

PRESENTED April 22, 2014

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-

ADOPTED _____

A RESOLUTION: MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO THE TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

WHEREAS, participation by public-spirited citizens on town boards, commissions and committees is vital to the success of town government and the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, boards, commissions and committees serve an indispensable role in providing recommendations concerning town policy and programs; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to appoint effective individuals to serve at its will and pleasure on these advisory boards; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Technology and Communication Commission.

THEREFORE, RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Leesburg in Virginia hereby appoints Eric Byrd to a term ending December 31, 2016.

PASSED this 22nd day of April, 2014.

Kristen C. Umstattd, Mayor
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

From: Eric Byrd [eric.byrd@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 10:33 PM
To: Katie Hammler; John Binkley
Subject: Re: Virtual Introduction

My home address is 126 Fort Evans Rd SE, Apt B, Leesburg, VA 20175. I'm even in the new HubZone. I have no ongoing commitments for Tuesday evenings so I can make myself available on the first Tuesday evening of the month for the meeting.

Let me know if there is anything else you need from me.

Eric

From: Katie Hammler <KHammler@LEESBURGVA.GOV>
To: Eric Byrd <eric.byrd@yahoo.com>; John Binkley <JBinkley@LEESBURGVA.GOV>
Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2014 10:21 PM
Subject: RE: Virtual Introduction

Great to meet you virtually Eric. Thank you for your willingness to serve Leesburg as a commissioner on the Tech Commission.

One specific question - what is your home address? I need to confirm your residency within the town boundaries. Please also confirm that you are available the first Tuesdays of every month at 7:30 PM.

I look forward to meeting you.
With my warm regards,
Katie

Katie Sheldon Hammler
Council Member, Leesburg Town Council
C: 571-228-9515

Please note that all emails sent to and from the Town of Leesburg are subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

From: Eric Byrd [eric.byrd@yahoo.com<<mailto:eric.byrd@yahoo.com>>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 02, 2014 7:22 PM
To: John Binkley; Katie Hammler
Subject: Re: Virtual Introduction

Ms. Hammler,

It is very nice to meet you. Thank you for the kind introduction, John.

As John mentioned, I do have a rather unusual mix of experience to draw from. If you feel I could provide value or a unique perspective in advising the Town Council on technological matters I would be pleased to serve Leesburg in that role.

As for my relevant background, I worked for Fairfax Government's cable access television station for several years so I am familiar with the basic workings of the cable franchise process and access television. I have a long relationship with video production and, though it is not my primary business now, I still keep my skills honed by creating online video based training and marketing/promotional videos for my company. Video production is like going home.

While at Fairfax County I worked with most of the agencies and departments through the different shows we produced. I also helped televise more planning commission and board of supervisor meetings than I can recall. That experience allowed me to see many processes and aspects of local government that are not always obvious to the general public.

When I transitioned out of video production I began two decades working in the broadcast, audio-visual and IT systems integration world. From that time to the present, I have worked with customers of all sizes in both the private and public sectors. My primary focus is always to ensure the organizations I work with apply appropriate technology in the most cost effective way. This, of course, is always shaped by each client's organizational structure and budget constraints. I have learned a fair amount about government procurement processes at the local, state and federal levels as well. I have learned and forgotten many, many acronyms over the years.

My experience working for a streaming media software company not only helped me learn about the software business and immersed me in IT technology, but also enabled me to combine my fascination with networking technology with my love of video as a communications tool. That is still a combination that I advocate for and enjoy working to promote.

My experience with video and IT technology came together again in 2010 when I started my current company and became a certified Cisco engineer and instructor. Though my official certification expired last year, I continue to work with and train on video conferencing technologies (TelePresence in Cisco marketing lingo). My experience training for Cisco lead to working with Polycom to update one of their certification courses. More recently I have been developing and produce a training DVD and 5-day technical course for NATO, through SAIC, to support a worldwide video conferencing system deployment. I continue to teach locally as well and will be an instructor for the Northern Virginia Community College Workforce Development program teaching a course in video conferencing technology for local IT professionals beginning this summer.

I am an active member in the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce and am supporting the Mason Enterprise Center and the Loudoun Department of Economic Development with their small business week activities in May. For that event I will be teaching content from another aspect of my business. That involves teaching and coaching on the "other" business networking, the face-to-face kind. I also train and coach on sales process and presentation skills. I find that my business communications skills combine nicely with my knowledge of communications technology. Together they enable me to be a more effective resource for my clients. Especially for businesses struggling to understand how to leverage visual communications into their internal processes and external marketing efforts. In a way I bring the two sides of that equation together, the content and the technology.

I hope that serves as a useful summary of my background, and helps you determine if I could be helpful. I would be happy to meet with you to discuss my involvement in the Technology Commission if you feel that my experience would be useful to the Town of Leesburg and to the Town Council. I will be glad to answer any questions you have as you evaluate candidates for the position. You, or your staff, can reach me by email or on my mobile phone to schedule a time for a conversation. Thank you for your valuable time and consideration, I hope to have the opportunity to speak with you in person in the near future.

Sincerely,

Eric

Eric L. Byrd, Principal
MLP Technologies, LLC | Media Learning Partners
eric@mlptechnologies.com<mailto:eric@mlptechnologies.com>
(w) eric.byrd@yahoo.com<mailto:eric.byrd@yahoo.com> (h)
571.207.7079 (o) 703.963.1937 (m)

Interested in making connections that grow your business?
Learn more at [www.pitchforsuccess.com](http://pitchforsuccess.com)<<http://pitchforsuccess.com/>>

From: John Binkley
<JBinkley@LEESBURGVA.GOV<mailto:JBinkley@LEESBURGVA.GOV>>

To: Katie Hammler
<KHammler@LEESBURGVA.GOV<mailto:KHammler@LEESBURGVA.GOV>>;
"eric.byrd@yahoo.com<mailto:eric.byrd@yahoo.com>"
<eric.byrd@yahoo.com<mailto:eric.byrd@yahoo.com>>

Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2014 4:11 PM
Subject: Virtual Introduction

Katie,

Included on this email is Eric Byrd, a person that I highly recommend for consideration as a nominee for the Tech Commission. Eric has a strong background in networking, Unified Communications, audio visual design, video production, and technical training. I believe that he is uniquely qualified for this role as his skill sets cover almost the full domain of the commission from the Internet to broadcasting. When you consider he is also a small business owner and a man of character, I believe that he would be a strong voice for Leesburg's future on the Tech Commission. I'm pleased to make this introduction so that you can have the opportunity to talk with Eric and get to know him as I have. Thanks!

Sincerely,
John Binkley