

April 21, 2019

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BY: Dylan [Signature]
1:45pm

Mayor Sean Ford and Members of the City Council,

I confirm I meet the criteria of eligibility for the appointment of the At-Large City Council vacancy.

- I am a citizen of the United States.
- I am at least 18 years of age.
- I have been a resident of Commerce City for 12 months immediately preceding the appointment.
- I am a registered voter of the city; and,
- I am not currently serving a criminal sentence, including probation or parole, for a felony or an offense comparable to a felony in the military.

Sincerely,


June Muniz Younger

April 22, 2019

Dear Mayor Ford and Members of the City Council,

As a life-long resident of Commerce City, I remember growing up attending graduation ceremonies at Adams City High School or the dog track. Each year, school administrators would always tell graduates to spread our wings like Eagles, go into the world, gain knowledge and experience, and then come back and give back to our community. So that is exactly what I have done over the years.

After attending Metropolitan State College and receiving my Bachelor of Arts with a communication multi-major and marketing degree, I dabbled in community cable television and radio before spending 3 ½ years as an editor of regional energy magazines researching and reporting on the oil and gas industry; as well as, green alternatives. Most of my tenure in communications, however, was spent in community newspapers. As a community editor, I covered all the major cities and county governments in the metro north area, including Commerce City and Adams County. I am familiar with the weekly packets you receive on the other side of the diocese. As editor and reporter, I too, had to read through the same packets and analyze and formulate questions so I could make the information, including budgets, understandable to the residents and business owners in the communities I was serving. Sometimes that even meant having to read three different packets in a given week, depending on what cities or counties were meeting.

Over the years, I have built positive relationships with city council members, city administrators, staff, legislators, citizens and business owners to gain their unique perspective on issues. I also know how to connect with them on their levels with issues of common interest to get them talking, which is the first step in any communication plan.

City governments have valued my input on community matters over the years. In 2007, I accompanied Mayor Ford and City Council to the National League of Cities in Washington, D.C. I went as a chaperone for the new Youth in Government program, but Mayor Ford also wanted my perspective as a community member. I participated in Lobby Day where we visited with U.S. Senators and Representatives as well as attended sessions with the students that were pertinent to get them ready for their lobbying for a Boys and Girls Club in Commerce City. It was through the students' efforts we now have a free-standing facility for that important program. I also worked with Mayor Paul Natale, being the only reporter to be asked to have extended coverage of Commerce City's partnership with foreign dignitaries from Nanning, China. In 2012, I represented the city of Westminster, Colorado, as the lone envoy to the Lord Mayor's office in Westminster, England.

I have devoted 27 years of volunteering in different capacities in Adams 14 schools; was a member of the Commerce City Code Enforcement Committee; Commerce City Police Department's Vision and Value Committee; member of the Commerce City Business and Professional Association; and, charter member of the Commerce City Historical Society, which I served 5 years on the board of directors. I helped open Commerce City's first museum, worked with History Colorado for an architectural survey of Derby, and helped create the Historic Preservation Plan for the city. I am now working with the Commerce City Chamber of Commerce in bringing local businesses together. For the past seven years, my husband and I have led Thrive Kitchen, a free weekly community dinner for low-income families and the homeless. I have not yet participated in the Commerce City Civics Academy, but hope to do so. I have worked with numerous cities and counties in the metro north area, so I have knowledge of the role of municipal

governments, city operations, special districts and emerging issues facing those in the metro north area. I am also planning on participating in Leadership Commerce City in September.

As a community editor, I was not only living here, but reporting on key issues of the city like the clean up of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, the building of the Jean Klein water treatment plant, the formation of the "New Lands" aka "The Northern Range" aka "North Commerce City." I have also been here for the opening of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal Wildlife Refuge and the demolition of the Mile High Greyhound Park and Adams City High School as well as the building of two new high schools – Adams City and Prairie View. I believe, it's hard to know where you are going if you don't know where you came from. That includes a community. I can bring that knowledge to the council.

During my time with community newspapers, I've seen the growing pains communities deal with as their populations increase. I reported on the growths for both Westminster and Thornton. What I see happening here in Commerce City between the historic part of the city and the Northern Range is very similar. With partnerships with developers, businesses (like we are doing with the Chamber), and associations as well as increasing city-wide events and programs in both areas to familiarize our residents and businesses with all that is offered in our city, it is possible to grow our sense of community between the historic part of the city and the Northern Range.

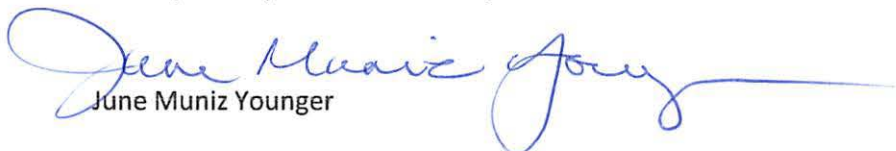
The three most pressing challenges in our community are: 1) The possibility of an economic slowdown just as our population continues to surge and our operational costs increase and discretionary dollars for large-scale projects decrease. 2) Our mobility between the north and south parts of the city, including widening roads for our increasing population and railroad crossing issues especially at 96th Avenue and 104th Avenue; and, 3) the attraction of retail, restaurants and entertainment venues for our residents.

Our three largest opportunities are 1) As a city, we have positioned ourselves to operate primarily on sales and use tax instead of like other cities who rely on property taxes for their operations. 2) While other cities are landlocked, Commerce City still has a lot of land for future development; and, 3) Our location – being adjacent to six major highways, the airport, three railroad lines and soon a commuter light-rail line.

My family has always felt Commerce City is a "Quality Community for a Lifetime." That is why my parents still live in the home I grew up in, my husband and I stayed in Commerce City to raise our three children, and why all three continue to live in the city they grew up in. It's a growing community with a hometown feel. We feel safe here, have great recreational facilities around us and have easy access to highways and the airport.

My favorite place in Commerce City is the Commerce City Historical Society's Museum. Not just because we were able to save key memorabilia about the history of our city, but it embodies the spirit of those who started our community. We were just like the group of regular citizens that saw a need, came together and made things happen for the good of our community. It's with that same spirit that I want to join you in leading our great city!

Thank you for your consideration,


June Muniz Younger

JUNE MUNIZ YOUNGER

5409 E. 61st Way
Commerce City, CO 80022
303-330-2739
june.younger@gmail.com

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Eleven years of analyzing complex municipal government and school district issues; explaining them in clear and concise ways to the community. 27 years total in the communications field.
- Experience working with city, state and U.S. government officials and foreign dignitaries.
- Envoy for the city of Westminster, CO, to the city of Westminster, England. Youth in Government chaperone for the city of Commerce City to the National League of Cities Convention in Washington D.C. accompanying City Council in lobbying with U.S. Senators and House of Representatives.
- Helped develop a Historic Preservation Plan for the city of Commerce City.
- Developed and implemented business and communication policies and procedures for a 501(c)(3) non-profit.
- Garnered five Colorado Press Association Awards in the best news, business, and page design categories.
- Planned, organized and promoted special events such as fundraisers, banquets, award ceremonies for 400+ people.
- Designed and implemented an educational program for adults and children that increased Westminster Historical Society History Center's visitor numbers to surpass the total for the entire year of 2015 in only 6 months in 2016; increasing attendance by 119% by year end.
- Increased Westminster History Center Facebook reach from 83 likes to 458 in one year, a 452% increase.
- Increased Commerce City Historical Society membership from a dozen to over 100 in one year utilizing social media and outreach strategies.
- Helped establish and maintain Commerce City's first history museum. Saved and preserved community artifacts.

SKILLS

- Utilizes social media such as Facebook, Twitter, QR Codes, Instagram and WordPress website management.
- Grant writing; and, recruited and managed volunteer base. Train and supervise interns and new employees. Also worked/supervised middle school/high school students.
- Develop press releases, marketing & outreach programs. Spokesperson at community organizations and committees.
- Manage editorial content in publications and cable television/radio programs. Research, interview and write news, business, feature, technical, and regular columns about city government, libraries, police & fire departments, recreation and senior center, school district, high school sports, oil and gas industry.
- Page design/layout and design and build advertisements. Produce special sections and stand-alone publications along with various other newsletters, city guides, brochures, signs, posters, flyers, directories, yearbooks, coloring books and invitations.
- Photographer – both 35mm and digital – and videographer. Develop film and photographs. Operating studio cameras, VTR and graphic machines. Voice-over work, editing, cross-channel promotion, script writing, directing, set design, producing/hosting cable/radio programs.
- Research, collect and set up historical displays for educational purposes.
- Plan, organize and cater fundraisers, banquets and community events.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Coordinator, Commerce City Chamber of Commerce

Freelance, Commerce City, CO

Coordinator, Westminster Historical Society History Center, Westminster, CO

Community Editor, MetroNorth Newspapers, Thornton, CO

News Editor, MetroWest Publishing Inc./Landmark Community Newspapers, Brighton, CO

Managing Editor, Hart Publications/Phillips Publishing, Denver, CO

Typographer, Colorado Word Works, Westminster, CO

Programming Intern/Community Producer, American CableVision, Thornton, CO

Radio Producer Intern, MetroMedium, Denver, CO

Typesetter, Sentinel Publishing Company, Denver, CO

District Publication Assistant, Adams County School District 14, Commerce City, CO

March 2019 to Present

March 2002 to Present

July 2015 to December 2016

August 2009 to November 2011

August 1994 to March 2002

July 1990 to December 1993

May 1988 to July 1990

August 1986 to May 1987

August 1986 to December 1986

July 1984 to August 1985

January 1983 to May 1984

COMMUNITY SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Thrive Kitchen, Thrive Church

Sponsor of ACHS History Club/*Eagle Eye* student newspaper, Adams City High School

Communications Director, Historian/Membership Director, Commerce City Historical Society

Communications/Marketing Director, Banquet Coordinator, The Worship Center @ Brighton

Fundraising, Special Events, Communication Coordinator, Various Adams 14 Schools

Member, Commerce City Business & Professional Association

Member, Commerce City Police Department's Vision and Value Committee

Member, Commerce City Code Enforcement Committee

June 2012 to Present

September 2013 to Dec. 2014

February 2010 to November 2014

October 2002 to January 2005

August 1991 to May 2017

August 1994 to March 2002

1999

1982-83

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts Degree – Communications Multi-Major, Broadcasting, Journalism, Marketing

Metropolitan State College, Denver, CO