

If you have questions about the function and role of members, talk with the City staff liaison to the board, committee or commission you are applying for. The City Clerk can provide contact information for City staff members who are assigned to work with the boards, committees and commissions. It is important to note that City staff members cannot and do not recommend or lobby for any applicant.

Find out City Council's priorities and interests. Attend City Council meetings and review meeting minutes. Council meeting videos are archived on the City's website <http://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/> and are available for purchase on DVD from the City Clerk's Office.

Review the Code of Ethics for Appointed and Elected Officials (the Brown Act), available by request from the City Clerk's Office and understand that if you are appointed to a board, committee or commission, you will be required to abide by it.

Prepare for the interview. Although we do not know what specific questions Council will ask, we suggest that you clarify for yourself why you are applying for a specific board, committee or commission, understand its role and function, and be familiar with the current issues it is examining.

Treat the interview with City Council as a business or job interview. Understand that the City Council is not only considering what experience, skills and talents you bring, they are interested in how you will represent the City.

APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SEBASTOPOL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Contact Information

Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC
Mary Gourley
7120 Bodega Avenue
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Sebastopol, CA 95473
Mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

phone: 707-823-1153
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Office Hours: Monday - Thursday - 7:00 am - 5:30 pm (closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm for lunch)
Closed every Friday

Instructions:

Use this form to apply to serve on any of the City of Sebastopol's Boards, Committees or Commissions. Please complete the entire form. If a question does not apply, please note as not applicable. Please deliver completed form, by the date and time due, to the City Clerk. All applications will be reviewed by the City Council. If appointed, you have a choice whether you wish to have your contact information visible to the public; however, your information may be made public upon request by (a) member(s) of the public.

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for? **Public Arts**

Name: **Barbara A Harris**

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:
[REDACTED] Sebastopol, CA 95472



Home Phone Number: (707) [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?
 Yes No

Work Phone Number: (707) [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?
 Yes No

Facsimile Number: _____

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?
 Yes No

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED] _____ If

appointed, do you want this address to be visible to the public?
 Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No
If so, for how long? 48 years

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No
If so, for how long? _____

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

Yes; unknown date

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? _____

Present Employer: **Retired**

Job Title: **Arts Administrator; Educator; Artist**

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates:

California Arts Council State/Local Partnership Program (1989-2000)

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

Chop's Teen Center, Becoming Independent (BI), and Marin Arts Council Advisory Committees; Sebastopol Center for the Arts Art at the Source Steering Committee; Sonoma County Library Visual Arts Committee; Sonoma County Sheriff Department Gang Task Force; Sonoma County Office of Education Arts Education Committee; Cotati Accordion Festival; Sonoma County Book Fair; Community Baptist Church Gospel Music Concert Steering Committee; South of A (SOFA) Arts District; Santa Rosa Junior College Communication Arts Advisory Committee

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

Chop's Teen Center, Vice Chair, 1984); BI (Chair, 1995); California Arts Council State/Local Partnership (Co-Chair, 1989-2000)

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

Lengthy, enthusiastic, and dedicated affiliations and leadership roles with local, regional, state, and national arts organizations; staff and volunteer management; knowledge of budgets, revenue and expenditures, fundraising; event preparation and production; copywriting and editing; curricula design, student supervision, teaching and research as Santa Rosa Junior College instructor, 32 years; Executive Director, Cultural Arts Council of Sonoma County, 1989-2000; Communications Director, Voigt Family Sculpture Foundation; Docent Coordinator, Oliver Ranch

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

University of Toledo (Ohio) English and Fine Arts major; New School for Social Research, New York, NY, painting; University of California at Berkeley, Vocational Education Teaching Credential; Santa Rosa Junior College, Applied Graphics and Illustration certificates

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

**Redwood Empire American Association of Architects, Certificate of Appreciation;
Santa Rosa Public Art Commission, Award of Coordination; Leadership Santa Rosa,
Certificate of Arts Management; Sonoma State University, Award of Local Arts
Coordination**

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

Art in public places means that the handmade works of art are literally visible, accessible and available, with the intention of welcoming participation from viewers. These opportunities create an outdoor gallery environment which reflects concerted commitment from the city of Sebastopol toward securing the sculptures for the enjoyment of participants. This is a measure of aesthetic involvement and partnership between artist, local government, residents and visitors as opportunity toward civic enrichment. Art to be seen is a benchmark of the cultural health and well being of our community. Thank you for this chance to be considered for inclusion on this committee.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

How did you hear about this opening?

Sonoma West Times and News

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application and materials provided with the application?

I am a dedicated to actively remain involved with the arts. This committee further enhances this intention.

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

I know so many artists, appreciating their efforts while recognizing their challenges and points of view. I know so many residents (and visitors), appreciating their desires to access art. Art belongs where we all meet; truly speaking a common language.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

Community involvement and education about the arts which to be viewed publicly; how to maintain clear guidelines while sustaining flexibility in decision making; awareness of the unique and possibly unforeseen aspects of public art which may not adhere to the norm; to understand that the obvious may instead be led by the surprise.

Conversations about art are meant to engage diversity.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

Community comments are integrated by being made available as a priority. This happens when there are clear descriptions of what's to be considered. What is going on locally which prompts the consideration of art in public spaces. The library recently included a table of small scale, three dimensional examples of each of the pieces under consideration for placement in the front lawn area. The public could view these (rather than drawings and schematics), then were asked to make the decision as to what they would like to see fabricated and installed. This, in addition to further publicizing the art to be considered (newspaper, water bill, City newsletter) to alert the residents and solicit comments; Committee agenda to include appearances and/or comments; clear and concise directive that the final decision is to be made by the Committee (following the fully integrated community input).

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

I would approach this member directly, listening attentively and personally to instill trust and lack of competitiveness, encouraging conversation rather than confrontation.

If needed, I would request assistance from Committee chair to intervene. I would then, if necessary, request involvement from mediator. If none of these methods work, I would request that the Committee request this member's resignation since their lack of cooperation is adversely affecting the mission of the Committee.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

I would thoroughly explain my stance with researched and valid statements of having decided support. I would refer to policies and standards as guidelines, yet announce that aesthetics may contribute more to these, augmenting existent process with additional opportunity for creative solution. This is a matter of each and all being educated. Often, information supersedes regulation.

I certify that I have thoroughly read and understand all material in this application.

Applicant's Signature :  _____

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): **Barbara A Harris** _____

Date: **June 10, 2020** _____