

Kapusta-Pofahl, Karen

From: John Guequierre [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2023 1:16 PM
To: Common Council Executive Committee
Subject: District 19 Vacancy Application
Attachments: Guequierre District 19 2024 vacancy application (final 2023-12-26).pdf

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Dear Common Council Executive Committee,

I'm attaching my application to fill the District 19 vacancy created by Alder Slack's resignation. Thank you for your consideration.

John Guequierre

APPLICATION
DISTRICT 19 ALDER VACANCY
JOHN GUEQUIERRE

Name: John Phillip Guequierre

Address: [REDACTED] 53717-2239

Contact Information:

- Telephone Number: [REDACTED]
- E-Mail address: [REDACTED]

Biographical resume to include education, work, neighborhood, and civic experience

Personal Basics

- Grew up in Mukwonago (Milwaukee-area)
- Graduated Mukwonago Union High School, UW-Madison (BA) and University of Chicago (MBA)
- Madison resident since 2013
- Married to Polly for 55 years, 3 children, 3 grandchildren

Work Experience

- 1968-1972 – Designing IT systems for a major steel company (Chicago, IL and East Chicago, IN)
- 1972-1983 – Problem solving at housing, real estate development, and building products subsidiaries of a major steel company – rescue, sell, or liquidate, various locations including Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Washington, DC, Maryland, California.
- 1983-2016 – Senior Leadership for various companies building panelized, manufactured, and modular buildings; Includes being CFO of a public company after managing its initial and secondary public offerings and managing factories and sales throughout the US with sales in the US, Canada, Mexico, and Europe.
- 2016-present – Principal of I-OSC, LLC, a consultancy assisting developers (non-profit and for-profit), general contractors, engineers, architects, in utilizing off-site construction for affordable and sustainable buildings.
- 2020-present – Board member of Otologic Technologies, Inc., a company commercializing artificial intelligence to improve the diagnosis of ear diseases.

Neighborhood and Civic Activities

- 1980's and 90's – Chair of Elkhart County United Way, Chair of Indiana Association of United Ways, Leader of various 4-H activities, board member of Elkhart County, IN 4-H Saddle Club, various church leadership positions.
- 2014-current – Various church leadership positions, Covenant Presbyterian Church (Madison, WI)
- 2013-current – Board member, Wexford Village Homes Association (Madison, WI)
- 2013-current – Volunteer, MERLIN Mentors - assisting early-stage entrepreneurs launch their companies (University Research Park, Madison, WI)

In 2018, I became an active participant in several City of Madison community outreach activities, including City Engineering's Pheasant Branch watershed study and City Planning's Odana, East Towne, and West Area plans. I have continued this involvement.

In 2023, I ran for Common Council in District 19. Although I was not elected, I had an opportunity to engage with thousands of District 19 residents through various campaign activities including personally knocking on 2189 doors.

I'm currently involved with 350 Wisconsin as a co-leader of multiple efforts collaborating on Madison, UW-Madison, and Dane County projects.

I was recently appointed to City of Madison's Sustainable Madison Committee.

Statement of motivation for serving

Madison is widely acknowledged as a special and dynamic city evidenced by its status as the fastest growing region in Wisconsin. I believe it's important to sustain and build on that success. Despite the obvious historic success, there is still a long-standing, pervasive, and stubbornly perpetuating chasm between Madison's majority and its most vulnerable residents.

I'm motivated to contribute to dealing with Madison's challenges and expanding opportunities. At this point in my life and the City's, I believe my experience and skills align with those challenges and opportunities. For example, my knowledge and experience of development could help in addressing our affordable housing crisis including a focus on essential initiatives to reduce greenhouse gases. My financial and budgeting experience will be of use in confronting the difficult 2025 budget later this year.

Finally, the problems arising from Alder turnover are well known. I believe I am well prepared to contribute quickly to Council business even though I'm not a former Alder. In addition to my leadership in the Wexford Village Homes Association (764 homes on the West Side), I regularly listen to Council and committee meetings. I've immersed myself in recent operating and capital budgets. I've studied City of Madison vision plans, including the Comprehensive Plan, neighborhood plans, Complete Green Streets and concepts like Transit-Oriented Development. I understand that there is much I don't know and I'm eager to collaborate with other current and retired Alders to ensure that I can provide prudent and informed representation for District 19.

Statement of desired accomplishments

I recognize a lot of the job is focused on reacting to issues as they arise, that progress can be slow, and that there are multiple high profile projects going on in District 19 or adjacent to District 19 (i.e. West Area Plan, possible large development on Old Sauk Rd, Sauk Creek reconstruction discussions, continued implementation of the Odana Area Plan, etc), but my areas of focus would be:

- Continuing to increase the supply of affordable housing, including increasing density where appropriate and supporting the necessary financing initiatives.
- Contributing to the updating of the Sustainability Plan, including plans for implementing the stated goals with appropriate incentives and accountability.
- Supporting the completion of the BRT initiative (go-live on West/East line, and supporting North/South development) and other transportation projects that reduce personal automobile miles and speed the transition from fossil fuels to electricity.
- Smart budgeting – addressing the looming structural deficit with care for Madison's values and vision, and specifically sustaining the multi-year operating and capital funding that redresses historical inequities.

- Involvement in engineering projects focused on flood resilience to address stormwater which greatly impacted District 19 in 2018.

I believe it's incredibly important for us to continue to strive for a safe and livable Madison for all of residents and I'm eager to support programs that continue progress on this goal including the expansion of our CARES program.

Statement of intention for running in Spring 2025 election

It's very unlikely I would run for election in Spring 2025.