



Only **Minnehaha** residents can vote for this candidate for a Neighborhood Election.

2022 Board Candidate Application

Name: Sheila O'Dougherty
Neighborhood: Minnehaha
Currently Serving on the NENA Board: No

1. Tell us about yourself and your experience in the Minnehaha neighborhood and in Nokomis East?

My name is Sheila O'Dougherty. My main experience with Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) is contributing to a project to improve Bossen internet connectivity and better link apartment residents to public library services.

I'm 64 years old, grew up in South Minneapolis and attended Standish Elementary School, Folwell Junior High and Roosevelt High School. My university education is bachelor's degree in accounting (1981) and master's degree in health management (1988), both from the University of Minnesota/Twin Cities. I've worked in policy, finance/accounting or management in nonprofits, private companies, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), U.S. Senate Finance Committee, and international development. In 2020, I repatriated after 25+ years resident in Former Soviet Union and Africa working on health and public service reform. I plan to live in Nokomis East in the long-term and want to be active in my neighborhood.

2. Why are you interested in serving on the NENA Board of Directors? Describe your interests, skills, experience, hobbies, volunteer work or community involvement that will help your service on the Board?

A summary of my interests, skills, experience, hobbies, volunteer work or community involvement that will help my service on the Board (further detail in CV):

- My primary interests have always been sports and equity/poverty reduction. These interests led me into 10 year membership on the U.S. table tennis team; volunteer sports governance in the U.S. Olympic Committee; a career in nonprofit organization and private company accounting and management, U.S. government health policy and finance, and international development; and now a "5th career" in volunteer community development in my own community.
- My professional skills and experience:
- 1994-2020--Abt Associates Vice President/Chief of Party/Project Director: employed and resident in Former Soviet Union/Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan with consulting work in Ukraine, Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan), and Tanzania for 20+ years working with country governments on large health and public service reform programs including financing, management, governance, service delivery and population/community involvement. All these programs built my governance and management expertise in citizen engagement and establishment and development of non-government organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs). In addition,

WHO and World Bank consultant working in approximately 20 countries on public finance management, health financing and governance.

- 1989-1994—Research Analyst for U.S. Health Care Financing Administration (Medicare program) and the U.S. Senate Finance Committee (Clinton health care reforms) in Washington D.C.
- 1978-1985 (including working while undergraduate student in accounting)--accounting and management at Honeywell, Elliot Park Neighborhood Association in Minneapolis, and Colorado Optometric Center (vision services for underserved populations).
- Volunteer in Minneapolis organizations working in community development and individual support programs (after repatriation in 2020-Present)
- Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA): contribute to improving Bossen internet connectivity and better linking apartment residents to public library services (part of realizing objective of combining time and money donations).
- League of Women Voters Minneapolis: program coordinator for activity on community newspapers and neighborhood association voting articles and ads
- League of Women Voters Minneapolis and Minnesota: grant coordinator for youth engagement/student fellows at Roosevelt High School
- Holy Rosary Church/Centro Guadalupano: contribute to family program services, teach/mentor in English languages, and engage in dialogue to develop strategies to better link small businesses and communities in rebuilding after riots following George Floyd murder

3. What hopes, goals and concerns do you have for the 4/14/2022 12:27:16 PM neighborhood and Nokomis East?

Many of the same hopes, goals and concerns that I have for Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the U.S. in general including a life-long interest in equity/poverty reduction, growing concerns about the divides in America shaking the foundation of democracy and governance including pluralism, elections/voting, faith in governance, education, and media or lack of evidence-based information. Specifically for my neighborhood, my hopes, goals and concerns focus on increasing income equity; improving health and education (including access to internet and information) providing everyone relatively the same opportunities in life; realizing diversity and inclusion; maintaining a stable and safe neighborhood; addressing intergenerational issues, improving relationships and creating synergies between business and community development; and addressing the key issues of our time in a post-COVID world including democracy and climate change.

4. What hopes, goals and concerns do you have for NENA?

Hopes, goals and concerns for NENA include:

- Direct contribution to poverty reduction including increases in equity (income and education), intergenerational priorities, and climate change and other next generation issues and opportunities
- To enhance its role in promoting democracy including elections/voting, civil society, civic engagement, and community involvement including a strong and consistent voice to both population and government. Also, to be part of the solution in reducing the deepening and seemingly intractable divides in our neighborhood, city, state, and country including improving communication to enhance community linkages, trust and respect.
- To be a leader in the post-COVID world building an increased focus on neighborhoods/communities while also leveraging economic and social opportunities (how to focus on both globalization and localization/neighborhoods?).

- One concern is how to improve nonprofit governance and address nonprofit labor/staffing shortages--the world is changing and it'd be interesting to be on the cutting edge of neighborhood association/nonprofit organization evolution to adapt or change its business model for sustainability.

5. How will you reach out to the community during your Board term?

Specific support to reaching out to the community would depend on NENA plans and priorities but exemplary activities would include:

- Complete design and implement project to improve Bossen internet connectivity and better link apartment residents to public library services.
- Support poverty reduction activities—help ensure citizen access to all national, state and city programs, and give people information and opportunities to help neighbors in their time of need
- Strengthen the foundation of democracy by supporting and promoting elections/voting, increasing the availability of transparent and evidence-based information, and enhancing links and creating synergies with community newspapers, government offices/programs, and other neighborhood associations or organizations including League of Women Voters.
- Help define how neighborhood and community can positively adapt and evolve in post-COVID and divided America worlds, for example, enhance intergenerational connections by creating a link between remote learning especially for underserved kids and keeping seniors in their homes
- Better link small business and community development, for example, following the riots/looting after George Floyd's murder, worked to connect some Lake Street businesses and related commercial associations to community development organizations/non-profits to build linkages during the reconstruction process

6. What additional organizations, programs and events are you involved with?

Organizations, programs and events in addition to those listed in #2 above:

- Member, US Table Tennis Team (1979 – 1987); National College Champion 1976-1978.
- Member, US Table Tennis Hall of Fame
- Member, US Olympic Committee Board of Directors, Foundation Board of Trustees, Athletes Advisory Council, Ethics Committee, and Budget and Audit Committee (1984 – 1994).
- Treasurer, US Table Tennis Association (1986 – 1992).
- Member Roosevelt Hall of Fame inaugural class

7. If elected, I will be able to complete the full term of service of 2 years? Yes

8. If elected, I will support NENA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement of Purpose? Yes

9. I affirm that I meet the requirements of serving on the NENA Board of Directors and the information given in this Nomination Form is factual and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that should the nominee become an elected Board Member, any false statements, omissions or other misrepresentations could result in immediate dismissal. Yes