



## Open Space and Trails Advisory Board Application

All advisory board and commission members will be expected to support the priorities and work plan set forth by the Town Council.

This board meets the **second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM**. You are required to notify your chair if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without a leave of absence approved by majority of the Open Space and Trails Advisory Board could be grounds for dismissal.

Full Name Ed Guignon

Are you an Erie resident? Yes

Are you under the age of eighteen? No

Are you currently serving on the advisory board you are applying for? No

Home Address

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Employer Retired

Job Title/Occupation Board Member of local non-profit

Have you ever been employed by the Town of Erie? No

Do you work for or own a company that does business with the Town of Erie? No

What is your highest level of education completed? Masters Degree or Higher

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Are you currently serving on a board? No

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Are you applying for more than one board? No

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**Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission and what specific talents or expertise do you bring if appointed?**

I have always had a strong interest in nature and the outdoors. As Erie continues to grow, I think it is important that we maintain a small town feel and provide the Quality of Life that citizens expect, and one way to do that is to balance out open space and trails with housing developments. The recent Erie community survey supports the fact that a majority of citizens want us to maintain and expand open spaces and trails, and I want to help make that happen.

As far as experience in this area, in the previous town where I lived I was a member of the Parks and Rec Board for 13 years, and was Chair or Vice-Chair of that board for 10 of those years. That town and Erie are very similar in their beginnings, their size and in the challenges they face as they grow. In that role on the Park Board I was very involved in helping to bring over 500 acres of parks and open spaces across 17 parks, and over 20 miles of hike and bike trails. I was also a Board member on a separate Hike and Bike Trail Master Plan Committee.

I have a passion for Open Space & Trails, and a passion for my community of Erie.

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**Have you served on another board/commission in an advisory capacity? If so, please describe the board and what made serving in that capacity a good experience? What were the major concerns or issues?**

I have only lived in Erie for a few years, but In the previous town where I lived I was very involved as a volunteer on Boards and Committees:

- \* 13 years on Parks and Rec Board
- \* 8 years on town Recreation and Development Board, which managed tax money for Parks and Rec parks, trails and facilities.
- \* 2 years on Hike and Bike Master Plan Committee
- \* Committee member on two different 20 year Strategic Planning Committee for the Town's overall planning
- \* Member of Community Arts Council to bring public art to the town
- \* Started a 501(c)3 focused on Health and Wellness in our Town
- \* Committee Co-Chair on 501(c)3 to build a \$600k interactive kids playground in town
- \* Board Member for local Performing Arts Center that we on the Community Arts Council helped bring to town.

In these roles I regularly dealt with issues related to development and use of parks, responsible and sustainable growth of the Town, and being good and responsible stewards of taxpayer money.

Since moving to Erie, I have been very involved in Town Council meetings and have been selected to be part of the new Parks and Rec Public Arts Committee. I'm looking to continue my passion for giving back to the community, especially in the area of Open space, trails and parks, which is why I am applying for a position on the OSTAB. With my experience and passion, I would be a valuable contributor to the Board and the Town.

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**Please describe a situation where you were working with a small group and disagreed with the direction of the project, what did you do? What was the result?**

In my many volunteer roles working with local government, I have always strongly held to the concept that regardless of my own personal opinions, I make decisions based on the greatest good of the Town as a whole. There have been times when I personally disagreed with the direction of a project. My approach in those situations is to present my position in a logical and thought-provoking manner with the hopes that other members of the group might see the benefit of my position. And I am respectful of and listen to the other positions. Once the group has voted, I support

the decision made whether it was my position or not.  
To give an example.. As a Board member of the Health and Wellness non-profit that I helped start, one of the Board Members wanted to do a 3-month long community project. I made the case that it would be good for PR, but that it would be a lot of effort for a project that would not significantly move the needle on Health and Wellness in the town, and our resources would be better served elsewhere. However, this Board member was personally passionate about it and the Board voted to do it. I suggested that the Board member who initiated it be in charge of running it, and I proposed a separate project that I would run simultaneously. That's what we did and it was a win-win for all of us..

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**If you were appointed, what goals would you like to see accomplished on this board or commission?**

- \* Expand the acres of town-wide open space in Erie to be in more of a balance with new housing development.
- \* Establish the Page Property as open space
- \* Expand our trail system to connect more seamlessly with adjacent town trail systems.
- \* Work with the Parks and Rec Director to create open spaces and parks that bring the community together

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**Are you aware of the time commitment, and do you have the personal time to devote to this board or commission?**

Yes

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**Please read and agree with the following statement:**

I certify that the facts and statements contained in this Board and Commission Application are true and correct. I further understand that false statements shall be sufficient cause for rejection of this application. I further certify that I have not been convicted of a felony under the laws of the State of Colorado or in another jurisdiction. I understand that falsification, omission or misrepresentation will result in a rejection of this application. Any falsification, omission or misrepresentation is evidence of perjury in the second degree. If I become a board or commission member with the Town, this form is valid for the period of my term with the Town and the crime records may be updated periodically at the discretion of the Town. I understand that this application is considered a public record and subject to the Colorado Open Records Act.

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**I Agree**

Yes

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**All board and commission members must follow the rules and regulations in the Erie Municipal Code as well as the Town's policies related to harassment, anti-violence, and technology use.**

No

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**Acknowledgement Signature**

