

**BOARD / COMMITTEE / COMMISSION APPLICATION**

Fri 1/13/2017 12:14 PM

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**Name:**

Joe Blinsky

**Gender:**

Male

**Select the Board, Commission, or Committee you are applying for:**

Parks and Recreation Committee

**I am currently a member of the above committee, and am seeking reappointment:**

No

**Which committee position are you applying for?**

Resident

**Home Address:**

[REDACTED]

**Preferred Phone Number:**

[REDACTED]

**Place of Employment:**

Sector San Francisco; U.S. Coast Guard

**Business Address:**

[REDACTED]

**Business Phone Number:**

[REDACTED]

**Occupation:**

Military Officer; currently the Commanding Officer of an 87-foot patrol boat (WPB) homeported out of Yerba Buena Island.

**Email Address:**

[REDACTED]

**Length of Residency in City:**

+6 months (*since June 16, 2016*)

**Length of Working in City:**

0 years (*reside in Emeryville; work in San Francisco (Yerba Buena Island)*)

**High School:**

Marion Military Institute (*Marion, AL*)

**College:**

U.S. Coast Guard Academy (*New London, CT*)

**Trade or Business School:**

N/A

**Other interests:**

Volunteering; Marathons

**Are you currently serving on other Boards, Commissions, or Committees?** No

**Have you served on a Board, Commission, or Committee before?**

No

**City of Emeryville (past/current) advisory boards:**

N/A

**Board, Commission, and/or Committee Memberships (past/current) outside of Emeryville:**

N/A

**Please list organization memberships and positions held:**

U.S. Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association, Academy Admissions Partner  
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), member  
United States Naval Institute (USNI), member  
United Nations Association of the USA, member

**Relevant Work / Volunteer Experience:**

N/A to position applying for.

**Why are you interested in serving on this Board, Commission, Committee?**

First and foremost, I am interested in being involved in the local community because I want to contribute to strengthening civil-military relations as an active duty military officer. I am specifically interested in serving on the Parks and Recreation Committee because after having extensively utilized Eastshore State Park, Marina Park, and the Bay Bridge Trail (jogging), I believe there are serious safety concerns surrounding the highly-trafficked bicycle and pedestrian paths that need to be addressed. I felt obligated to apply for this Committee because I almost witnessed an elderly man get hit by a vehicle during an evening jog near Point Emery several months ago due to the absence of/poor lighting (Point Emery Lane also needs to be widened to two lanes for vehicles vice one as vehicles often get blockaded in). Several portions of the Bay Trail (i.e. Shellmound Street) also need to be relocated to negate potential vehicular-pedestrian/bicycle accidents.

Additionally, I want to contribute to enhancing Emeryville's recreational options and establishing new community events. Specifically, I believe there is prime real estate in downtown Emeryville (between Shellmound Street and Horton Street) the city should purchase for either preservation or new park creation. Procurement of additional property can champion new recreational opportunities (i.e. outdoor basketball or volleyball courts near Amtrak station). I also believe the opportunity exists for the establishment of an Emeryville amphitheater, which will have the potential to become a premier amphitheater on the West Coast should PIXAR choose to fund the effort. Regarding new community events, I am interested in reaching out to PIXAR representatives to explore their interest collaborating with the military in establishing an annual marathon that starts and ends in Emeryville. This effort will benefit all parties as it will bring business to the city, benefit the military, and give PIXAR a new advertising and exposure opportunity.

Moreover, I've had the opportunity to and will continue to observe these parks from a unique perspective (patrolling the San Francisco Bay), which I believe will be of value to the committee for maritime-related concerns. I also lead a unit of eleven personnel that can support applicable community service efforts (i.e. park cleanups), as appropriate. Pending operational commitments, I would also be willing to volunteer to contribute to/field questions outside of the Parks and Recreation committee to help the city via other means should they desire a military perspective.

I will be a resident of Emeryville until late 2018 and would be humbled to contribute to the city of Emeryville by serving on the Parks and Recreations committee.