

**Neighborhood STAR Board
Proposed Appointments – April 2017**

Sarah (Sally) Bauer

Ward 3

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Occupation: At home parent

Why are you interested in serving on a board or committee?

I care deeply about the city of Saint Paul. Back in 2013, I founded the Highland Neighborhood Facebook Group and last year I joined the Highland District Council. I love the opportunity to engage in issues that affect our city. I'm excited about the opportunity to serve on the STAR board and help determine valuable projects in need of funding. I think this program is an excellent way to assist small businesses and non-profits in accomplishing important projects that likely could not happen without the City's support. These projects help make the City of St Paul a better place to live and I would love to contribute to that goal.

What skills/training or experience do you possess for the committee(s) for which you seek appointment?

At the University of Minnesota, I managed a grant funding program that allocated over \$300,000 in funding annually. As facilitator of the grants committee, I was able to objectively apply standards for application selection. I understand how challenging it can be to select between many deserving applications and I would work to apply selection criteria fairly. While at the University, I also managed programs and services for over 900 student groups and planned campus wide events that required collaboration with a wide array of stakeholders. These experiences have given me the skills to collaborate successfully with a group of people with diverse viewpoints and priorities. Additionally, I am a highly engaged Highland resident and very knowledgeable regarding neighborhood needs and issues.

Owen Hansen

Ward 2

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Employer: Metropolitan State University

Occupation: Library Computer Help Desk Support and Technical Assistance

Why are you interested in serving on a board or committee?

The Neighborhood STAR program has been a huge benefit to St. Paul neighborhoods. I admire the model of citizen review supported by PED expertise and would like to be a part of it. Quite honestly, I admire how the program was authored, how project criteria were set up to set aside a

revenue stream, to maximize the leverage of that public money and improve the tax base and to intentionally balance benefit around the city.

What skills/training or experience do you possess for the committee(s) for which you seek appointment?

In my 24 years in my chosen city, I have lived or worked in every Ward except Ward 6 and I have family there. I'm sure that applies to many of us but I mention it because I have experienced the strengths and needs of many of our neighborhoods first hand as a renter, homeowner, student, and worker.

I have also served as a volunteer and board member of the Riverview Economic Development Association (REDA), now merged with Neighborhood Development Alliance (NeDA). REDA was a business association and community development corporation committed to improving the quality of life in St. Paul's West Side neighborhood by building local business capacity and amenities. My experience with REDA gave me the opportunity to critically evaluate the benefits and trade-offs involved in brick and mortar projects as measured against our mission.

Finally, I am also a graduate student in the Master of Public and Non-Profit Administration program at Metropolitan State University. This program includes coursework relevant to service on a citizen board--not the least of which is Public Ethics and the Common Good.