



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

2022 Board Candidate Application

Name: Olivia Boerschinger

Neighborhood: Morris Park

Currently Serving on the NENA Board: Yes

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

My partner moved into the Morris Park neighborhood in October of 2020 after purchasing our first home. After moving all around the Twin Cities for the past decade, it did not take long for Morris Park and Nokomis East to truly feel like home. We fell in love with the walkability of the neighborhoods, the great access to Minnehaha Creek Trail, Lake Nokomis (and plenty of other great public spaces) as well as the amazing small business community in the neighborhood. Despite still being fairly 'new' to the neighborhood we are so happy to call the neighborhood home and I am excited for the opportunity to become more involved in the neighborhood through serving on NENA's Board of Directors.

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?

As mentioned previously, I am interested in serving on NENA's Board of Directors as a way to become more involved in the neighborhood and to meet other passionate neighbors that love NENA's neighborhoods. Additionally, I have a particular interest in community and housing development.

Professionally, I work as a City Planner for the City of Brooklyn Center, working every day with community members, developers, and commissioners to help make decisions for development projects in the community. Prior to planning, I worked in a variety of non-profit roles with a focus on affordable housing policy and tenant advocacy with the Twin Cities refugee and immigrant communities. This work is still incredibly important to me, and a lens in which I conduct my daily work and interactions in the community. I have strengths and skills in volunteer coordination, grant writing, and intrapersonal communication with a variety of stakeholders.

3. What hopes, goals and concerns do you have for the Morris Park neighborhood and Nokomis East?

I hope my neighborhood and Nokomis East as a whole welcome new development in the community. I believe the community has many great assets in its residents and business community that already exist, while also having the potential for new development and growth for both housing and commercial space. I hope the residents of Nokomis East feel as though they can come to NENA to receive information (on events, news, developments, grant opportunities, ect.) and also to share their knowledge, skills, and time

as active volunteers in the community. Just as this community was welcoming and accessible to my family as a first time homeowner, I hope the neighborhoods continue to welcome new families while helping others that have established roots here grow and age in place.

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

It is my hope, and goal to ensure NENA is an organization that represents the many voices of the Nokomis East Community for many years to come, through changes and growth that occur throughout Minneapolis. My hope is that NENA's Board is representative of, engages with, and includes in all aspects of the organization, all members of the community. My goal is that the NENA Board and organization as a whole embrace their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement as more than just a statement, but as an active plan and lens for all the work they do. My hope is that NENA is able to smoothly navigate the funding changes that neighborhood organizations are undergoing, and are able to become self-sustaining in the future.

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

My goal is to be as active in the community as I can through organized events, visiting and connecting with local businesses, and simply checking in and communicating with my neighbors. I hope to work with NENA to diversify community outreach strategies during my time on the board, to continue to reach a broader audience that is reflective of the neighborhood. This will likely take a wide variety of strategies and approaches, especially when promoting specific programs and events.

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

I currently play in two softball leagues at Bossen Fields, and am actively engaged with the fundraising aspect of one league in particular, the Twin Cities Goodtime Softball League. TCGSL is committed to cultivating a culture of sportsmanship and supporting the LGBTQ+ community.

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