



John WASIUTYNSKI <john.wasiutynski@multco.us>

Re: Multnomah County Advisory Committee on Sustainability and Innovation

2 messages

Multnomah County Office of Sustainability <sustainability@multco.us>

Thu, Dec 6, 2012 at 11:42 AM

To: Meera Norris <meera@pdx.edu>

Bcc: john.wasiutynski@multco.us

Thank you for your interest in the Multnomah County Advisory Committee on Sustainability and Innovation (ACSI). We have received your application and will soon begin the selection process for new ACSI members. All applicants will be notified by December 21st if they have been selected.

The first ACSI meeting of 2013 is scheduled for January 9th from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM at the Multnomah Building located at 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Please save the date as it is critical that newly appointed members attend the first quarterly meeting of 2013.

Thank you again for your interest and don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Multnomah County Office of Sustainability

On Wed, Dec 5, 2012 at 1:42 PM, Meera Norris <meera@pdx.edu> wrote:

Hello,

I would like to apply to be a part of the advisory committee! I have attached my application in a word form and also copy and pasted it below.

Thank you for the opportunity!

Best regards,

—

Meera Norris
[503-890-0516](tel:503-890-0516)

Name: First Middle Initial Last

Meera L Norris

Mailing Address:

4333 Ne 63rd

City, State, Zip Code

Portland, Or, 97218

Occupation:

Founder/Director at Seeds of Understanding Urban Farm

Dealer Services Coordinator at SmithCFI

Daytime Phone: [503-890-0516](tel:503-890-0516)

Email: Meera@pdx.edu

Are you a resident of Multnomah County? 1 **Yes** 0 No

Do you work in Multnomah County? 1 **Yes** 0 No

Are you currently a County employee or the employee of any organization contracting with the County or bidding on County contracts? 0 Yes 1 **No**

Why do you want to serve on the advisory committee?

I would be honored to work for the advisory committee because the county needs a fresh voice representing communities that are often isolated from environmental progress. For the past few years I have dedicated my time to empowering specifically the refugee and Muslim community in NE Portland in areas of health and environmental issues. I have been able to use networking and resourcefulness to bring visions into reality, specifically creating a urban farm in Ne Portland.

Working with the advisory committee will enable the committee to see around corners of issues like how poverty and environmental issues are intertwined and the dynamics of privilege that hinder our City from its full potential in the area of sustainability. For my personal growth and goals as a public health professional I would feel honored to work with other minds that can offer new perspectives in helping our city flourish. My ultimate goal is to work in a position with the government to help create and implement policies for health and economic empowerment of women and families so this personally would be a wonderful stepping stone while offering your committee a determined visionary.

Sustainability focuses on the intersection of the economy, social equity and the environment. What expertise or points of view in one or more of these areas could you bring to the advisory committee?

In 2011 I became aware of a plot of land owned by the Muslim Community Center of Portland. This land was situated on N Killingsworth and Vancouver, a highly urban area of Portland. I had been working with the MCCP hosting empowerment circles to women attending the mosque and saw this land as a incredible opportunity. After a few months I had proposed, networked, and executed a plan to turn the garbage filled land into a thriving urban farm for low income and refugees in the neighborhood. This project became a spring board for me to become more involved in health and environmental disparities in our local area. I was chosen to be Green Steward ambassador for Ecumenical Ministries of Portland and Josiah Hill educating locally on lead poisoning and effects of pollution on populations in low income areas. I will continue to use my unique background of American French and Egyptian to engage people and create bridge building. In the advisory committee I will bring my educational background (BA in Women Studies with a focus on women in the economy) and my empirical knowledge of local issues.

John WASIUTYNSKI <john.wasiutynski@multco.us>
To: Kalissa CANYON-SCOPES <kalissa.canyon-scopes@multco.us>

Thu, Dec 20, 2012 at 6:44 PM

she only sent this.

[Quoted text hidden]

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