

MEMORANDUM

TO: Urbana City Council
FROM: Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin
DATE: 23 May 2022
RE: Board and Commission Appointment

I am pleased to submit the following Appointments for your approval:

Civilian Police Review Board – terms ending June 30, 2025**Peggy Patten**

Peggy Patten is a 40-year resident of the City of Urbana and is a retired University of Illinois Urbana – Champaign Early Care & Education (ECE) professional. During her three decade career she taught in the Child Development Laboratory, trained students in child development, founded and directed the Child Care Resource Service, and was a Research Information Specialist with the Early Childhood & Parenting Collaborative.

“I believe that our City's approach to policing is central to the health of our community. Participating in the systematic means for continuous improvement in police community interactions (which is the chief mission of the CPRB as I understand it) is one way I can be part of that critical process. I am interested in Urbana's innovative approaches to policing such as the new Crisis Co-Responder pilot. Serving on the CPRB would provide me an opportunity to understand and shape both current and new policing practices.”

Peggy understand that fairness, integrity and a commitment to public service are key qualifications for serving on the CPRB. Those skill sets have been strengthened in her 12 years on the Urbana School Board and in her many years as a community volunteer in local schools and nonprofits.

Ashley Withers

Ashley Withers is a 30-year resident of Champaign County and works as the Lead Employment Specialist for Community Choices. She works with job seekers with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities to identify skills, strengths, ideal working conditions and overall employment goals to make a mutually beneficial job match with Champaign County employers.

“As a long time Urbana resident, I have a passion for this community and its potential to be even better. The last few years of increased crime has made me realize how important it is to get involved wherever you can. I believe that I can serve as a member of this commission neutrally and read into the facts of each complaint brought forth in order to give appropriate feedback.”

Ashley has a baseline understanding of how officers are trained and believes that police officers should be held accountable and should uphold the integrity of the department as a whole. Ashley also currently serves on the Urbana Park District Advisory Committee.