



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

Office of the Mayor

300 Sixth Street

605-394-4110

Fax: 605-394-6793

E-mail: mayor@rcgov.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Public Works Committee
FROM: Mayor Sam Kooiker 
DATE: February 25, 2014
SUBJECT: Appointments to Standing Committee on Sustainability

PURPOSE:

Please confirm the appointment of Nisa Schwiesow-Kerr as Alternate #2 to fill the unexpired term of Denise Livingston who has submitted her resignation for the Committee. Please also confirm Barbara A. Preszler as a voting member and Ken Steinken will be moved up from Alternate #2 to Alternate #1. See attached Citizen Interest Application.

Name	Position	Expiration	Voting
Nisa Schwiesow-Kerr	Citizen	8/1/2015	Alternate #2
Barbara A. Preszler	Citizen	8/1/2014	voting
Ken Steinken	Citizen	8/1/2016	Alternate #1

CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Following is the current committee membership.

Name	Position	Expiration	Voting
Jennifer Benning	Citizen	8/1/2014	voting
Barbara A. Preszler	Citizen	8/1/2014	Alternate #1
Jay Pond	Citizen	8/1/2014	voting
Eirik Heikes	Citizen	8/1/2015	voting
Denise Livingston	Citizen	8/1/2015	voting
Shon Anderson	Citizen	8/1/2015	Voting
S. Allen Freeland	Citizen	8/1/2016	voting
Eldene Henderson	Citizen	8/1/2016	voting
Ken Steinken	Citizen	8/1/2016	Alternate #2



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Citizen Interest Application was submitted from the City of Rapid City website. Here are the responses given.

Name: Nisa Schwiesow-Kerrr

Street address: 15871 Hammerquist Rd.

City, State, Zip: Caputa

City resident: No

Ward (see link at the top of this page if you are not sure what ward you are in):
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Daytime Phone: 605-545-7005

Evening Phone: 605-545-7005

Email Address: nisajoy@hotmail.com

Please list the specific committee(s) for which you are applying: Sustainability Committee

Work and/or business experience related to the committee(s): I am an organic farmer in Caputa, South Dakota. My husband and I have lived here for 2 years. With our newborn son, we own JOY Farm and operate a small CSA, or Community Supported Agriculture project. This is a joint venture for customer and farmer. The customer pays a subscription at the beginning of the season and receives baskets of fresh produce for as long as the season will sustain it. Our farm is grounded in the ideas of permaculture based farm, and we take a holistic, non-chemical approach to growing. We keep goats and chickens; using them for fertilizer, food and fun. I currently have a farm butchered rooster boiling on the stove. For our customers and ourselves, we grow a wide array of vegetables, starting with lettuce and salad greens in late winter, through to squash in the fall, with carrots, tomatoes, and others, and then returning to spinach and kale as the weather cools. Our farm seeks to thought fully and sustainably feed ourselves and our customers, and our 'busy-ness' is growing every year. At the beginning of this year I received a grant from the NRCS for a season-extending greenhouse and so we are currently assembling a seventy foot greenhouse, implementing aquaponics for less water use and heating the greenhouse with chicken manure.

Education, license, certification, & experience: I am a born and raised Rapid City native, born on 11th street and graduating from central high school in 2001. Although I live out of town, Rapid City remains very close to my heart, and I to it. I have a strong to desire to see my home town move towards a greener future. I have a degree in political science with minors in the Environment and Natural Resources, and Sociology, from the University of Wyoming (2007), and I have Permaculture certification from the Santa Fe, New Mexico, School of Permaculture (2010). I have also attended natural building work shops in Durango, Colorado. In 2010 and 2011 I lived and worked on a Sustainability Grant Project in Pine Ridge, supplying families in need with fresh produce and information on how to grow food. Since graduating from university, learning and teaching

sustainability has been my goal, and JOY Farm, as an educational farm, is the manifestation of my efforts.

Community involvement, activities, service organizations: My community involvement started in Pine Ridge, and I strive to bring local organic low cost food to families in need. When I moved back to Rapid City I managed the Breadroot Food Coop for 2 years until farm duties became my focus. As well as the food co-operative, I am involved with Dakota Rural Action, Black Hills Food Freedom, Dakota Local Food Network, the Farmers Market and Rapid City Hens, seeking to bring backyard chickens to Rapid City.

Additional information/qualifications relevant for the committee or committees to which you are applying: I take sustainability very seriously, and Local food is my passion. I am 30 years old and energetic and knowledgeable. Thanks for reading :)