

Stevens, Suzanne

From: Spain family <wjspain@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 7:17 PM
To: * City Manager Office
Cc: 'Woodfin, Rich'
Subject: Concord Heritage Commission - Letter of Interest

Good Evening Mr. Aspell,

I have recently communicated with Rich Woodfin regarding the current vacant positions that exists on the Concord Heritage Commission. After some research on my part I have found the mission that group adheres to very impressive and in line with my thoughts regarding the history of Concord, NH.

My family arrived in Concord in the year 1850. They left Ireland as part of the great migration to America as a result of the potato famine in their native country. They were farmers and had resided in Ireland for many generations. As difficult as the adventure must have been for them, I find comfort in the fact that they found a home in the city of Concord. With many years of work our family was fortunate to leave the next generation a little better than their own.

I have lived in Concord my entire life and intend to stay for the remainder. My parents found a good life here and raised three children in both the parochial and public schools. I graduated from Concord High School and attended college graduating with my BS in Business Administration as well as my MBA several years later. My wife and I have been married over 35 years and have 4 children and a young granddaughter. Now that our children have grown we find some additional time available and enjoy helping others in a volunteer capacity.

Some of my involvement in the local community has included 13 years on the St. John Regional School Board with my last several years fulfilling the role of Chairman. While our children were students at St. John School, Wendy and I volunteered on numerous committees, sports organizations and the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 88, where both I, and my son, received our Eagle awards. I am currently serving as the Co-Chair of the New Hampshire Hospital Cemetery Board and the Friends of the Old North Cemetery, working closely with Administrator Jill McDaniel to preserve and memorialize those that have gone before us.

I am a longstanding member of the Capital City Rotary Club and serve on the board as well as the Chair of the Membership and Public Relations Committee.

I have been very fortunate to have enjoyed a career spanning 35 years in Consumer Food Sales Management. I have worked in corporate America during my entire career and retired from General Mills, Inc as a Regional Broker Manager several years back. I have been employed by Gruma Corp. as a District Manager responsible for business in the Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont markets for the past several years.

Second to God and Family my passion is History. In particular, Concord History. I have conducted research in the area of local history for over 3 decades and built a database

that has proven very useful while functioning with my various historical projects. Some of my recent involvement included the discovery and documentation of previously unknown cemeteries and burials in the Concord area. This project allowed me to work closely with New Hampshire State Archeologist Dr. Richard Boisvert as well as Dr. Stephen Arcone from Dartmouth College. Some of the exciting opportunities that I was involved in included actual site excavations as well as the use of GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) with Dr. Arcone to assess and determine the validity of the research I conducted at several resources such as the NH Historical Society, NH State Library, Concord Library "Concord Room" and my online database. I might add that along the way I have amassed a collection of thousands of historic Concord photographs that I routinely share with other people that might be interested.

In summary, I feel that my interest and experience would be a good match for the Concord Heritage Commission. It is my desire to continue to give back to the community that has always provided for me and my family for generations.

Please allow this to serve as my letter of interest regarding my desire to serve on the Heritage Commission.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Regards,

Jim Spain
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