

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Appointment of Youth Members to the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services/Tree Board
DEPARTMENT:	Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department
PRESENTED BY:	Eric Friedli, PRCS Director
ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

Pursuant to SMC Chapter 2.55, the City has established a Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board (PRCS Board) to provide citizen input on park matters. Pursuant to SMC 12.30.020, the PRCS Board also serves (ex officio) as the City's Tree Board and advises the City Council on management of trees located on city-owned public property and rights-of-way. The PRCS/Tree Board consists of seven adult members and two non-voting youth members between the ages of 15 and 19. PRCS/Tree Board youth member term lengths are established pursuant to SMC 2.56.020(B) and coincide with the academic calendar (September through June).

In June 2020, the two incumbent youth board members, Erik Ertsgaard and Ivan Brown, graduated from Shorewood High School and have completed their terms on the Board. As a result, the Board has openings for two youth members.

This youth member service opportunity was advertised at Shorewood and Shorecrest High Schools, in *Currents*, and on the City's website. Three applications were received to fill the position. On Wednesday, June 10 four staff members and one current PRCS/Tree Board member interviewed all three candidates. Based on the interviews and subsequent deliberations, staff recommends Hayley Berkman and David Lin for appointment to the Board for a one-year term effective September 1, 2020 and expiring June 30, 2021, with the option to renew for additional one-year terms up to a maximum of four years. A biography for the youth candidates is included as Attachment A to this staff report.

Staff received approval from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to have staff, rather than a subcommittee of the City Council, conduct interviews and make a recommendation to Council to fill these two youth PRCS/Tree Board positions. Given that this process deviates from the stated process to fill vacancies on Council-appointed Boards and Commissions, in appointing these youth members, Council will also need to waive Council Rule of Procedure 2.4.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact created as a result of this Council action.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council move to waive Council Rule of Procedure 2.4 and appoint Haley Berkman and David Lin for youth membership on the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services/Tree Board for terms beginning September 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, with an option to renew for additional one-year terms.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Biography of Youth PRCS/Tree Board Candidates

Approved By: City Manager **DT** City Attorney **MK**

Attachment A: Biography of Youth PRCS/Tree Board Candidates (application excerpts)

Hayley Berkman
Richmond Highlands
Freshman

I am a First Trumpet in my high school's marching band, and I am a part of an all-girls jazz group outside of school. I am an active member of Shorewood's drama program and, as of recently, I am an initiated Thespian in Thespian Troupe #640 (our school's theatre honors group). Additionally, I am a member of several of my school's lunchtime and after school clubs including the Gay-Straight Alliance Club and MACAW, our school's liberal arts magazine who also put on events such as open mic nights. Finally, I am a student body representative in my school's ASB.

Since being involved in GSA since the 7th Grade at Albert Einstein Middle School, my friends and I have worked tirelessly to implement a Center for LGBTQ+ youth to feel safe and included in their city and in their society, and to always have a place for them to go. Just last year, my friend and I (the president and vice president of the GSA) created handmade Pride necklaces and sold them for funding at Seattle's TransPride Event and raised over \$800 for funding for the youth center. However, after realizing it could hardly make a difference in the cost, we donated the money to the city and used it to refresh our idea and say, "We are still here, and this is still an issue".

I have spent large portions of the last two summers already working for the city as a C.I.T at Camp Shoreline at Spartan recreation center. I greatly helped our hardworking counselors while also learning lots about leadership and how to apply leadership skills. During the summer, I also volunteered at Kruckeberg Botanical Garden, where my mom works part-time.

I have served on my school's Associated Student Body as a class representative for the class of 2023. Being on the board is such a good experience. It's full of people who want to do good and make the school a better place. On the ASB, I deliver information to the students of Shorewood and get their responses and all-around help make the school a better place. I mean, that's all anyone could really want as a rep, so I'd say that giving a small portion of my time to help make the school better is a deal I'd take any day.

I'm interested in serving because I am interested in improving the happiness and overall mental health of Shoreline's youth. I personally have already seen the massive impacts that this city has on the well-being of the children and teens that live in it, such as attending and being a C.I.T at Camp Shoreline and researching the impact that safe places and facilities can have on improving the mental health of teens who feel alone or left out. I've seen the positive impact of parks and gardens while volunteering at Kruckeberg. I've even seen the impact of simple dances and hangouts on mental health, such as the GSA Pride Dance held last year, a dance that my friends and I are responsible for ever existing at all. I've seen the impact these things have on youth, and I want to make sure that they stay as great as they are.

David Lin

Richmond Beach/Innis Arden

Sophomore

I have been deeply involved in the Shoreline community for my entire life. Firstly, even my grandfather, Rich Gustafson, was a member of the Shoreline City Council, the Shoreline parks commissioner, the Shoreline School District athletic director, and much more. He has inspired me to become just as invested in the community of Shoreline as he has. I have been an active volunteer member throughout Shoreline since elementary school. I clocked over 120 community service hours solely in my 8th-grade year, and I have continued to clock more hours since. I have also led various projects within my school and outside organizations that involved me, my peers, family members, and community members in events throughout Shoreline. My enduring involvement with leadership within my schools had resulted in me being thoroughly involved in the community, exposing me to more community volunteer opportunities and interactions with numerous different groups/organizations. I have also spoken at several Shoreline School District Board meetings, advocating for student voices.

Community involvement includes:

- Sports: Tennis, Golf, and Basketball (all Varsity teams at Shorewood High School)
+Swim Team (non-school)
- Student Council: I've been a part of ASB/Stu. Co. every year since 5th grade, being ASB
- President of both my elementary and middle school. I am currently a Class Senator of my class at Shorewood.
- National Honors Society
- Student leader of Younglife (Christian organization for middle & high school students)
- Richmond Beach Volunteer member
- Lifeguard & Swim Instructor at Klahaya Swim and Tennis Club