



"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
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June 14, 2013

Members of the Common Council:

The following is being presented for your confirmation at the June 19 Council meeting:

**APPLETON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Appointment of one (1) member to fill the term vacated by Sarah Garb:

13-766

**MARISSA DOWNS**  
**Remainder of 5-year term to expire November 2015**

Appleton resident Marissa Downs is the Senior Vice President for The Commonwealth Companies, specifically focusing on the organization's development and property management companies. Commonwealth Development Corporation works with investors, lenders, state housing agencies and communities to provide affordable housing. As Senior Vice President, Marissa is responsible for new real estate development opportunities and manages new developments from the entitlement process through lease up.

Marissa graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Real Estate and Urban Land Economics. Her career started with Related Capital in New York. Marissa's career continued with an affordable housing development company in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin as the Director of Development. She was responsible for creating new development opportunities and oversaw the existing multifamily portfolio of 40 properties.

Appointment of one (1) member to fill the term vacated by Daniel Ferris:

**JAMES VAN DYKE**  
**Remainder of 5-year term to expire November 2013**

Appleton resident James Van Dyke was employed by the City of Appleton for 35-years. For the first 10 years, Jim ran the City's Housing and Community Development Block Grant programs. He oversaw the acquisition of 22 blighted housing units, which were razed to make room for the new Section 8 housing. Using Block Grant funds, he acquired and razed several old commercial buildings to assemble the parcel which is now the site of the Appleton Retirement Community. He also oversaw the acquisition and removal of approximately 12 blighted structures on the site now housing the Valley Transit Bus Garage.

For 24 years, Jim managed the City's business parks and served as staff to the Appleton Redevelopment Authority. During that time he assisted in the acquisition, relocation and clearance of blight for such projects as the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel, Avenue Mall, Landmark 1&2, Appleton Center and Lawrence Court. He was the lead person in assembling the site for the Fox

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Cities Performing Arts Center, overseeing a budget of \$4.2 million. Jim also served twice as acting director for the Appleton Redevelopment Authority.

**CITY PLAN COMMISSION**

Appointment of one (1) member to fill the term vacated by Jeanine Knapp:

**STEVE USLABAR**

**Remainder of 3-year term to expire April 2016**

Steve Uslabar spent part of his childhood on Appleton's north side. Upon returning to Appleton from Minnesota in 1999, Steve moved his family to the Erb Park neighborhood, which reminded his family of the close knit neighborhood they left in Minnesota. Steve and his family truly enjoy the plentiful recreational opportunities both Erb Park and Appleton provide.

Steve Uslabar has a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management from UW-Stout. Steve works as a risk advisor for McClone, a family held insurance agency. He has served as an executive on voluntary boards at the Appleton Yacht Club, First English Lutheran Church and has many years of committee experience.

It is with pleasure that I make these recommendations.

Sincerely,



TIMOTHY M. HANNA  
Mayor of Appleton