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Respondent

29

Anonymous

43:16

Time to complete

1. Please type your preferred EMAIL address *

maireadoreilly37@gmail.com

2. FIRST NAME *

Mairead

3. LAST NAME *

O'Reilly

4. Phone Number *

413-854-7810

5. Name of Commission/Board/Committee *

Housing Committee

6. How many YEARS have your served on this Committee? *

0

7. If you serve on another Commission/Board/Committee, please indicate which one(s)

N/A

8. Review the scheduled meeting day/time of the Commission, Board, or Committee along with the length of the term of the position (<https://www.richmondvt.gov/boards-meetings/all-committee-board-members>). WILL YOU BE ABLE TO SERVE FOR THE TERM OF THE POSITION? *

Yes

No

9. Are you a RICHMOND RESIDENT? *

Yes

No

10. If you are applying for a new Term, then please introduce yourself to the Selectboard by providing a short cover letter detailing your background, training, and experience with the board/commission/committee you are applying for and/or resume.

Hello,

My name is Mairead O'Reilly. I am applying for the vacant "alternate" position on the Housing Committee.

I moved to East Hill Road in Richmond, from Burlington, in early August 2023 with my husband Jesse and our energetic dog. We had our son exactly one month later in September 2023. While I went back to work 3 months after he was born, I decided to take a career pause to be home with my son, full-time, in October 2024.

I am a lawyer by trade. I attended UCONN Law School from 2013-2016 on a full tuition merit scholarship. I graduated in May 2016 and moved to Burlington for a 2-year fellowship with Vermont Legal Aid. I continued working at Legal Aid for another 4 years where I focused on housing, shelter and other public benefits law. From 2022-2024, I served as a public defender in St. Albans. I am currently on leave with the Office of the Defender General and have been engaged in 10-15 hours of pro bono civil legal work every week with Vermont Legal Aid (VLA).

Since my first year at VLA, I have appreciated the crucial role played by local housing and planning committees (along with the DRBs and selectboards) in creating and maintaining a safe, healthy and robust housing stock within their community. I have long wanted to engage in this type of volunteer committee work, but I had little free time outside of work and another volunteer board commitment. Now I finally have the time to attend monthly meetings AND help with out-of-meeting committee work, like data collection, drafting housing-related recommendations, spearheading communications with the community, and the other important work required by the committee.

I am passionate about housing policy and believe this committee work would be a meaningful way to get acquainted with my new community (outside of Sweet Simonese and the playground!).

I am happy to email a copy of my resume if that would be helpful. Please feel free to call me at 413-854-7810 to discuss my application further.

Sincerely,

Mairead C. O'Reilly