



# ***CITY COUNCIL***

## ***Nominations and Appointments***

### ***Committee***

**Monday, May 5, 2014**  
**5:00 pm**  
**City Council Office**  
**Committee of the Whole**

The Nominations and Appointments Committee will meet as needed to address nominations and appointments to the City's boards, authorities and commissions.

*Although Council committee meetings are open to the public, public comment is not permitted at Council Committee meetings. However, citizens are encouraged to attend and observe the meetings. Comment from citizens or professionals during the meeting may be solicited on agenda topics via invitation by the Committee Chair.*

*All electronic recording devices must be at the entry door in all meeting rooms and offices, as per Bill No. 27-2012*

#### **I. Interviews**

**5:00 - Joseph Amprey - reappointment - Board of Ethics**

**5:15 - Cynthia LaSota - reappointment - HARB**

#### **II. Appointment Recommendations**

#### **III. Review Pending Applications Memo/BAC Openings/Board, Authority, Commission membership**



# CITY COUNCIL

## **Nominations & Appointments Committee**

**Monday, April 7, 2014  
Meeting Report**

**Attendance:** S. Marmarou, D. Sterner

**Others Attending:** S. Katzenmoyer

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 pm by Mr. Marmarou.

### **I. Interviews**

#### **Carissa Johnson (appointment – Diversity Board)**

Mr. Marmarou questioned why Ms. Johnson was interested in serving on this Board. Ms. Johnson stated that she was born and raised in Reading and that the City needs to be revitalized and this seems a great place to start.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if Ms. Johnson was familiar with the mission and purpose of this Board. Ms. Johnson stated that it is to assist with diversity throughout the City.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz arrived at this time.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned if Ms. Johnson was involved in any other community service. Ms. Johnson stated that she is involved with Family Promise, The Sisterhood, SEIU Local 668, Reading NAACP, and Glad Tidings Assembly of God.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned if Ms. Johnson was aware of the re-entry center that will be opened at Camp Joy. Ms. Johnson stated that she was not aware of this center but that it is very much needed.

Mr. Marmarou questioned who Ms. Johnson represents as a member of the Diversity Board. Ms. Johnston expressed the belief that she would represent the entire Reading community.

Mr. Sterner noted the outstanding background of Ms. Johnson and noted that she seems to be a forward thinker.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz noted that serving on a BAC is a great way for citizens to gain knowledge about the workings of local government.

**The Nominations and Appointments Committee recommends the appointment of Carissa Johnson to the Diversity Board.**

**Alan Shuman (appointment – Downtown Improvement District Authority)**

Mr. Marmarou questioned why Mr. Shuman was interested in continuing to serve on this Authority. Mr. Shuman noted the need to continue working to increase the collection of the DID assessments. He noted that he continually works to collect overdue assessments.

Mr. Marmarou questioned what major issues are facing DID. Mr. Shuman stated that assessments are declining as several large parcels – Callowhill, CNA and all City and Redevelopment Authority owned properties – do not get DID assessments. They do reap the benefits of DID, however. Mr. Shuman noted his hope that downtown redevelopment would continue to get these buildings back on the DID assessment and the City's tax rolls.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned if the Double Tree Hotel will be assessed by DID. Mr. Shuman expressed the belief that it should but that the Redevelopment Authority still owns the land so it is not currently assessed. He noted his hope that the assessment would be effective when the hotel is complete in 2015 but questioned if this would be affected by the LERTA. He stated that if the land is not transferred from the Redevelopment Authority, it will not be assessed the fee.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned if DID ever re-strategized their fees. Mr. Shuman stated that they do and that DID must be re-established by Council in 2015 and

the fee strategy is currently being reviewed. He stated that there have been discussions about assessing non-profits but there is concern about their vote on issues. He stated that all non-profits located in the downtown area get DID services without paying the assessment.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned the number of non-profits. Mr. Shuman stated that it is quite a lot when you consider the churches and government buildings. He expressed the belief that the Parking Authority and Redevelopment Authority are the largest users of services but that they do not pay the assessment.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if DID could assist the City with snow plowing and removal. Mr. Shuman stated that DID has only one pick-up truck with a plow. He stated that there is discussion to assess the non-profits and begin clearing all snow from the downtown area including the sidewalks.

Mr. Marmarou expressed the belief that many entities classified as non-profit are not truly non-profit. Mr. Shuman agreed and stated that many executive directors of non-profits receive high salaries.

Mr. Sterner questioned if there were discussions with the Parking Authority about paying an assessment. Mr. Shuman stated that DID has had discussions with the Parking Authority many times. He stated that DID also provides security services at Goggleworks. He stated that this service costs \$21,000 annually and is not paid. DID pays the fee from their reserve funds.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz questioned DID's role in the CDC. Mr. Shuman stated that he is not pleased with the creation of the CDC. He expressed the belief that it simply adds another layer to redevelopment and that it is not helpful.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz agreed that the CDC is another layer in redevelopment and that there is no transparency of funds. Mr. Shuman stated that DID would not sign the CDC agreement until there was a provision added that meetings would be open to the public. He noted the need for public oversight of public funds. He expressed the belief that this is a way to get these public funds out of the control of Council.

Mr. Waltman arrived at this time. He noted Mr. Shuman's skeptical feelings about the CDC.

He noted the need for DID to review the operations of the CDC and inform Council of any issues.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that she will be asking all authority members these questions as they come before this Committee. She stated that the authority executive directors may feel that they can make decisions without their Board's approval when working with the CDC.

Mr. Waltman left the meeting at this time.

There was a discussion of the Reading Expo Center. Mr. Shuman stated that he is working with the Visitor's Center to move back into the City and locate in the Abe Lincoln.

**The Nominations and Appointments Committee recommends the reappointment of Alan Shuman to the Downtown Improvement District Authority.**

**Joseph Amprey (reappointment – Board of Ethics)**

Dr. Amprey did not appear for his interview. Ms. Katzenmoyer will follow up with him.

The Nominations and Appointments Committee adjourned at 5:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
*Shelly Katzenmoyer,*  
Deputy City Clerk



CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor  
**FROM:** Shelly Katzenmoyer, Deputy City Clerk  
**DATE:** March 11, 2014  
**SUBJECT:** Appointment Application

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SK", is written over the "FROM" and "DATE" lines of the memorandum header.

The Council office has received the following application from Joseph Amprey. Dr. Amprey is reapplying for membership to the Board of Ethics.

Please let the Council office know if you will endorse the appointment of this applicant.

*Yes I will endorse the appointment!*

*mark  
3-20-14*





CITY OF READING  
BOARDS AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS  
APPLICATION FORM

Article X of the City of Reading Home Rule Charter encourages the participation of citizens in their government through the establishment of Boards, Authorities and Commissions to carry out City business. Broad citizen participation is encouraged in the recruitment of appointees and in making appointments.

No appointee of any board, authority, or commission shall hold any other elected public office or any compensated position for the City. No person may serve concurrently on more than one board, authority or commission. The Charter requires all appointees to be residents of the City of Reading. At the discretion of Council, persons not residing in the City may be appointed if they have a significant property holding or business interest in the City.

Name: Joseph Amprey  
Address: 118 Oley St  
Years living at this address: 22

Date of Birth: Dec. 2, 1942

Occupation: Retired University Professor

Place of Employment & Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Day 610-372-5049 Evening \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: joseph.amprey@live.kutztown

If you need more space for any of the questions below, please use the back of this form.  
If you have a current resume, please attach it to this completed application.

1. What Board, Authority or Commission are you interested in serving on? Why?

Ethics  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. In your opinion, what is the primary purpose of this board?

To address issues relative ethics violation,

3. What skills, abilities or other characteristics do you have that will help the Board successfully achieve its purpose?

I have been on this board for many years. Hopefully my previous experience are helpful.

4. Have you had any previous experience with this particular board? If yes, please describe.

Human Relations Board

5. Have you served in any other volunteer roles in the community? (e.g. youth organizations, church, etc.) Please list.

BC TV

6. Have you ever been employed by the City of Reading? If so, please list.

I was a consultant for the Reading School District briefly 20 years ago

7. In a business relationship, have you ever provided goods or services for the City? If so, please describe?

None

8. Have you served previously on any other City of Reading Board, Authority, or Commission or in any other advisory capacity? If yes, please list the position and date(s) of service.

No

9. Are you currently a registered voter? Yes  No

10. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes  No

11. Do you own any properties or businesses in the City? If so, please list?

*No*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you have any water/sewer bills, property taxes, codes violations, or fines which are delinquent for 6 months or longer? If so, please list and provide explanation.

*No*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I verify that the statements made in this application are true and correct. I understand that any false statements herein are made subject to penalties of 18 PA.C.S. 4904, relating to unsworn falsification of authorities. I consent to and authorize, without reservation, the City of Reading to obtain information relating to my law enforcement record, convictions for other than Summary Offenses, my tax payment record (including all applicable taxes payable to the City of Reading), and my utility payment record. Convictions will not automatically disqualify the applicant. I authorize each applicable agency to which this form is presented to release any results, upon request of the City of Reading, as described above. Copies of this consent that show my signature are as valid as the original signed by me. This consent is valid until the termination of my application process or my affiliation with the City of Reading, whichever is later.

*Joseph Amprey*  
Printed Name

*Joseph Amprey*  
Signature

*Feb. 19, 2014*  
Date

Please return the completed form to the

**City Clerk's Office  
Office 2-24  
815 Washington Street  
Reading, PA 19601**



**CITY OF READING**  
**BOARDS AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS**  
**APPLICATION FORM**

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Article X of the City of Reading Home Rule Charter encourages the participation of citizens in their government through the establishment of Boards, Authorities and Commissions to carry out City business. Broad citizen participation is encouraged in the recruitment of appointees and in making appointments.

No appointee of any board, authority, or commission shall hold any other elected public office or any compensated position for the City. No person may serve concurrently on more than one board, authority or commission. The Charter requires all appointees to be residents of the City of Reading. At the discretion of Council, persons not residing in the City may be appointed if they have a significant property holding or business interest in the City.

Name: Cynthia Ann LaSota  
Address: 1433 Chestnut Street  
Years living at this address: 61  
Date of Birth: 4/11/52  
Occupation: Retired  
Place of Employment & Address: N/A  
Telephone: Day 610-373-2938 Evening 610-373-2938  
E-mail: engs126@aol.com

If you need more space for any of the questions below, please use the back of this form.  
If you have a current resume, please attach it to this completed application.

1. What Board, Authority or Commission are you interested in serving on? Why?

Historical Architectural Review Board  
As a resident of Reading for over 60 years and a property owner, I recognize the history in Reading's buildings and want to preserve the architecture for future generations.

1

2. In your opinion, what is the primary purpose of this board?

The main purpose of the HARB should be preservation of the architectural details and craftsmanship of the buildings in the historic and conservation districts, and recognition of the economic advantages preservation affords.

3. What skills, abilities or other characteristics do you have that will help the Board successfully achieve its purpose?

As a retired 36 year employee of the Reading School District, as both a teacher and administrator, my experiences serving on leadership teams at district-parent-student meetings, and successfully writing grants, have provided me with skills in problem-solving and negotiating with diverse viewpoints to find common ground.

4. Have you had any previous experience with this particular board? If yes, please describe.

Yes, I have served on the HARB since March 1994.

5. Have you served in any other volunteer roles in the community? (e.g. youth organizations, church, etc.) Please list.

Yes, I served on PTO's and PTA's at NWAE, Thomas Ford and Southwest Middle School. I am also a past member and officer of the Berks County Association for Children with Learning Disabilities.

6. Have you ever been employed by the City of Reading? If so, please list.

No

7. In a business relationship, have you ever provided goods or services for the City? If so, please describe?

No

8. Have you served previously on any other City of Reading Board, Authority, or Commission or in any other advisory capacity? If yes, please list the position and date(s) of service.

No

9. Are you currently a registered voter? Yes  No

10. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes  No

11. Do you own any properties or businesses in the City? If so, please list?

Yes 138 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you have any water/sewer bills, property taxes, codes violations, or fines which are delinquent for 6 months or longer? If so, please list and provide explanation.

No  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I verify that the statements made in this application are true and correct. I understand that any false statements herein are made subject to penalties of 18 PA.C.S. 4904, relating to unsworn falsification of authorities. I consent to and authorize, without reservation, the City of Reading to obtain information relating to my law enforcement record, convictions for other than Summary Offenses, my tax payment record (including all applicable taxes payable to the City of Reading), and my utility payment record. Convictions will not automatically disqualify the applicant. I authorize each applicable agency to which this form is presented to release any results, upon request of the City of Reading, as described above. Copies of this consent that show my signature are as valid as the original signed by me. This consent is valid until the termination of my application process or my affiliation with the City of Reading, whichever is later.

Cynthia Ann LaSota  
Printed Name

Cynthia Ann LaSota  
Signature

3/18/14  
Date

Please return the completed form to the

**City Clerk's Office  
Office 2-24  
815 Washington Street  
Reading, PA 19601**

# Cynthia Ann LaSota

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## Background

Resident of the City of Reading for 61 years

Attended local schools

Participated in the Model Cities Summer Youth Program

Judge for the Reading Model Cities Neighborhood Council Anti-Littering Poster Contest

Owner of property in the Callowhill Historic District (138 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street)

Manager of my parents' business (Oriental Gift House)

Taught in the Reading School District for 36 years:

2009-2010 Reading School District Special Education Supervisor

1993-Present Southwest Middle School, Title 1 Reading Specialist

1989-1993 Lead Teacher for the Reading School District's Special Education Department

1974-1988 Learning Disabilities Teacher

Historic Architectural Review Board Member, City of Reading, since March 9, 1994

## Major Accomplishments

1988 Cycle 6 High Technology Minigrant

Communications Package designed for regular education teachers

Taught the Diagnostic and Prescriptive Mathematics Course

1989 Berks County Learning Disabilities Association Panel Presentation to Parents and Teachers at Kutztown University

Diagnostic and Prescriptive Mathematics In-Service for Reading School District Teachers

Member of the Reading School District Application Transfer Study Task Force

Presentation at the Diagnostic and Prescriptive Mathematics Conference on "Successful Classroom Practices"

1990 Presentation to Kutztown University Student Teachers

Discussion Leader at the Diagnostic and Prescriptive Mathematics

Conference

Chicago Mathematics Course for Reading School District Teachers

- 1991 Eisenhower Conference (BCIU) Chicago Mathematics  
Presentation to student teachers at Kutztown University  
Chicago Mathematics Course for Reading School District Teachers
- 1992 Courses on Manipulatives for Reading School District Teachers
- 1993 In-Service training for new special education teachers
- 1996 Presenter at the State Title 1 Conference in Philadelphia, PA
- 1997 Presenter at the National Reading Conference in Atlanta, GA
- 1998 Presenter at the National Title 1 Conference in San Antonio, TX  
Received Parent Involvement Title1 Grant
- 1999 Received Parent Involvement Title1 Grant
- 2000 Received Parent Involvement Title1 Grant
- 2001 Received Parent Involvement Title1 Grant
- 2002 Received Parent Involvement Title1 Grant  
Member Southwest Middle School's Schoolwide Improvement Committee  
Member Southwest Middle School's Safety Committee  
Member Southwest Middle School's KEYS Committee
- 2003 Received Parent Involvement Title 1 Grant  
Member Southwest Middle School's Schoolwide Improvement Committee
- 2004 Received Parent Involvement Title 1 Grant  
Member Southwest Middle School's Schoolwide Improvement Committee
- 2005 Received Parent Involvement Title 1 Grant
- 2005 Co-wrote the CSR Grant (Comprehensive School Reform)  
Leadership Team SWMS

**Courses in Historic Preservation**

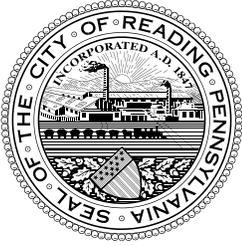
- 1985 "Historical Perspectives of Berks County" approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education on December 27, 1985, included lectures by Mr. Meiser.
- 1986 "Preservation, Restoration, and Conservation" approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education on May 1, 1986, Sponsored by the Berks County Conservancy (Mr. Dennis Collins) and the Berks County Intermediate Unit (Mrs. Caroline Holleran). The course resulted in a collection of lessons for teachers to include the concepts of preservation, restoration, and conservation in their curriculums. Participating teachers, including myself, are responsible for the lessons that were publisher.
- 1995 HARB-CLG Training Workshop October 21, 1995, RACC
- 1999 HARB-CLG Training Workshop September 18, 1999, Lewisburg
- 2000 HARB-CLG Training Workshop, November 18, 2000, Jim Thorpe
- 2003 HARB-CLG Training Workshop, April 5, 2003, Gettysburg

**Education**

1992	Penn State University	graduate math course
1990	Millersville University	Supervisor's Certification in Special Education
1989	Lehigh University	graduate courses in computers
1988-1989	Penn State University	graduate courses in mathematics
1975-1981	Kutztown College	Masters in Education Reading Specialist
1970-1974	Kutztown College	Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education Bachelor of Science in Special Education for the Mentally Retarded Graduated: magna cum laude
1966-1970	Holy Name High School	Diploma College preparation courses

**Memberships**

- Polish American Board of Education
- Kutztown Alumni Association



CITY OF READING,  
PENNSYLVANIA

M E M O R A N D U M

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**TO:** Nominations and Appointments Committee  
**FROM:** Shelly Katzenmoyer, Deputy City Clerk  
**DATE:** May 5, 2014  
**SUBJECT:** Pending Applications

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The following persons have applications for Boards, Authorities, and Commissions pending:

**Charter Board** - 1 opening

- Elizabeth Stanley - reappointment - sent to Mayor *June 2013*

**Housing Authority** - 2 openings

- Deborah Lachina - appointment - sent to Mayor *September 2013*
- Todd Gimbi - appointment - will need Mayoral approval

**Redevelopment Authority** - 1 opening

- Tara Reed - appointment - sent to Mayor *December 2013*

**Human Relations Commission** - 5 openings

- Kathryn Amaker - reappointment - will need Mayoral approval
- Lisa Blount - reappointment - has Mayoral approval
- Barbara Coffin - reappointment - will need Mayoral approval

**Board of Ethics** - 3 openings

- Joseph Amprey - reappointment - has Mayoral approval
- Melissa Eggert - reappointment - sent to Mayor *March 2014*

**HARB** - *5 openings*

- **Cynthia LaSota** - reappointment

**DID** - *1 opening*

- **Laura Cooper** - appointment - has DID approval - sent to Mayor *April 2014*

**BOARDS, AUTHORITIES & COMMISSIONS**

**OPEN SEATS**

MAY 5, 2014, 2014

<b>Board, Authority &amp; Commission</b>	<b>Mayor appointment w/ Council approval</b>	<b>Mayor appointment</b>	<b>Council appointment</b>
<b>BOARDS</b>			
Electrician's Examining Board			
			Board full
Plumbing Board of Examiners	Board full		
Reading HVAC Board			3 openings
Zoning Hearing Board			1 alternate opening
Police Civil Service Board			1 opening
Fire Civil Service Board			Board Full
Board of Historical Architectural Review			5 openings
			1 application pending
Board of Trustees of the Reading Public Library			1 City opening

Board of Health			1 opening
			1 alternate opening
Board of Ethics			
			3 openings
			2 applications pending
Building/Fire Code Board of Appeals			
			1 opening
			1 alternate opening
Animal Control Board			
			5 openings
Charter Board			
			1 opening
			1 application pending
Housing Board Of Appeals			
			3 openings
			3 alternate openings
Property Maintenance Appeals			
			6 openings
			Bldg/Trades Experience Required
Minority Bus. Board			
			7 openings
Police Diversity Board			
			3 openings
			1 alternate opening
City-wide Diversity Board			
			Board full

Solid Waste & Recycling Appeals Board			3 citizen openings
Main St Board	5 openings		
Business License Appeals Board	3 citizen openings		

**AUTHORITIES**

Reading Area Water Authority			Board full
Reading Redevelopment Authority	1 opening		
	1 application pending		
Reading Housing Authority	2 openings		
	2 applications pending		
Reading Parking Authority		1 opening	
Convention Center Authority			City positions filled
Downtown Improvement District Authority	1 opening		
	1 application pending		
City Revitalization Improvement Zone Authority			1 opening

**COMMISSIONS**

Planning Commission			
	4 openings		
Reading Shade Tree Commission	2 openings		
Stadium Commission	2 openings		
Reading Human Relations Commission	5 openings		
	3 applications pending		
Legislative Aide Committee			5 City openings
			2 County openings
Blighted Property Review Committee	1 opening		
Environmental Advisory Council			1 opening
Recreation Commission	Board full		
Audit Committee			Board Full