



Application for Boards and Commissions

City of New Haven, CT

Submitted On:

January 3rd, 2020 @ 10:55am

Full Name	Rebecca Weiner
Full Address	187 Willard St. New Haven CT 06515
Phone Number	203-687-8227
Are you a registered voter?	Yes
What political party do you belong to? [This information is only requested as it is required by the city charter (Article X Sec. 2-551) to ensure minority party representation on boards and commissions]	Democrat
What is your current occupation?	Self-employed real estate investor/developer/realtor; I also have equity interest in a small niche consulting firm in the medical optics trade.
Which board and/or commission are you hoping to serve on? To see the existing boards and commissions, click here: https://bit.ly/2tIbS8j	Affordable Housing Commission if one is formed; if not (POSSIBLY even if so, depending on total time commitment), then Environment.
Please explain why you are interested in serving on this board/commission?	<p>Affordable housing: as a landlady, realtor & small-scale developer in New Haven I have almost 30 years of experience in how private sector real estate works in this city, and feel I have much to offer in terms of helping mobilize the power of the private sector to effectively support affordable housing goals.</p> <p>Environment: in my private life, environmental sustainability is a major concern and has been for over 50 years. As an environmentalist who is also a real estate developer, I have significant experience in how policy support for retrofitting existing building stocks to reduce carbon footprint (DOE stats show 39% of current total US energy use goes to buildings - that can be vastly reduced through low-to-moderate cost methods), and zoning for higher density can improve sustainability.</p>
Why do you believe you are a good fit for this board/commission?	A) Experience/Knowledge, B) Passion on these issues, C) Time available (have reached the point in my career where I have some free time, and want to give back in ways that can potentially make a real difference), D) Potential access to funding (I know a lot of real estate developers, many of whom could likely be persuaded to support innovative pilot projects/initiatives). I have also served before on various Boards (educational, corporate, and synagogue-based). While no one is perfect, I have some sense of how to collaborate effectively in group settings to establish/refine and make progress on common goals.

Do you have any time commitments that would prevent you from participating in the board/commission meetings?

Generally my time is flexible. With enough advance notice I can accommodate almost any meeting schedule. Would prefer to avoid Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, when I already have community volunteer commitments, but those could potentially be reorganized if need be.

Rebecca Helen Weiner
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EXPERIENCE:

- 3/2010 to present **Realtor, Betsy Grauer Realty, New Haven, CT.** Having gotten licensed to better manage my own properties, I have found great pleasure helping others become homeowners and investors. Working part-time as a Realtor, I average about \$4MM in annual transaction sides.
- 8/1999 to present **Real Estate Investor.** Began investing with a 3-family in East Rock, New Haven, owner-occupying 1 unit. Have expanded to a modest portfolio of single & multi-family properties in Greater New Haven. I also continue part-time/freelance China consulting work.
- 2/1996 to 4/1999 **Director, Corporate Practice/Shanghai; Managing Director, Public Affairs Practice/China,** Burson-Marsteller, Inc. I provided client counsel to multinationals on government/internal relations and corporate positioning issues in the PRC, including consulting on property acquisitions. Positions included full P&L/personnel management responsibility for first the Shanghai Corporate Practice and then the China Public Affairs Practice.
- 8/94 to 2/96 **Manager, Human Resources/Administration; Director, Business Development – South China,** BellSouth China, Inc. Coordinated day-to-day deal management and business development activities for new projects in the Guangdong region. Previously, managed HR, physical plant, purchasing, transportation, expatriate support, office registration and other administrative activities for BellSouth China's representative offices while coordinating with HR/Administrative managers for subsidiary and joint venture operations.
- 3/94 to 8/94 **Assistant to President,** Yale Tech, Inc., New York, NY. Assisted with project evaluations/communications and investment negotiations for small-to-medium PRC investments, primarily by individual investors.
- 5/85 to 3/94 **Freelance Interpreter.** As freelance contractor to the U.S. Department of State, National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, and several Fortune 500 corporations and major not-for-profits, provided Chinese language interpretation and translation. Still occasionally accept interpreting/translation projects, where compatible with other interests.
- 1987 to 1989 **Lecturer,** Qingdao University, Shandong Province. Taught U.S. and Western history, culture and literature. Have also taught Chinese history, language and culture to American students.

EDUCATION:

Yale University, B.A. granted, cum laude, 1985. Double major in History (China Concentration) and East Asian Studies (China Concentration).

Middlebury College, Summer Chinese Language Institute. Assistant to Director, 1986. Student, 1983. (In addition to fluency in Mandarin Chinese I can communicate in Spanish, French and Shanghainese.).

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Member, **National Association of Realtors**

Member, **NAR GREEN Council**

Member, **National Committee on US-China Relations**

Member, **US-China Business Council**

PUBLICATIONS:

Co-author: *The New Culture Shock! China* (Times Media, 2007)
Shanghai At Your Door (Times Media, 2003, 2004)
Living in China, (China Books and Periodicals, 1991, 1997).

Contributor: *A Student Guide to Study Abroad* (IIE/AIFS Press, 2013)
Raising Global Children (ACTFL Press, 2013)
Go Global! (SNB Media, 2011)
Chinese Intellectual Property Law and Practice, (Kluwer Law International, 1999).
Handbook on Popular Chinese Culture, (Greenwood Press, 1994).
The China Guidebook, 1990 Edition (Eurasia Press, 1990).

My **freelance articles** on China business and culture have appeared under my own byline in *AmChat*, *Asian Wall Street Journal*, *China Business Review*, *Connecticut Magazine*, *E Magazine*, *Medical Device & Diagnostic Industry News*, *Running Times*, *Tikkun Magazine* and elsewhere. Articles I ghost-wrote for client bylines have appeared in dozens of newspapers and magazines in the US, EU, and Asia, and I have also ghost-written five business books for client authorship.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

I serve on various committees at Congregation Beth-el Keser Israel in New Haven; support environmental education via Friends of Edgewood Park; and have served on various school PTSOs.

REFERENCES:

Available on request.