



Pamela Sandy

1. Why do you wish to serve on the Ohio City Incorporated Board of Trustees?:

I became a resident of Ohio City/Hingetown in March 2011. For six years I shared my time in both Cleveland and Boston – always a business owner and resident of Ohio. In April 2017 I returned full-time to my Ohio City home. This permanent return was prompted by the death of a loved one, the desire to be close to aging parents, and an excitement in the changes that were beginning to happen in Ohio City. I wanted to support my community by being a part of it full-time.

Ohio City is a wonderfully diverse and gritty community with a history to be proud of. Our assets – from the West Side Market, our early visionary leaders and business owners, our growing food and art scene, reflect our rich history as well as our future. But most importantly, we are a community that celebrates its diversity, while looking toward that vision of the future. I love urban living – and my experience living in my Boston neighborhood gave me insight into urban issues that are part of a strong community – both good and bad. We in Ohio City are at the beginning of creating OUR community of the future. What will it look like? Can we truly celebrate our differences while collaborating with respect and willingness to adapt to inevitable change? There are many of us within Ohio City that are returning with some “outside experience” that we are willing to share. Any opportunity I may have to represent this great community will be a true privilege.

2. Please describe your experience in the areas checked in Part 2. Include any special achievements and/or any experiences that you feel would enhance the organization. :

I am a business owner and a Certified Financial Planner. Additionally, for six years I served on the national board of a 24,000-member organization, the Financial Planning Association (FPA) – the last 2 years as the national President, then the 2017 Chair. As a business owner and financial planner, I will bring experience and perspective to the financial issues and discussions that are of importance to our community’s growth and direction. As a former FPA board member and Chair, I have strong experience in the creation of, and supporting the implementation of strategic plan(s). Strategic plans serve as the core of the vision of an organization or community. Support of the plan is essential in reaching for success of the overall vision, while critical reviews must be done periodically to assess where the plan may need additional resources, less resources or a pivot in a different direction. I believe my recent national board experience will be helpful within the Board of Trustees.

3. Describe your involvement in Ohio City neighborhood organizations or Ohio City Incorporated sponsored committees, projects, or block clubs. : As previously stated, my involvement with the Financial Planning Association ended in December 2017. That role required extensive commitment and travel. It is only recently that I could now envision my next possible commitment. Most recently I have been engaged in conversations in support and sustainability of Ohio City Stages. While I have not been extensively involved in our many community activities, I have and do support Ohio City Incorporated financially in its annual funding needs. I believe that we grow stronger when any member of our community gives in any way they can, whether in time or resources.

4. Describe your involvement in non-Ohio City neighborhood organizations/activities. : My recent board role was a personal and professional experience that was both humbling and extraordinary. It was a true privilege to serve in leadership within my profession. Serving as the voice of the organization publicly required me to be available for interviews – both in print and video. As the national President, I was invited to speak to fellow Japanese financial planners in Osaka, Japan. My service, while requiring a huge commitment over the last 6 years, certainly gave me more than I could ever have imagined in return of personal experiences and introductions to amazing professional across the country and internationally.

This role also took me many times to Washington, DC to discuss issues relating to my profession and the clients we serve. The opportunity to sit with lawmakers and federal agencies provides a perspective and a depth of experience that I hope – if given the opportunity – will allow me to serve Ohio City Incorporated in any advocacy or collaborative initiatives to strengthen and grow our community for the future.