



Town of Blowing Rock

1036 Main Street ★ Post Office Box 47 ★ Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 1, 2016

TOWN OF BLOWING ROCK SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR VARIOUS BOARDS

-- Letters of Interest Due by Tuesday January 3, 2017 --

BLOWING ROCK, NC – The Town of Blowing Rock is beginning its annual appointment process to help fill vacancies on Town Boards. These Boards each play an important role in preserving and protecting the quality and character of Blowing Rock. A few members of each Board are appointed each year to help ensure continuity and experience are retained from year to year. As a portion of the Board member terms expire, it allows new people to get involved and participate in their Town government.

As 2016 winds down and we prepare for 2017, there are a total of twelve (12) vacancies across the five different Town Boards. Information about each Board is included below. All appointees must be residents of the Town of Blowing Rock unless otherwise indicated. Appointees will be notified of their selection in late January and will be confirmed at the Council meeting on February 14, 2017. Terms are three years in length and will begin with meetings that take place in March of 2017.

If you have an interest in serving on one of these important citizen boards, please mail a letter of interest along with your contact information including email address and the best phone number to reach you along with a list of any pertinent work history or volunteer experience postmarked **by Tuesday, January 3, 2017** to Hilari Hubner, Town Clerk, PO Box 47, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. Your letter of interest and other information may also be emailed to clerk@townofblowingrocknc.gov by Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. If you prefer to serve on a particular Board, please indicate that in your letter. If you are flexible and are fine with serving on a variety of Boards, please indicate your prioritized preference for each Board in your letter as well. If there are a large number of requests to serve on any one Board, your prioritized preference will help determine how to balance potential appointees so that all of the available slots can be filled.

Planning Board - 4 Vacancies

The **Planning Board** conducts studies and makes recommendations to the Town Council on matters related to the growth and development of the Town. The Planning Board reviews all requests for new subdivisions, all requests for zoning changes, requests for new commercial development, and makes recommendations to the Town Council on whether those requests should be approved, modified, or denied. The Town has established standards for new subdivisions and other new development through the adoption of a Land Use Ordinance (often referred to as the Zoning Code). The Planning Board reviews any proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance and will often initiate such changes to ensure that the regulations in the Land Use Ordinance are current and provide the proper protection for the Town and its residents. There are nine (9) members on the Planning Board, eight (8) members who live within Town limits and one being an Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) member, and the Board meets at 5:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. There will be four (4) vacancies on this Board. All of these vacancies are for those members who live within Town limits.

Board of Adjustment - 4 Vacancies

The Land Use Ordinance establishes regulations for the use and development of land within the community. However, sometimes a property owner, because of special characteristics on his or her property, will request a variance from the specific regulations in the Land Use Ordinance. The **Board of Adjustment** reviews variance requests and decides whether those requests should be approved. The Board of Adjustment also hears appeals from any person who may disagree with any order, directive, or decision made by the Zoning Administrator. There are six (6) full members on the Board of Adjustment, one being an Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) member, plus two (2) alternate members. The Board meets at 5:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month when cases are pending. There will be two (2) full member vacancies on this Board and two (2) alternate member vacancy.

Tourism Development Authority - 1 Vacancy

The **Tourism Development Authority (TDA)** promotes, solicits, and encourages tourism in the Town of Blowing Rock in accordance with adopted Town plans/policies and administers the appropriation of the room occupancy tax proceeds. This Authority also studies the impact of tourism on the Town and develops strategies to minimize any negative impacts of tourism on the Town. This Board will have one (1) vacancy for the At-Large seat.

The Authority shall have at least one third (1/3) of its members affiliated with lodging establishments that collect the occupancy tax, at least three fourths (3/4) of its members active in the promotion of travel and tourism in Blowing Rock, and one At-Large member. There are five (5) members of the Tourism Development Authority. The Board meets at 3:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday in April, May, June, July and October.

Blowing Rock Appearance Advisory Committee - 2 Vacancies

The **Blowing Rock Appearance Advisory Commission (BRAAC)** consists of seven (7) members, all of whom are citizens and residents of the Planning and Zoning jurisdiction of the Town. Members are appointed by the Town Council for a term of three (3) years. It is desirable that at least one member be a member of the design profession.

BRACC shall have all of the responsibilities and duties imposed by the enabling ordinance and shall promote and assist in the implementation of general community beautification in accordance with adopted Town plans/policies. This commission also studies the appearance characteristics of the Town and recommends standards and policies of design for the Town. This Board will have two (2) vacancies.

Alcohol Beverage Control Board - 1 Vacancy

The **Alcohol Beverage Control Board (ABC)** oversees the operation and management of the Town ABC store and employs a local ABC officer to oversee the enforcement of State of North Carolina ABC laws. There are three (3) members on the ABC Board and the Board meets at 3:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. This Board will have one (1) vacancy.

Thank you very much for your interest in helping the Town of Blowing Rock continue with its long standing tradition of citizen involvement with Town Government. If you have any questions about this process or any of the Boards, please contact Town Clerk, Hilari Hubner.

PRIMARY CONTACTS:

Hilari Hubner, Blowing Rock Town Clerk (828) 295-5200 Email address: clerk@townofblowingrocknc.gov

Scott Fogleman, Blowing Rock Town Manager (828) 295-5200 Email address: manager@townofblowingrocknc.gov