



OHIO CITY INCORPORATED BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPLICATION

Alex Frondorf, Board President
Virginia Benjamin, Governance Committee Chair
Jane Platten, Interim Executive Director

September 06, 2024

OCI is currently seeking candidates to fill five Board of Trustee seats which are up for election on Tuesday October 22nd, 2024. Qualified candidates must submit their applications electronically or via mail on or before September 14th, 2024. Applications can be submitted to Jane Platten@jplattenohtcity.org or Helen Smith, hksmith42@hotmail.com .

OHIO CITY INCORPORATED MISSION:

We lead the development of Ohio City by collaborating to address the needs of a diverse community of engaged people, driving new investments in and preserving the quality of a historic place, and promoting an inviting urban neighborhood for all.

ELIGIBILITY:

The Ohio City Incorporated Board of Trustees consists of 12 resident-elected seats and 5 to 10 appointed seats for community stakeholders. Resident-elected trustees must be residents of the Ohio City neighborhood and a member of Ohio City Incorporated on or before submitting your application.

If you are not a member, visit ohiocity.org/membership to submit a membership application. **To confirm membership, contact Lisa Raber at lraber@ohiocity.org or (216) 781-3222, ext 100.**

In order to be considered a candidate, a signed copy of the *Ohio City Incorporated Board Expectations* document must be submitted with this application. ***Applications are due no later than September 14th 2024.***

Please contact our office by phone or in person or visit ohiocity.org/board to review the statement of expectations and commitments.

I understand that as a member of the Board of Trustees for Ohio City Incorporated, I will be held accountable to the expectations of this position on an annual basis.

I agree to the expectations and will comply with the requirements.

I cannot meet these expectations.

Caroline Dillabaugh

Caroline Dillabaugh

9/11/2024

Signature

Print

Date

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

Please ensure the following items below are included with your application. Personal information including address, email, and phone number will not be shared. The rest of your application will be posted on the Ohio City Incorporated website and at relevant candidate events.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Part 1: Candidate Information | <input type="checkbox"/> Application Signed & Dated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Part 2: Experience & Professional Expertise | <input type="checkbox"/> Signed Ohio City Incorporated Board Expectations Document* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Part 3: Personal Statement | |

*Available online at ohiocity.org/board

OHIO CITY INCORPORATED BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPLICATION

PART 1 : CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please fill out the contact information below. Personal information including address, email, and phone number will not be shared.

Name:	Caroline Dillabaugh						
Address:		City:		State:		Zip:	
Phone:		Email:					
Ohio City Incorporated Membership:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am currently a Resident Member in-good-standing <input type="checkbox"/> My Resident Membership form is attached to this application.					

PART 2 : EXPERIENCE & PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE

Please check the areas in which you have experience and/or professional expertise. Responses to Part 2 will be made available to Ohio City Incorporated membership prior to the election.

<input type="checkbox"/> Accounting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Developer/Builder	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources
<input type="checkbox"/> Bilingual	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Activist	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Lending	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marketing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Connections	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outreach
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Contractor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate
<input type="checkbox"/> Design/Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Planning

PART 3 : PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please answer the following questions & attach with your application. Limit 1 page, single-spaced. Responses to Part 3 will be made available to Ohio City Incorporated membership prior to the election.

- 1) Why do you wish to serve on the Ohio City Incorporated Board of Trustees?
- 2) In what ways do you feel your strengths, knowledge, skills, and experience will help Ohio City Incorporated further it's mission?
- 3) Describe your involvement in Ohio City and/or non-Ohio City neighborhood organizations. Include Ohio City Incorporated sponsored committees, projects, or block clubs if applicable.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

This application was completed to the best of my knowledge and in good faith:

Caroline Dillabaugh

Signature

Caroline Dillabaugh

Print

9/11/2024

Date

FORMS CAN BE SUBMITTED VIA MAIL OR E-MAIL TO:

Ohio City Incorporated
ATTN. OCI Governance Committee
3308 Lorain Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113

Helen Smith, Governance Committee : hksmith42@hotmail.com
 Jane Platten, Interim Executive Director : jplatten@ohiocity.org



Why do you wish to serve on the OHC Board of Trustees?

I am running for reelection to the OHC Board of Trustees because my commitment to Ohio City and its vibrant community is stronger than ever. Four years ago, my dream of living in Ohio City—a neighborhood renowned for its walkability, tight-knit community, diversity, and dynamic food and arts scene—came true. Becoming a resident of this exceptional area has been both a privilege and a profound personal joy. Serving on the OHC Board of Trustees offers me the invaluable opportunity to deepen my connection to this remarkable neighborhood and directly support the goals of Ohio City Incorporated. I am enthusiastic about continuing my service and working collaboratively to enhance our community's unique character and drive forward the initiatives that will benefit us all.

In what ways do you feel your strengths, knowledge, skills and experience will help OCI further its mission?

My diverse background in small business development, real estate, and hospitality positions me uniquely to contribute effectively to OCI's mission. My experience working with Anne Hartnett in real estate development and business growth within the Ohio City community has provided me with valuable insights into the needs and opportunities within the neighborhood. I am well-versed in creating supportive environments for brick-and-mortar entrepreneurs and established small businesses, having worked closely with the City of Cleveland's Office of Economic Development to streamline processes and enhance support systems. Currently, in my role as Director of Impact for a boutique hotel in downtown Cleveland, I am focused on building partnerships and strengthening community ties.

In addition to my professional experience, my degree in Business Administration equips me with a strong foundation in small business dynamics. My early career in restaurant management and event planning honed my skills in organizing and executing events of various scales, which can be directly applied to OCI's community engagement and fundraising efforts. Over the past eight years in Cleveland, I have built and maintained meaningful relationships with local business owners and residents, fostering a network that could be advantageous to OCI's initiatives. As a younger community member, I bring an understanding of the perspectives and needs of the younger demographic, which is crucial for driving inclusive growth and engagement.

Describe your involvement in OCI and/or non OC neighborhood organizations. Include OCI sponsored committees, projects or block clubs if applicable.

Since being elected to fill a mid-term vacancy on the Board of Trustees in 2022, I have taken an active role in revitalizing the Economic Development Committee. This committee is dedicated to fostering growth and economic vitality within our community, and I have been focused on supporting the OCI team in developing strategies to support local businesses and attract new opportunities to the neighborhood. I am excited about the opportunity to continue this work as we're just getting started!

I have been an engaged member of the board and an active member of the community, attending monthly community meetings and participating in projects that aim to enhance the quality of life in Ohio City.