



CITY OF
PEORIA

Profile

Name: Betty Jane (B.J.) Lawrence

Home Address: 4006 N. Brookridge Pl. Zip Code: 61614

Business Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Contact Phone Number: 309-657-5948

Email: BJLawrence@gmail.com

Year/Date of birth: 1944

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

Preference on which commission you would like to serve:

Please see attached resume for

Community volunteer experience:

community service and attached document with responses to

Have you previously served on a City commission? If yes, state commission and date of service: *questions.*

Professional and employment background:

Educational background:

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

Would your service on a City commission be a conflict of interest for you?

NO

Signature: Betty Jane Lawrence

6/18/2021

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.



**City of Peoria
Committee Volunteer Interest Sheet**

Committed volunteers play an important part in shaping Peoria's future. Committee members assist the City Council and Administration in developing policies and services which reflect the needs and values of the entire Peoria community. As a member of a City committee, you serve as a respected community advisor to the City Council and Administration.

While volunteer involvement requires time and effort, it also provides an opportunity for genuine public service. In addition, you gain knowledge about the role of City Government and its day-to-day operations.

If you are interested in joining over 400 Peoria citizens currently serving as volunteer committee members, please complete this volunteer interest sheet and profile and return it to the:

City of Peoria
Mayor's Office
419 Fulton Street, Suite 207
Peoria, IL. 61602

Any questions can be directed to the Assistant to the Mayor, Michelle King, at mking@peoriagov.org or 309-494-8558.

I am interested in serving on the following committees:

	Advisory Committee on Police-Community Relations		Peoria Civic Center Authority
	Board of Examining Engineers		Peoria Housing Authority
	Board of Local Improvements		Peoria Urban Forestry Advisory Board
	CDBG Public Service Advisory Commission		Peoria Public Library Board of Trustees
	Constitution Garden Advisory Committee		Planning and Zoning Commission
	Construction Commission		Police Pension Fund Board of Trustees
	Downtown Advisory Commission	X	Public Arts Advisory Commission #3
	East Village Growth Cell		Public Building Commission of Peoria
	Fair Employment Commission		Riverfront Program and Police Advisory
	Fair Housing Commission	X	Sister City Commission #1
	Fire and Police Commission		Solid Waste (Landfill) Committee
	Firemen's Pension Fund Board of Trustees		Springdale Cemetery Management Authority
	Greater Peoria Mass Transit District Board of Trustees		Tourism Reserve Fund
	Historic Preservation Commission		Transportation Commission
	Land Bank Board		Zoning Board of Appeals
	Liquor Commission		
	Mayor's Advisory Committee for Citizens with Disabilities		
	Metropolitan Airport Authority of Peoria Board of Dir.		
	Municipal Band Commission		
X	Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Dir. # 2		

BETTY JANE (B.J.) LAWRENCE

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Home Address

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Peoria, IL. 61614

Year/Date of Birth

April 14, 1944

Preferred method of contact: email

Preference on which commission you would like to serve:

My first choice for city commissions is the Sister City Commission. I worked with the Bradley University Study Abroad/Away International Option for 13 years. During that time, I taught in Vienna, Austria, 2007, 2008 and Dublin, Ireland, 2011. I assisted faculty in the Slane College of Communications and Fine Arts with all college sponsored study abroad expeditions. I coordinated the Slane College Global Scholars program that provided students with a rich international experience including a global cultural seminar each semester that I developed. I met with representatives from Clonmel, Ireland, during their visits to Bradley University. I coordinated student exchange collaborations between Han University, Netherlands, and the Bradley University Hollywood Semester in Los Angeles, CA.

I would also be very interested in serving on the Peoria Area Conventions & Visitors Bureau Board of Directors. As my resume notes, I served as the Manager of that Bureau from 1973-1975. I continue to be interested in the development and promotion of the City of Peoria to visitors.

My third choice for City Commissions is the Public Arts Advisory Committee. I have been involved with the Bradley University faculty and exhibit gallery director in their work with public art in Peoria. I believe art is a vital aspect of a city. Peoria has a strong artist community and art focused events as the Peoria Art Guild Fine Arts Fair, First Friday, the Sculpture Walk, the beginning of the sculpture garden in Donovan Park, and the many murals popping up across the city. These are but a few of the remarkable examples of the exploding role of the arts in Peoria. It's an exciting time to work with public art in Peoria.

Have you previously served on a City Commission? If yes, state the commission & date of service
I served on the Take Pride in Peoria Commission, 1973-1975 (appointed by Mayor Richard Carver)
I served on a city committee to study the feasibility of the Peoria Civic Center, 1973-1975.

Professional and employment background:

Please see my attached resume summarizing my 40 years at Bradley University and other positions:
Associate Dean of the Slane College of Communications & Fine Arts
Lecturer in the Department of Communication
Manager, Peoria Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

Educational background:

Master of Science, Eastern Illinois University, August 1967, Rhetoric and Public Address.

Bachelor of Science, Mississippi University for Women, May 1966, Speech and Political Science

Briefly state why you wish to be considered for a city volunteer commission and what you would hope to accomplish if appointed:

I have spent the last 50 years of my life as a community volunteer working extensively within the areas of the arts and service. It has been my compelling drive that you should always give back to your community. My late husband, Henry Lawrence, also practiced the role of a community volunteer and together we taught that necessity to our children. My position with Bradley University the last few years restricted the time needed to serve as an active volunteer. I recently retired from a long career with Bradley and am looking forward to the opportunity to give back to Peoria once again. It is time to work with others to enhance and promote the incredible opportunities in this beautiful city.

I look forward to bringing to a city commission my long history, skills and knowledge of Peoria that are needed to be a productive member of a chosen city commission.

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Education

Master of Science, Eastern Illinois University, August 1967, Rhetoric and Public Address.
Bachelor of Science, Mississippi University for Women, May 1966, Speech and Political Science.

Professional Experience

Bradley University: 1968-1972

Professor and Assistant Director Forensics

Convention & Visitors Manager, Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1972-1975

Bradley University: 1981-2020

Associate Dean Slane College of Communications & Fine Arts (SCCFA), 2007-2020

Lecturer, Department of Communication

Appointed Associated Dean of the Slane College of Communication & Fine Arts, Emerita

Associate Dean, Slane College of Communications & Fine Arts

- SCCFA Executive Board. Worked with Departments of Art & Design, Communication, Interactive Media, Music and Theatre Arts. Helped design new curriculum for the Slane College including Music & the Entertainment Industry major and Film Studies Minor.
- Created and ran the Bradley University Hollywood Semester program for students who wish to live, learn and intern for a semester in Los Angeles.
- SCCFA Supervisor, Marketing, Communications, and Social Media
- SCCFA Liaison to Bradley University International Study Abroad/Away
- SCCFA Liaison to Bradley University Enrollment Management, Recruitment and Retention
- Chair, SCCFA Global Scholars Program including development of a different Global Scholars seminar each semester for enrolled students
- SCCFA Representative to Bradley University Teaching Improvement and Student Success Center
- SCCFA Chair, Gender Equity Task Force
- SCCFA Liaison to Bradley University Smith Career Center
- Bradley University Academic Review Board
- Bradley University Curriculum & Regulations, Subcommittee on Curriculum, & College Curriculum Committee
- SCCFA Coordinator, CFA 100, "Intellectual and Cultural Events", a one-hour course designed to introduce students to cultural events. Course was offered each semester.

- Assisted SCCFA Dean with reports, all college-related academic matters, coordinating all activities within the college, served as a member of all college search committees, responsible for all academic student issues, assisted, when needed, with all matters pertaining to the operation of the college.
- Administration: Supervised SCCFA Student Records Administrator and SCCFA Staff

Bradley University Hollywood Semester (HS), 2011-2020

- Created, organized, and directed the Bradley University Hollywood Semester Program in Los Angeles, CA
- Created all Hollywood Semester academic curriculum
- Worked with Bradley University Registrar’s Office regarding grades
- Hired Los Angeles director and teaching faculty
- Developed a working budget and insured program was financially profitable each semester.
- Worked extensively with Bradley University Controller’s Office and Student Financial Assistance
- Recruited, enrolled and prepared all students participating in each semester’s program
- Arranged student housing in Los Angeles
- Created Hollywood Semester Boot Camp
- Responsible for all student related activities including communication with Vice President of Student Affairs, Bradley University Police, emergency policies, insurance, communication with University Provost, created and managed website and social media

Department of Communication

- Taught 4 sections of the University core required basic public speaking course each semester
- Director of the University Basic speech course, a Bradley University requirement for graduation
- Responsible for coordinating twenty to twenty-six sections of COM 103 each semester
- Developed and taught the Oral Communication course during the Bradley University Study Abroad programs in Vienna, Austria, 2007, 2008, and Dublin, Ireland 2011.
- Reorganized the Bradley University core curriculum public speaking course to a hybrid format incorporating public speaking, small group and interpersonal communication.
- Academic Advisor for Advertising and Public Relations students.

Manager, Peoria Area Convention and Visitors Bureau

- Coordinator all activities for the Chamber's Convention, Hotel/Motel, and Public Relations committees.
- Coordinator for Peoria Steamboat Days.
- Worked with IL Valley Striders to create the first Steamboat Days Race
- Coordinated the Julia Belle Swain, Belle of Louisville, and Delta Queen Steamboat Race
- Producer of a 30-minute weekly television show, *Inside Peoria*.
- Regular columnist for local newspapers and magazines
- Member, Take Pride in Peoria City Commission, appointed by Mayor Dick Carver
- Member, Peoria Area Civic Center Committee

Professional Positions and Awards

President Illinois Communication and Theatre Association, 2006-2007

Awards:

- Bradley University Student Senate Academic Advisor of the Year
- Slane College of Communications & Fine Arts Outstanding Teaching Award
- Bradley University Frances C. Mergan Award for Outstanding Community Service
- WP Stanford Award for Outstanding Academic Contribution to the field of speech, Illinois Communication and Theatre Association

Volunteer Activities

- Junior League of Peoria
 - Chairman: Pride of Peoria Cookbook Committee.
 - Editor: JULEP - monthly newsletter/magazine.
 - Parliamentarian
 - Julep's Closet Committee
- Susan G. Komen Race Memorial Chapter Executive Board
 - Co-chairman 1988 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure
 - Co-chairman Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Arrangements Committee
- Board Member St. Jude Midwest Affiliate Telethon
- President, Peoria Women's Symphony Guild
- Member Executive Board, Peoria Symphony Orchestra
- Appointed to Volunteer Council, American Symphony Orchestra League, National Board of Directors
 - Met quarterly in Washington, DC with representatives from 25 Symphony Orchestras
- WTVP Channel 47 (PBS) Television Auction
 - General Co-chairman
 - Co-chairman: Acquisitions
 - Co-chairman: Special Acquisitions
 - WTVP Channel 47 25th Anniversary Awards Committee
- Kellar and Lindbergh Schools PTO Board of Directors