



CITY OF  
PEORIA

Profile

Name: Roberta Parks

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Year/Date of birth: 02/20/51

Preferred method of contact: mail, email, or fax.

Preference on which commission you would like to serve: Peoria Public Library Board of Trustees

Community volunteer experience:  
see attached

Have you previously served on a City commission? If yes, state commission and date of service: NO

Professional and employment background: see attached

Educational background: see attached

State briefly why you wish to be considered for a City volunteer commission and what you would hope to accomplish if appointed:

see attached

Would your service on a City commission be a conflict of interest for you? NO

Signature: Roberta Parks Date: 6/30/21

Please Note: If you are selected for appointment to a City commission, a copy of this form will be attached to the public Council communication requesting your appointment.

## Roberta M. Parks

**Profile** High energy professional with an impressive track record of achievements in coalition building, project and staff management, fundraising, grant writing, financial management, team building, volunteer and staff management, lobbying and public relations.

Accomplished communicator and problem solver with solid communication skills; relates comfortably to people at all levels.

Highly resourceful; exceptional ability to manage fast paced operations and balance multiple simultaneous assignments.

**Experience** **Vice President, UnityPoint Health Methodist|Proctor Foundation** 7/13 to 12/17  
Responsible for all aspects of \$27 million healthcare and education related foundation to include fund development, donor relations and communication, major gifts, planned giving and special events. Serve on UnityPoint Health Methodist|Proctor Executive Management team.

**President, Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce** 6/88 to 6/13  
Responsible for all operations of 1100 member organization to include membership sales and retention, staff development, volunteer management, program development, government affairs and budgeting. Coordinated collaboration with other area chambers in the area of both programming and government affairs. Member of the senior management team for parent company, Heartland Partnership. Directly responsible for all government affairs, education, transportation and community development issues and programs.

**Executive Director, Tri-County Community Partnership** 1/92 to 12/95  
Built community coalition and consensus regarding key community issues for federally funded drug and alcohol abuse prevention program. Worked in collaboration with other organizations to develop strategies and programs to address the root causes of community problems. This was done concurrently with responsibilities at Chamber as the grant funding for this project was in jeopardy due to poor management.

**Intergovernmental Coordinator, City of Peoria** 9/84 to 6/88  
Managed special projects as assigned by the Mayor and City Council. Coordinated appointments to 50+ commissions, planned and implemented major outdoor public events for 20,000+ people, monitored CDBG grants made by city to local social service agencies and interacted with citizens to identify and resolve diverse problems.

**Associate Executive Director, YWCA of Peoria** 2/80 to 9/84  
Oversaw all branch operations. Directed programming to include child care center, health education facility, and after-school and summer programs for youth. Served as Acting Executive Director for six months. Began that term with short term debts exceeding \$500,000; reduced staff, tightened operations and implemented fundraising and debt reduction program leading to the elimination of debt and setting the stage for financial stability for agency.

**Education**      **B.S. Business Management and Administration**  
**Bradley University -- Summa Cum Laude**

12/79

**Volunteer**

**Work and Awards**

- Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission Hearing Board past member. Appointee of Illinois Supreme Court
- American Chamber of Commerce Executives, Past Board member
- Dirksen Congressional Center, Past board member and past Chairman
- Women's Fund of the Peoria Area Community Foundation, Founding board member and past President
- Crittenton Care and Counseling Center, Past Board member and past Board President
- YWCA of Peoria, Past board member
- Downtown Development Corporation, Board member and past Chairman
- Quest Charter School, Founding Board member
- 401 Water Condominium Association, Board member and Board Secretary
- League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria, Board member and Voter Services Committee Chairman
- Heart of Illinois Harvest Volunteer
- Peoria County Election Judge
- Bradley University, Center for Economic Education, Past advisory board member
- YWCA of Peoria Mother M. Frances Krasse Professions Leader Luncheon Award
- ATHENA Award from Peoria Area Chamber of Commerce
- Prescott E. Bloom Distinguished Service Award from the Peoria Jaycees
- Visiting Nurse Association Community Award for Excellence in Health Care
- Bradley University Centurion Award
- Women's Fund Legacy of Leadership Award

Roberta Parks Volunteer Interest Profile 6/30/2021

State briefly why you wish to be considered for a City volunteer commission and what you would hope to accomplish if appointed:

I am interested in serving on the Peoria Public Library Board of Trustees. I have been a library user my entire life. When I moved to Peoria in 1974, one of the first things I did was get a library card. I currently go to the library usually twice a week to check out books, do research, etc. I believe that users, particularly life long users, should be represented on the Board.

Libraries are basic city services in my opinion. They open the world to the residents regardless of their personal circumstances. I very much want to be part of making sure this resource continues to be available to the citizens of Peoria. Where else can you go in, make use of the services, take product home and then return it and never pay directly for those opportunities?

I am impressed with what the Board of Trustees and staff have done to maintain and even expand services during the pandemic and want to see that continue. I have a strong background of board service with various local, state, and national organizations and understand the role of a board member in policy, planning, resource development and oversight, public awareness and relations, and hiring/evaluating the key staff person to name just the core responsibilities. I staffed volunteer board for most of my career and clearly understand the staff role as well.

I would welcome the opportunity to add my skills and interests to the Library Board of Trustees.