversial overhaul of quality incentive payments for clinics and private practice physicians. Leadership resulted in higher bonus allocation for providers as well as structural improvements in clinic participation for future decision-making.

As the first ever Program Officer for the newly established foundation, designed and administered a grant creation program that increased access to healthcare for low-income families state-wide. Partnered with local organizations to identify community needs and created initiatives that improved access to critical social and healthcare services. Worked with a newly formed board to get strategic direction set and approved. Provided strong leadership in state-wide policy-setting, created strategic plan, researched and developed opportunities, and made recommendations to the Board of Directors.

- Managed budget of over $20M granted out to non-profits around the state working on relevant health access issues.
- Developed and implemented a statewide RFP process that enhanced outreach efforts and strengthened community partnerships with organizations that shared the company’s mission.
- Established statewide affiliation of healthcare grant-makers to create more strategic funding of community clinics, resulting in development of many joint ventures and key strategic initiatives across the state.

Planned Parenthood has led the way in addressing the health needs of its diverse client base providing counseling, sex education, community-based healthcare delivery, and interventions for clients dealing with intimate partner violence.

Assisted in managing clinic operations and a 12-member staff, providing oversight of pregnancy termination services and directing the HIV testing and counseling program.

- Supported the delivery of high-quality health services. Oversaw compliance with clinic protocols and OSHA safety requirements. Improved patient scheduling system resulting in faster service for clients.

Delivered superior counseling services to monolingual Spanish-speaking patients, including pregnancy testing, birth control counseling, medical assisting, and primary care referral services.
Excellence in Leadership Award for Outstanding Non-Profit Leader of the Year in Napa County, 1st recipient selected from 30 qualified candidates, 2016

Partnership Healthplan of California – Fairfield, CA  County Organized Health System Serving Solano, Napa, Sonoma, and Yolo Counties. Board Commissioner and Finance Committee Member, 2007-2011 and Strategic Planning Committee Chair, 2001-2018.

Redwood Coalition of Community Health Centers – Petaluma, CA  Regional Association of Community Clinics in the North Bay Board Member, 2011-2018. Board Chair, 2015-2016 (Two-year term).


California Primary Care Association – Sacramento, CA  Statewide clinic association formed to represent and unify the voice of community clinics. Member, 2006. Present Legislative Committee Member and Government Programs Committee Member.

National Association of Community Health Centers – Washington, D.C. National clinic advocacy organization Member, 2006. Present Legislative Committee Member and Network Committee Member.
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BERKELEY
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NAME: Riyaz Fazal

PREFERRED PRONOUN(S): He/Him/His

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: [Redacted]

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS: n/a

EMAIL ADDRESS: [Redacted]

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: Retired

HOME PHONE: [Redacted] BUSINES PHONE: [Redacted]

I have been a resident of Berkeley since: 1994

I am interested in being considered for appointment to the following Berkeley board(s)/commission(s):
Name of board/commission: Board of Library Trustees
Name of board/commission: [Redacted]

List any qualifications (work experience, education, attributes and training) which you feel would provide positive input to the work of the commission and the reason why you are interested in being appointed:
I have many years of professional experience in senior positions in both Fortune 500 companies and small start-ups
I have developed plans, products and strategies; led teams that were geographically distributed across across continents.
I grew up in Tanzania and came to the US as a graduate student. That journey would not have come about without libraries.
I would be proud to contribute to Berkeley Public Library's continuing excellence and extend its reach and content even further.

Please use another sheet of paper, if necessary.
The following individuals are qualified to comment on my capabilities:

NAME
Seth L. Wachtel
Verona Fonte
Remi Omodele
David Sherr

ADDRESS

PHONE NO

***PLEASE COMPLETE DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY***

Please indicate gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Nonbinary ☐ Prefer not to say
Please indicate whether you are currently a student: ☐ Yes ☒ No
Please indicate the racial / ethnic category which you most closely identify with below (response optional - please check only one category):
☒ WHITE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East
☒ BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa
☒ HISPANIC or LATINO: All persons of Central / South America or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race
☒ ASIAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent. This includes, Cambodia, China, Japan, India, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam
☒ AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North, Central, and South America, and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
☒ NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands
☒ TWO or MORE RACES (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons who identify with more than one of the above six races.
AFFIDAVIT OF RESIDENCY*

Riyaz Fazal

I, ____________________________________________, hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am a resident of the City of Berkeley. I understand that, with the exception of a temporary relocation outside of Berkeley not to exceed six months, I may no longer serve on a Berkeley Commission should this cease to be true.

Signature of Applicant: __________________________ Date: April 12, 2023

*Not required for Police Review Commission, Loan Administration Board, Elmwood BID, Solano BID, or BUSD appointees

Return this form to the City Clerk Department: 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, 94704

APPOINTMENT FORM - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
(For Mayor and Council use only)

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER ____________________________________________

NAME OF APPOINTEE ____________________________________________

RESIDENCE ADDRESS
Street __________________________ City __________________________ Zip __________

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS ____________________________________________

Name __________________________ Street __________________________ City __________ Zip __________

EMAIL ADDRESS ____________________________________________

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION ____________________________________________

HOME PHONE: __________________________ BUSINESS PHONE: __________________________

Check appropriate box: □ New Appointment □ Reappointment □ Temporary Appt.

Temporary Appt.: From (date) __________________________ To (date) __________________________

(only if appointing for more than one meeting)

Please send mail to: □ Home □ Business

Please indicate the name of the board/commission to which you are appointing this individual

Board/Commission Name: ____________________________________________

***Please indicate the SPECIAL CATEGORY being fulfilled, if appointment is to ANY of the following boards or commissions: Elmwood BID Advisory Board, Human Welfare & Community Action Commission, Loan Administration Board, Solano Avenue BID Advisory Board.

Special Category ____________________________________________

Signature: ____________________________________________ Date: __________________________

Mayor/Councilmember

For Mayor/Councilmember and City Use Only:

| Interview Date | Appoint. Date | Process Date |

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SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the "Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions", candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.
   I grew up in Tanzania and came to the US for graduate school. Public libraries made that journey possible in many ways. I am an active member of libraries in Berkeley and other cities. Public libraries are an important part of any community: they contribute to its education, and intellectual, professional, cultural and civic enhancement. I strongly believe in Jefferson’s statement: “An enlightened citizenry is indispensable for the proper functioning of a republic.” I wish to serve as a trustee to sustain the library’s excellence and further enhance its reach and content during times of socio-political challenges and technological advances.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?
   A Trustee should promote the broad capacity of the library to educate and enhance the public sphere; should promote the library to reach as wide a proportion of its public as possible; in collaboration with other board members, anticipate and act on community needs and trends, evolving cultural environment and technological changes; and be capable of weighing constraints of budgets, capacity, and other, to make appropriate decisions. How do I demonstrate above qualities: I am an active member of BPL and other libraries; I have had senior positions in Fortune 500 companies to start-ups with experience making budget, staff and development decisions.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.
   Leadership Roles: Management and VP roles at StormGeo, Inc. Planning, strategy and development of complex products and services involving technical decisions, team management and staff development. Co-founder of online adaptive educational software company. Management roles in Fortune 500 companies Wells Fargo Bank and Charles Schwab.
   Community Service: Encouraging citizens to vote with postcards and other means. With Professor of Architecture at USF developed web-based methods for recording built heritage using widely available tools and public volunteers. This was achieved by winning a grant from the NEH.

4. What do you see as the Library’s role in the community now and in the future?
   Libraries enhance a community’s intellectual, professional/vocational, cultural and civic environment, making the environment richer and more developed. BPL should expand its reach by encouraging a higher proportion of the community to use its services. Means of consuming library content is changing as well. Evolution of delivery methods, in terms of technology, access and administration, is key to reaching all but especially the younger members of the community; yet living within approved budgets. Socio-political pressures that are adversely restricting library content all over the country must be resisted.

Please return this form and the Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions to the Office of the City Clerk

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Summarized Résumé

Profile
I am currently retired. My professional and avocational experience has covered a wide range of areas. In most of the positions shown below, I have been involved in product/concept design, team development and management, implementation and project management, and budgets.

- Scientific and engineering modeling
- Location-based systems and geospatial data
- Adaptive Online Learning
- Financial services
- Cultural Heritage Information Technology
- Software Development Management and Information Technology
- Business Process Management
- Program and Project management

Professional Experience Summary
I have divided my professional experience into the following categories:

Fortune 500/Large Corporations
- **Wells Fargo Bank**, San Francisco, A Fortune 500 bank with branches nationwide: Project Director
- **Charles Schwab & Co**, San Francisco, A Fortune 500 financial services enterprise: Director of Technology Solutions

Mid-size Enterprises
- **StormGeo, Inc**, Sunnyvale, Weather-based routing of ocean-going ships: Vice President of Research and Development
- **Oceanroutes Inc**, Sunnyvale: Manager of Software development and Research
- **Magenic Technologies**, San Francisco, Professional Technology Consulting: Technical Project Management
J Frank Consulting, Inc, Palo Alto, Professional Technology Consulting: Project Director

Start-ups
Bold Elephant, Berkeley, Adaptive e–learning: Chief Technology Officer

Cultural Heritage
Project in collaboration with University of San Francisco, Recording of built heritage using widely available tools and the web; project was funded under a National Endowment of the Humanities grant: Principal Consultant and Program Manager.

Education and Qualifications
Engineer’s degree, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA
MS, Ocean Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, MA
BS, Mechanical Engineering (First Class Honors), University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya

US Citizen
Berkeley resident since 1994
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BERKELEY
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NAME: Pavitra Prabhakar

PREFERRED PRONOUN(S): She/her

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: 
Street 
City 
Zip

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS: 
Street 
City 
Zip

EMAIL ADDRESS: 

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: Civil Engineer at SFPUC (San Francisco Public Utilities Commission)

HOME PHONE: [Blank] BUSINESS PHONE: NA

I have been a resident of Berkeley since: July 2018

I am interested in being considered for appointment to the following Berkeley board(s)/commission(s):
Name of board/commission: Berkeley Public Library Board of Library Trustees
Name of board/commission:

List any qualifications (work experience, education, attributes and training) which you feel would provide positive input to the work of the commission and the reason why you are interested in being appointed:
At SFPUC where I now work, I have experience working with public sector unions and on construction projects with large budgets. My first job was at the Cerritos Public Library, where my mother was the City Librarian. More recently, I have run a community benefits program providing STEM outreach to students and have also mentored high school students interested in engineering careers.

Please use another sheet of paper, if necessary.

The following individuals are qualified to comment on my capabilities:
NAME ADDRESS PHONE NO
Sophia Skoda. [Blank]
Radha Seshagiri. (Commission on the Status of Women District 5 member) [Blank]
Dr. Kathleen McCarthy. [Blank]

***PLEASE COMPLETE DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY***

Please indicate gender: □ Male ■ Female □ Nonbinary □ Prefer not to say
Please indicate whether you are currently a student: □ Yes ■ No
Please indicate the racial / ethnic category which you most closely identify with below (response optional - please check only one category):
□ WHITE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East
□ BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa
□ HISPANIC or LATINO: All persons of Central / South America or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race
□ ASIAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent. This includes, Cambodia, China, Japan, India, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam
□ AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North, Central, and South America, and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
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□ TWO or MORE RACES (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons who identify with more than one of the above six races
AFFIDAVIT OF RESIDENCY*

[Redacted name], hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am a resident of the City of Berkeley. I understand that, with the exception of a temporary relocation outside of Berkeley not to exceed six months, I may no longer serve on a Berkeley Commission should this cease to be true.

Signature of Applicant: ____________________________ Date: 3/27/23

*Not required for Police Review Commission, Loan Administration Board, Elmwood BID, Solano BID, or BUSD appointees

Return this form to the City Clerk Department: 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, 94704

APPOINTMENT FORM - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
(For Mayor and Council use only)

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER ____________________________

NAME OF APPOINTEE ____________________________

RESIDENCE ADDRESS
Street ____________________________ City ____________________________ Zip ____________________________

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS ____________________________
Name ____________________________
Street ____________________________ City ____________________________ Zip ____________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS ____________________________

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION ____________________________

HOME PHONE: ____________________________ BUSINESS PHONE: ____________________________

Check appropriate box: □ New Appointment □ Reappointment □ Temporary Appt.

Temporary Appt.: From (date) ____________________________ To (date) ____________________________ (only if appointing for more than one meeting)

Please send mail to: □ Home □ Business

Please indicate the name of the board/commission to which you are appointing this individual

Board/Commission Name: ____________________________

***Please indicate the SPECIAL CATEGORY being fulfilled, if appointment is to ANY of the following boards or commissions: Elmwood BID Advisory Board, Human Welfare & Community Action Commission, Loan Administration Board, Solano Avenue BID Advisory Board.

Special Category ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________ Mayor/Councilmember Date: ____________________________
SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the “Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions”, candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.
   
   I have had a life-long love of libraries thanks to my mother, a city librarian in Cerritos, CA. Cerritos always prioritized education, so the library was always the focal point of my life. The library was a lifeline for those of us without other resources to be able to compete with other more affluent students. I have lived in the area for 10 years and marvel at the depth and breath of programs that the library provides. I always loved going to the library to check out books. But during the pandemic, I realized the true value when I started checking out audio books on-line. The library was able to reach me digitally while isolated at home. I would like to give back to an organization that has done so much for me.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?
   
   A trustee must work to protect the integrity of the library by making decisions that adhere to their core values. I have worked as a professional engineer for the last 25 years. In that occupation, I have managed large budgets and had to coordinate with many community stakeholders. As a union member, I have had a positive experience with public sector union staff who support our community. I am consensus builder who works easily with others. In addition to my technical side, I also love artistic pursuits, like photography, knitting, and painting. I want to make sure that the library provides varied programs to all our residents.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.
   
   I have been involved in leadership roles since high school when I served as class secretary. In college at UC Berkeley, I ran Indus, the South Asian cultural student organization, and even taught an Indian dance class. At Carollo Engineers, I ran the corporate community benefits program, coordinating the outreach programs of 40 offices nationwide, focusing on STEM education. I have worked with SF Maisin scholarship program interviewing applicants and determining awards. In 2018, I was accepted to Leadership SF, SF Chamber of Commerce’s yearlong community service program which led to many nonprofit and corporate contacts.

4. What do you see as the Library’s role in the community now and in the future?
   
   Libraries are a source of knowledge and operate as hubs which increase community interaction. Most importantly, libraries provide access to all regardless of means. Now and in the future, technology access will be a crucial aspect of increasing equality. The goal of the library is to make everyone feel welcome and make sure library staff are appreciated and protected.

Please return this form and the Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions to the Office of the City Clerk.
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BERKELEY
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NAME: KRISTINA SEPETYS

PREFERRED PRONOUN(S): She/her

RESIDENCE ADDRESS:
Street
City
Zip

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS:

Street
City
Zip

EMAIL ADDRESS:

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: Writer/consultant

HOME PHONE: [Redacted] BUSINESS PHONE: [Redacted]

I have been a resident of Berkeley since: 1999

I am interested in being considered for appointment to the following Berkeley board(s)/commission(s):

Name of board/commission: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Name of board/commission:

List any qualifications (work experience, education, attributes and training) which you feel would provide positive input to the work of the commission and the reason why you are interested in being appointed:

see attached supplemental form

Please use another sheet of paper, if necessary.

The following individuals are qualified to comment on my capabilities:

NAME: Sophie Hahn (Berkeley City Council Liaison) ADDRESS: [Redacted] PHONE NO: [Redacted]

NAME: Rachel Anderson, Elisabeth Watson (Berkeley Library Foundation)

NAME: Abigail Franklin (former Board of Library Trustees Member) ADDRESS: [Redacted] PHONE NO: [Redacted]

NAME: Beth Miller (Community Education Partnerships, Senior Director of Programs) ADDRESS: [Redacted] PHONE NO: [Redacted]

***PLEASE COMPLETE DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY***

Please indicate gender:  □ Male  □ Female  □ Nonbinary  □ Prefer not to say

Please indicate whether you are currently a student:  □ Yes  □ No

Please indicate the racial / ethnic category which you most closely identify with below (response optional - please check only one category):

☐ WHITE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East

☐ BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa

☐ HISPANIC or LATINO: All persons of Central / South America or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race

☐ ASIAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent. This includes, Cambodia, China, Japan, India, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam

☐ AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North, Central, and South America, and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

☐ NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands

☒ TWO or MORE RACES (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons who identify with more than one of the above six races
SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the “Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions”, candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.

   see attached sheet

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?

   see attached sheet

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.

   see attached sheet

4. What do you see as the Library’s role in the community now and in the future?

   see attached sheet

Please return this form and the Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions to the Office of the City Clerk
SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE  
FOR THE BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES  

KRISTINA SEPETYS  

In addition to filling out the “Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions”, candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. DESCRIBE YOUR INTEREST IN SERVING AS A LIBRARY TRUSTEE.  
I am interested in being appointed as a Berkeley Public Library Trustee to share my skills and experience to help steward the Library through near- and far-term planning and management, to ensure equality and access to its resources to everyone in our city, and to represent the views and needs of my community. I am highly motivated to help guide the Berkeley Public Libraries to fulfill its mission and mandates because I can’t think of a more constant, steadfast, edifying, supportive, important institution in our family’s life and the lives of many, perhaps even most people, in our community.

For nearly 25 years, my family and I have lived next door to the North Berkeley branch, which is like an extension of our home. We’ve visited the North and other branches of the Berkeley Public Library on a sometimes daily basis to check out books; gather for story times, magic shows, craft classes, and book talks; vote on election days; and participate in a variety of community events. Both my daughter and son were card-carrying members of the chess and popcorn club the teen librarian Will hosted on Wednesday afternoons. My daughter had her first job, a summer internship, at the North Branch.

For many years, I’ve tutored homeless and economically disadvantaged children. The experience has taught me many things, including what a peerless resource a public library can be, especially for younger people and children seeking a quiet, safe, peaceful place to work, search for jobs, find computer and internet access, and access books, information, and other resources many of us take for granted.

I was a member of the North Berkeley Library Capital Campaign that raised funds to upgrade the facility to current structural standards and to meet the challenges of an evolving digital world. At several public talks I gave at fundraising events, I shared that at that time, our family had checked out over 4000 books, CDs, DVDs, and cassettes. At an average of $10 an item, that would have been more than $40,000. In the years since, we’ve kept reading and swiping our library cards, borrowing resources which, if monetized, would probably equal the cost of a college education.

For all these years, my family and I have benefited from this invaluable public amenity thanks to the excellent planning and foresight of the Library Trustees, the Library Foundation, and the City of Berkeley. I would like to give back to the libraries and my community by offering my skills in service of:

- drafting and upholding governing policy;
- undertaking strategic planning;
- identifying required capital improvements;
• managing budgeting and the Library Fund;
• overseeing employment issues, including hiring the library director and,
• ensuring that the library’s mission to "support the individual's right to know by providing free access to information and by developing collections and services which meet the diverse needs of our multicultural community" is being honored and served.

2. WHAT QUALITIES DO YOU CONSIDER NECESSARY FOR AN EFFECTIVE TRUSTEE, AND HOW DO YOU DEMONSTRATE THOSE QUALITIES?

Each trustee brings a diverse and different suite of qualities to enable the library board to organize and function effectively. I have spent several decades working as an economic and management consultant, writer, and freelance journalist and I can offer the following skills. (My curriculum vitae is attached for more detail on my educational background and experience.)

• **Accounting, Business, Finance, Statistical and Data Analysis**: Several decades working as an economic and management consultant have equipped me with solid skills for general financial analysis, budgeting, management, and strategic planning. I have experience with intellectual property issues, including licensing and monetization, topics which may increase in importance in coming years as library collections become more dependent on digital resources.
• **Fundraising Skills**: Having been involved with many fundraising campaigns for my childrens’ schools, political candidates, and other entities, including the Committee for the North Branch Library Capital Campaign, I understand what is involved with outreach and planning and would look forward to working collegially with the Library Foundation to coordinate on fundraising goals and objectives.
• **Personnel Management**: I coordinated hiring, interviewing, and on a few unfortunate occasions, employee dismissal and out-counseling, and understand the process of developing job descriptions, searching for and vetting candidates, helping them to settle into the new role, evaluating performance, and providing ongoing leadership to guide and oversee the library director in his/her/their work.
• **Public Education**: Early in my career I taught in middle schools and universities, and I currently tutor unhoused and economically disadvantaged children, including students for whom English is a second language. I have a basic understanding of the requirements of curriculum planning and grade-based testing and the resources necessary to support them.
• **Marketing and Public Relations**: In my many years of work in economic and management consulting, I had responsibility for marketing and business development, including working with the press. I’m a freelance journalist and have filed dozens of feature length articles, including many book reviews. I’ve worked with local media and know how to promote organizations and activities and secure media coverage if promotion of an activity, library news, or the general value of the library, is needed.
• **Public Speaking Skills**: Throughout my career and as part of my public service, I have prepared slide presentations and have spoken before large and small audiences.

3. PROVIDE EXAMPLES OF CURRENT OR PREVIOUS COMMUNITY SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP ROLES.

• Unhoused and Highly Mobile Youth tutor (ongoing)
• Stanford University Library Saroyan Prize Review Committee member (ongoing)
• North Branch Committee, Neighborhood Libraries Campaign member
• Serene Lakes/Tahoe Donner Land Trust Stewardship Committee member (ongoing)
• Parent Association President, XC/Track and Field Team Parents, Room Parent, many leadership roles at my childrens’ schools

4. WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE LIBRARY’S ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY NOW AND IN THE FUTURE?
Berkeley’s libraries are neighborhood crossroads and community centers. They’re places to exchange ideas, enjoy school activities, access technology, explore hobbies, share knowledge, pursue careers, meet neighbors to discuss and resolve challenging issues, complement and enhance public school curriculums, and provide a quiet sanctuary for travelers, displaced persons, or persons without permanent housing.

We live in a knowledge-based economy. Knowledge-based capital is a key element of growth, competitiveness, and employment. Berkeley Public Libraries are an equal-access resource that help all residents to connect with knowledge and jobs, community, skills, and literacy. With continued thoughtful planning, they can help to bridge achievement gaps.

In reviewing Library Trustee minutes and associated reports, and speaking with people affiliated with BPL management, I learned that Berkeley’s libraries have some of the highest circulation of any public library system in the state. The system contains nearly 500,000 volumes, circulates close to 2,000,000 items per year, and serves a highly diverse population of ~124,000 residents. That’s more than 10 books for each resident per year. With proper planning, including a focus on internal hiring diversity, Berkeley’s public libraries can serve our diverse population and range of interests as we move deeper into a knowledge-driven economy, and ensure that no one is left behind.

Well-trained librarians and library directors play a key role in enabling access to knowledge. They are teachers and caregivers trained to help locate books and information, and skilled in the increasingly critical task of distinguishing fact from disinformation. During the pandemic, librarians suddenly found themselves in new and unexpected roles like working as contact tracers and considering if and how to sanitize thousands of books.

Berkeley’s libraries have been through a lot of turmoil in recent years. Library administrators have dealt with staffing turnover and shortages, and most significantly, they had to turn on a dime to develop new policies without roadmaps for operating during a pandemic. Administration needed to focus on keeping library employees and patrons safe, and supporting families in their new role as home schoolers. Based on my experience as a heavy library user, they weathered the COVID storm exceptionally well. With all those lessons learned, management is now free to get back to more business as usual with renewed energy and initiative.

Libraries are among, if not the most, judgment- and expectation-free public institutions we have. I can’t think of other spaces like it, where a person can be whomever they want to be, dream whatever they want to dream, explore and think without expectation, constraint, censure, and with a vast array of resources to fuel those ideas and desires. I would like to offer my skills, experiences, and deep passion to help the Berkeley Public Library Trustees uphold the library mission and to encourage residents to make use of this extraordinary resource.
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Auction Technologies Inc., DIRECTOR August 2012-present
- Manage internal administration and operations.
- Provide project management for telecommunications and other auctions.
- Copyedit papers and articles for academic journals and presentations.
- Develop marketing and communications materials for website and other forums.

Freelance Journalism, WRITER + EDITOR 2009-present
- Write long and short form pieces on topics ranging from music and food to economic policy for magazines, newspapers, and online publications.
- Review, copyedit, and proofread articles and other documents for various outlets.

FTI Consulting, CONSULTANT January 2018-January 2020
- Provide project management for telecommunications spectrum auctions.
- Copyedit papers and articles for academic journals and presentations.
- Develop communications materials and copy for website and other forums.

NERA Economic Consulting, MANUSCRIPT COPYEDITOR January 2014-17
- Provided copyediting, proofreading, and research to the company President for The Revolution in the Law and Economics of Antitrust Class Certification (LexisNexis Publishing, 2017).

Pacific Gas & Electric, CONTRACTOR September 2011-July 2012
- Assisted staff to refine work products, communications, and messaging.

NERA Economic Consulting, SENIOR CONSULTANT September 1997-March 2009
- Managed marketing and business development efforts for energy, intellectual property, and transfer pricing, with responsibility for Asia-Pacific and Europe.
- Developed marketing campaigns and material, including books and articles for publication, to promote the company brand and its experts and establish the firm as a thought leader in its various practice areas.
- Coordinated sources for media contacts, developed media plans to support new office openings, prepared press releases.

EDUCATION

Stanford University Continuing Education OWC Novel Writing Program (2021-present)
University of Southern California, coursework for PhD, Political Economy + Public Policy
Harvard Divinity School, Masters of Theological Studies
Smith College, AB, with High Honors, Government and Religion

REPRESENTATIVE ARTICLES AND BOOKS

Recent examples of recent full-length feature and trade pieces.

magazine collaboration with Stanford University. Read Article

"The East Bay Can't Get Enough of Third Culture's Mochi Muffins," Berkeleyside,
(January 23, 2018). Read Article

"GMO Labeling: Do We Have a Right to Know?" Edible East Bay, (June 2012). Read
Article

"Future of California Parks System," co-authored with team, Harvard Business School
Community Partners (2012).

Read Article

"Intellectual Property Rights Protection in China: Trends in Litigation and Economic
Damages," with Cox, Alan (February 2009). Read Summary

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND PRIZES
Rockefeller Foundation (utility-sponsored demand-side management study)
Clara W. Bowles Fellowship, Smith College
Henry Lewis Foote Prize, Smith College

VOLUNTEER WORK

Advisory Board, Three Stone Hearth, Jan 2010 - 2020
Serene Lakes Stewardship Committee, Tahoe Donner Land Trust Jan 2013 - Present
Tutor Homeless and Highly Mobile Children in the San Francisco Bay area, Community
Education Partnerships (CEP), Jun 2018 - Present

LANGUAGES

English, fluent; Chinese, working knowledge; French, working knowledge

April 2023
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BERKELEY
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

NAME: Nithya Vemireddy

PREFERRED PRONOUN(S): she/her

RESIDENCE ADDRESS:

Street
City
Zip

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS:

Street
City
Zip

EMAIL ADDRESS:

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: Project Manager at an Affordable Housing Developer

HOME PHONE: BUSINESS PHONE:

I have been a resident of Berkeley since: 2019

I am interested in being considered for appointment to the following Berkeley board(s)/commission(s):

Name of board/commission: Berkeley Public Library Board of Library Trustees

List any qualifications (work experience, education, attributes and training) which you feel would provide positive input to the work of the commission and the reason why you are interested in being appointed:

I'm interested in being appointed to the Berkeley Public Library Board of Library Trustees to give back to the library that has given me so much. I want to help to guide the library to meet the needs and the goals of the community.

Please use another sheet of paper, if necessary.

The following individuals are qualified to comment on my capabilities:

NAME ADDRESS PHONE NO
Iman Novin: 
Keith Douglas: 

***PLEASE COMPLETE DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY***

Please indicate gender: □ Male □ Female □ Nonbinary □ Prefer not to say
Please indicate whether you are currently a student: □ Yes □ No
Please indicate the racial / ethnic category which you most closely identify with below (response optional - please check only one category):

- WHITE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East
- BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa
- HISPANIC or LATINO: All persons of Central / South America or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race
- ASIAN (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent. This includes, Cambodia, China, Japan, India, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam
- AMERICAN INDIAN / ALASKAN NATIVE (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the original peoples of North, Central, and South America, and who maintain cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
- NATIVE HAWAIIAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons having origins in any of the peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands
- TWO or MORE RACES (not of Hispanic or Latino origin): All persons who identify with more than one of the above six races
AFFIDAVIT OF RESIDENCY*

I, Nithya Vemireddy, hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that I am a resident of the City of Berkeley. I understand that, with the exception of a temporary relocation outside of Berkeley not to exceed six months, I may no longer serve on a Berkeley Commission should this cease to be true.

Signature of Applicant: _______________________________ Date: 4/17/2023

*Not required for Police Review Commission, Loan Administration Board, Elmwood BID, Solano BID, or BUSD appointees

Return this form to the City Clerk Department: 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, 94704

APPOINTMENT FORM - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
(For Mayor and Council use only)

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBER ____________________________________________

NAME OF APPOINTEE ____________________________________________

RESIDENCE ADDRESS
Street
City
Zip

BUSINESS NAME/ADDRESS
Name
Street
City
Zip

EMAIL ADDRESS _________________________________________________

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION _________________________________________

HOME PHONE: ______________________ BUSINESS PHONE: ____________

Check appropriate box: ☐ New Appointment ☐ Reappointment ☐ Temporary Appt.

Temporary Appt.: From (date) ______________________ To (date) ______________________ (only if appointing for more than one meeting)

Please send mail to: ☐ Home ☐ Business

Please indicate the name of the board/commission to which you are appointing this individual

Board/Commission Name: __________________________________________

***Please indicate the SPECIAL CATEGORY being fulfilled, if appointment is to ANY of the following boards or commissions: Elmwood BID Advisory Board, Human Welfare & Community Action Commission, Loan Administration Board, Solano Avenue BID Advisory Board.

Special Category _________________________________________________

Signature: ___________________________________ Date: ________________

Mayor/Councilmember

For Mayor/Councilmember and City Use Only:

Interview Date Appoint. Date Process Date
SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE
BERKELEY BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

In addition to filling out the “Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions”, candidates are requested to provide additional information to assist the Board of Library Trustees in their process to recommend names to the City Council.

1. Describe your interest in serving as a Library Trustee.
   Growing up, I would beg my parents to take me to the library everyday, but we eventually compromised on taking me every weekend, given that I could check out 10 books minimum. But it wasn’t till the COVID-19 pandemic that I realized that libraries are not about the books, they’re about the people. I want to serve as a Library Trustee to ensure that the Berkeley Public Library is able to continue to serve and help the residents of Berkeley. It’s because of the direction, determination, and hard work of the Library Trustees that libraries have evolved to meet the needs of the public.

2. What qualities do you consider necessary for an effective Trustee, and how do you demonstrate those qualities?
   An effective Trustee must be smart, compassionate, and have an awareness of both those who serve the library and those who utilize the library. In today’s every-changing climate, it’s imperative that Trustees are cognizant of the future of the library and shaping it to be responsive to any community needs. I demonstrate these qualities everyday as an affordable housing developer where I work hard to provide housing and services to those facing housing insecurity.

3. Provide examples of current or previous community service and leadership roles.
   Currently, I serve on the Board of Advisors for a non-profit based in India called Prajwala Sangham. When I was receiving my Master’s from UC Berkeley in 2021, I was the Class President. I served as a American India Foundation’s William J. Clinton Fellow for Service in India from 2018-2019. During my time at Santa Clara University, I served as a Student Senator on the student government, led an immersion trip into San Francisco’s Tenderloin as an Immersion Coordinator, and supported two volunteering programs as a project coordinator for the Santa Clara Community Action Program (SCCAP).

4. What do you see as the Library’s role in the community now and in the future?
   From now and well into the future, I see the Library serving as a community hub. To continue to welcome anyone regardless of race, ethnicity, politics, or socioeconomic status. There aren’t many public places left in America that don’t require money or social status to access. The public library requires nothing of its patrons, and I would like to work to ensure that for generations to come.

Please return this form and the Application for Appointment to Berkeley Boards and Commissions to the Office of the City Clerk

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