

Application Form

Profile

Valerie _____ A _____ Harris _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

 Email Address

 Home Address

 Suite or Apt

 City

 State

 Postal Code

What Ward do you live in? *

Ward 8

 Primary Phone

 Alternate Phone

N/A _____
 Employer

 Job Title

Homemaker _____
 Occupation

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Salem Public Library Advisory Board: Appointed

Which of the following City of Salem Board or Commission meetings have you attended? *

West Salem Redevelopment Advisory Board

Interests & Experiences

What do you feel you can contribute as a board or commission member?

I currently serve on two other boards, and others in the past, so I feel like I am knowledgeable about how boards should work. I know what kind of commitment is needed and I make sure I exceed that commitment level. I am active in the community and feel that I have connections to businesses or activities that others might find useful. I like working with others and always come with ideas on how to execute our task at hand.

 Upload a Resume

What prompted your interest in applying to serve as a board or commission member?

Joe Romero and Gretchen Coppedge, both Salem Public Library Advisory Board members, reached out to me about the openings that the Advisory committee will have and in June and asked if I would like to apply. I think it would be a beautiful fit for me.

Please explain how your education, professional, personal, or volunteer experience and knowledge qualify you to serve on the board(s) or commission(s) for which you are applying.

I am currently on two other boards and have served on others in the past. Currently, I am a part of my Homeowners Association Board as the secretary, for the last 2 years and I have serve on the Salem Multicultural Board for the last 6 years, 4 of which I have been the Vice Chair. I know what it means to listen to wants and needs in the community and how to work with others to make sure those needs are meet. I spend 8-10 hours every week in my youngest daughter's classroom, at Myers Elementary School, leading reading and math groups, and supporting her teacher in whatever ways she may need. I also volunteer every Tuesday at Myers in the Library helping with classroom management, shelving books, and doing miscellaneous projects along side the Librarian. I also have been involved with the Oregon Battle of the Books (OBOB) for the last 5 years as a volunteer and as a question writer. I spend about 60 hours writing content questions from a book every year and then help with the school and state battles! I love working with people, reading and making the community a place that everyone feels at home in.

List any experience you have with volunteering for the City of Salem or other organizations.

Myers Parent Teacher Organization - President, vice president, fundraising coordinator, secretary - 6 years Myers volunteer - about 250-300 hours every school year for the last 9 years Salem Multicultural Institute volunteer and Board member, Vice Chair - 6 years Woodhaven Estates Homeowners Association Board - secretary - 2 years Girl Scouts leader - 2 years Kids soccer coach - 2 years

Briefly explain any experience you have working with your neighborhood association or other public bodies or committees.

As listed above, I spend many hours every day working in public bodies and serving on committees. I am very well organized and have great time management skills. I am a homemaker which also allows me to have a flexible schedule and time to work on things.

Can you commit to attending a minimum of 75 percent of scheduled meetings? (Please refer to the City's website for the meeting schedule. Failure to meet the attendance requirement may result in removal from office.)

Yes No

Please list up to three (3) references whom we could contact to learn more about your qualifications (name/email address or phone number/relationship).

Yadira Yasenya - yasenya_yadira@salkeiz.k12.or.us / daughter's teacher for the last 2 years at Myers Elementary, who I volunteer for almost every day Summer Warner - sumaxo@msn.com / volunteered with at Myers Elementary School for years, puts on HOA events Kathy Andreas - gokawa@comcast.net / Chair of the Salem Multicultural Institute

Question applies to Salem Public Library Advisory Board

When did you last visit the Salem Public Library? Tell us about your experience during that visit.

I actually visited today! I dropped off a flyer for the gallery opening at the Salem Multicultural Institute and asked if they could hang it. I also checked to see if I had any books on hold that had come in. The staff is always super friendly and knowledgeable! I really enjoy taking my kids there but also enjoy the quite space that the study rooms provide that I often use for writing my OBOB questions.

Question applies to Salem Public Library Advisory Board

In your opinion, what role does the Salem Public Library play in making Salem a livable community?

I feel like the Salem Public Library does a great job of having events/showcases that include and/or focus on ethnic topics, for example, having an active Dia de los Muertos display. I know they partnered with the Salem Multicultural Institute to put on movies in Spanish over the last few months and I know they had Chinese dancers come in. Along with the very important and busy story hours (in 2 languages!) I feel they meet the needs and interests of all ages and ethnicities!

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Ethnicity

[REDACTED]

Gender

[REDACTED]