

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Appointment to Police Commission

Meeting Date: September 8, 2010
Department: Police
www.eugene-or.gov/policecommission

Agenda Item Number: 3D
Staff Contact: Randi Zimmer
Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5852

ISSUE STATEMENT

This item is to appoint a member of the Police Commission to serve the unexpired term of Brooke Dodge.

BACKGROUND

Each year, the council makes appointments to boards, committees and commissions. Chapter 2 of the Eugene Code addresses standing committees to the City Council and the appointment process for these committees. For most standing committees created in the Code, the council is the appointing authority. The normal recruitment period for boards, committees and commissions begins in January unless a resignation occurs mid-term. The Mayor nominates candidates and the council appoints members to this commission.

Due to the resignation of Ms. Dodge, there is one vacancy on the Police Commission. Ms. Dodge's term is set to expire on June 30, 2012, and her replacement will assume the remaining part of this term. Recruitment for this position yielded three applications. A subset of the Police Commission met with the candidates and recommended any of the three candidates to Mayor Piercy, who then interviewed all candidates. However, following interviews with the Mayor, one candidate withdrew his application from consideration which left two candidates. From the two resulting candidates, Mayor Piercy recommends appointing Jim Garner.

RELATED CITY POLICIES

The Eugene Police Commission is a 12-member citizen body that acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council, Chief of Police and the City Manager on police policy and resource issues. The commission was created by City Ordinance 20136 in December 1998.

COUNCIL OPTIONS

The City Council may:

1. Appoint the candidate nominated by the Mayor.
2. Appoint another candidate after reviewing the all of applications.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager has no recommendation on this item; the appointments are made by the council.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to appoint Jim Garner to Position 3 on the Police Commission, the unexpired term of Brooke Dodge, ending on June 30, 2012.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Police Commission Applications (Jim Garner and Stephen Joers)
- B. Letter of recommendation from Police Commission

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Randi Zimmer
Telephone: 541-682-5852
Staff E-Mail: randi.m.zimmer@ci.eugene.or.us

Attachment A: Interested Applicants



Interested Applicants 7/16/2010 10:28:19 AM

Police Commission

Name **James E. Garner**

Address **2933 Dry Creek Rd**

Eugene OR 97404

Occupation **Operations Manager**

Business Address **3660 Gateway St**

Springfield OR 97477

Optional Information Gender **M** Age **46-55** Ethnicity

White/European American Additional Languages spoken
English

Education / Training

3+ years of college at the U of O, 5 years as an internal auditor, 30+ years living in the Eugene/Springfield community, certified as a Credit Union Compliance Expert

Community Service / Volunteer

Day of Caring - Mt Pisgah Friends of Buford Park, Movies in the Park, Festival of Trees

Evening Phone **541-689-9504** Day Phone **541-744-9407**

Do You Live within the City Limits? **Y** If so how long? **20+ years**

Ward **7** Neighborhood **Santa Clara Community Organization**

Employer **Northwest Community Credit Union**

Fax **541-744-9779** E-Mail **jgarner@efn.org**

How did you learn of this vacancy? **Friend**

Disability **N** Description

Job Experience

Most recent to oldest: 2.5 years, Operations Manager, Northwest Community Credit Union (NWCU); 5 years, Internal Auditor, NWCU; 13 years, ATM Coordinator, Oregon Community CU; 10 years, Tiffany's Drug Stores, Sales Clerk to Store Manager

Personal Experience

30+ years in the Eugene/Springfield community (mostly Eugene), Sheldon High School graduate, attended the U of O, and a 20+ career with organizations (credit unions) that place very high importance on the community and involvement in it.



Interested Applicants

7/16/2010 10:28:19 AM Personal Interest Contribution

Interested Applicants

I am always looking to expand my knowledge base and To use my sense of fairness, policy and procedure writing learn something new while also using my skills to help. It and review skills, moral values, and longtime Eugene seems like the Eugene Police are always in the news as resident background to help ensure that both the Eugene either reacting too harshly or not reacting strongly Police Department and Eugene citizens are treated fairly, enough. It just doesn't seem they can win. It has made with both having input in the community safety process me interested in what goes into the decision-making while still maintaining the freedoms we enjoy in Eugene. process when the Eugene Police respond to situations. Maybe it is just the public's perception. And maybe I can help both the police in making good, solid decisions and with the public's perception of the Eugene Police.

1 What is your understanding of the role of the Police Commission within the community?

Having read the Police Commission Mission and Goals as well as the Background Information from the website, neither this question nor #2 is really very fair to answer. I could just spout back what is stated on the website. However, I will give you my personal perspective. The Police Commission allows the community a voice in the policies and procedures used by the Eugene Police to enforce safety in the community. In doing this, the Police Commission should act fairly and objectively, using any relevant feedback or information at their disposal, including community input, to help provide recommendations to the Eugene Police Department and City Government to help create a safe environment that also helps keep Eugene still remain Eugene; with all the uniqueness and diversity that is Eugene. In addition, this is a two way street and the Police Commission should also strive to communicate with the community to help bridge the trust gap with the Eugene Police Department. Transparency is important to the community, Police Department, and City government. I do not feel questions #1 and #2 should be separate. They are both interrelated.

2 What do you see as the role of the Police Commission relative to City government?

See the above response to #1.

3 What community issues, related to the work of the Police Commission, are of interest to you?

The use of force has been a hot topic recently and is interesting to me, but it looks like it is already in the last stages of being reviewed by the Police Commission. Making recommendations for updating and revising the police policy manual would also be interesting and also fits in with my skill sets.



Interested Applicants

Interested Applicants

7/16/2010 10:28:19 AM

Police Commission

Name **Stephen G. Joers** Evening Phone **541-554-0636** Day Phone **541-342-8455**
Address **1766 W 24th Ave.** Do You Live within the City Limits? **Y** If so how long? **20 years Eugene OR 97405**
Ward **E-UGB** Neighborhood **None**
Occupation **Locksmith** Employer **Action Locksmithing Inc.** Business Address **1766 W 24th Ave.** Fax E-Mail
stephen@actionlocksmithing.com
Eugene OR 97405 How did you learn of this vacancy? **Friend**
Optional Information Gender **M** Age **36-45** Ethnicity **Choose not to respond** Additional Languages spoken **English** Disability **N** Description

Education / Training

I have been a business owner since 1993.

Job Experience

I have worked with the public as a locksmith for 17 years.

Community Service / Volunteer

I am a volunteer instructor at Eastgate Kenpo Karate.

Personal Experience

I have been educating the public in one fashion or another for a number of years. I work with people in the area's of personal safety, security management, and life skills.



Interested Applicants

Interested Applicants

7/16/2010 10:28:19 AM

Personal Interest Contribution

I have a strong martial arts back ground that teaches fair I believe in honesty, integrity, fairness, and personal play, honesty, and personal accountability. I have a accountability. I enjoy working with others and strong interest in law enforcement and have been on collaborating on ideas. I have always been interested in law "Ride Alongs" with police officers enforcement and I feel I could help to make a difference in our community.

1 What is your understanding of the role of the Police Commission within the community?

The Police Commission works with the City Council, Police Chief, and City Manager. There job is to review police policies and resources and represent the people in the community they service.

2 What do you see as the role of the Police Commission relative to City government?

To represent the the community in communicating with the Police Department. It is important to take into account the opinions of the people that you are serving.

3 What community issues, related to the work of the Police Commission, are of interest to you?

They all are. You can not deem one thing to be more important than another. If you take one small part out of an engine it fails to operate or runs very poorly. The Police Department is a community resource and must be evaluated to best decide how to make use of it within our community.



August 2, 2010

Honorable Mayor Kitty Piercy
777 Pearl Street, Room 105
Eugene, OR 97401

Dear Mayor Piercy,

In June of this year, one member of the Police Commission, Brooke Dodge, elected to resign. Following a two and a half week recruitment process, three members from the community applied to fill the position. Shortly after the recruitment period closed, the commission learned that member Marilyn Nelson also decided to resign as of November 1, 2010. Thus, the Police Commission now has two vacancies. Because we did not announce both vacancies to the public, we request that another recruitment period be held for Ms. Nelson's position, and seek a new applicant pool. Upon your approval, we will begin that process in the next few weeks.

Some timelines for you to note: The candidate selected for Ms. Dodge's position will begin immediately and expire on June 30, 2012. The candidate selected for Ms. Nelson's position will begin November 1, 2010 and expire June 30, 2011 (Ms. Nelson originally started her position mid-way through another member's term).

This past Friday, a team of three Police Commission members (Tamara Miller, Chair; Juan Carlos Valle, Vice Chair; and Marilyn Nelson) plus one staff member met the three applicants for an informational meeting. The purpose of the meetings was to develop a recommendation for applicants who seemed most qualified to take on the important work of the commission, and would help maintain a membership that is reflective of our community. Some characteristics of interest included age, gender, ethnicity, location of residence, perspectives/life experience, and connections with other community groups. Each applicant was evaluated on responses to questions regarding their experience developing policy and resource recommendations, their opinions on the three most critical policing issues facing the City, and their suggestions on how they would ascertain what community values are for Eugene residents.

The panel ranked each applicant on their proficiency in each category by assigning a number of 1 through 7 (7 being most proficient), and produced a composite score for each question. The following is the results summary of each candidate, as observed by the panel:

Jim Garner: Composite score of **24.5**
Jesse Lohrke: Composite score of **21**
Stephen Joers: Composite score of **18**

Each candidate represented their community with different qualities, and demonstrated varying levels of experience in governance. We believe all three are acceptable, however, if you do not concur with our observations on these candidates, we will support a decision to reopen the recruitment process. We have attached our notes on each candidate to this letter.

Since its inception, the Police Commission has had a diverse and dedicated membership that is representative of the community it serves, and we are appreciative of the consideration given to the appointment process. We understand that this will be a difficult selection for you, and hope that these

recommendations will assist in your decision. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us if you would like further comments on the candidates.

Sincerely,

Tamara Miller, Chair
686-7198

Juan Carlos Valle, Vice Chair
687-3371

Marilyn Nelson, member
345-1275

Randi Zimmer, Staff
682-5852