

Board OK's two Clintonians for volunteer committee service

By Katherine R. Dougan

Barbara Linn and Robert Logan joined the ranks of civic volunteers that help to keep the city running efficiently when the Board of Aldermen unanimously approved their nominations for service at the July 20 meeting.

Mayor Phil Fisher recommended Rob Logan for the Parks and Recreation Board.

"I want to assure that the Parks and Recreation [Advisory Committee], as well as all City boards, have a wide range of interest and opinions. This allows the expansion of ideas and opportunity," Fisher said.

Logan has been an active and involved resident of Clinton for thirty-seven years, serving as president of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, leading the Kids' Towne park construction projects twice, working to initiate computers in the classroom for CPSD, and serving on the BBQ on the Boulevard committee for Main Street Clinton. A retiree from Entergy, Logan was recently named the Main Street Volunteer of the Year.

"As for the Parks and Recreation [Advisory Committee], I am excited to be the Mayor's appointee," Logan stated. "I look forward to working with Adam and the rest of [the Advisory Committee] to continue and grow the great things Clinton's Parks and Recreation Department does for the citizens of Clinton."

"Rob represents a segment of the population that has interest in biking and other activities," Fisher added.

Responsibilities and duties of the Clinton Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee deem that the member be active in the community, anticipating community needs and issues, advocate for Parks and Recreation, and serve in an advisory capacity for parks and recreation in the city. Members must stay up-to-date on trends in parks and recreation, aid in increasing the public's understanding of parks and recreation, and assist, plan and support projects to fund renovation and

new projects within parks and recreation.

Ward 5 Alderwoman Beverly Oliver recommended Barbara Linn to serve on the City's Planning and Zoning Commission. Oliver nominated Linn for the position because "she seemed very interested and very engaged in our community," Oliver said, adding that she met Linn while she was campaigning for the Ward 5 position.

Linn has been a resident of Clinton since 1969, and her children and grandchildren attended Clinton schools. She has been a real estate broker for the past forty-seven years.

"I have a sincere interest in making sure Clinton keeps going forward in the right direction, as a safe, family-based community. There are some strong concerns about what I see happening, and {I} would like to help find a solution instead of just sitting on the sidelines complaining about it," Linn stated.

A newly elected alderwoman, Oliver said she became more engaged in the community after she got to know former Ward 5 Alderwoman Jan Cossitt. Oliver was invited to serve on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, and said she is pleased offer Linn the opportunity to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Duties and responsibilities of serving on the Clinton Planning and Zoning Commission include holding meetings with regard to the City's planning and zoning ordinances, which include applications for amendments to the Official Zoning Map, which includes applications for rezoning; reviewing all site plans for development of a single lot, which includes reviewing sketch plats; and reviewing all preliminary plats for proposed Planned Unit Developments, which includes plats for proposed conventional subdivisions.

The Planning and Zoning Commission holds regular meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

For those interested in volunteering in the city, there are lots of opportunities to serve. Residents are encouraged to contact their alderperson to volunteer and find out more.

Brief Board meeting, long executive session July 20

By Katherine R. Dougan

The Board of Aldermen's meeting lasted less than eighteen minutes on July 20, but a lengthy executive session held fifteen minutes into the meeting to discuss a legal issue and personnel issues had City officials on the job until 10:30 p.m., when the meeting ended.

A motion at the beginning of the meeting to remove three items from the agenda which were tabled at the July 6 Board meeting added to the brevity of the public meeting.

Alderwoman-at-Large Ricki Garrett made the motion to remove the items, which included:

- Discussion/action for the site plan for a mural at 815 Northside Drive. Paul Gore received an arts grant to paint the mural, however, his design of the proposed image, which is to be installed on the side of Indian Lanes, was tabled in the first July meeting when Board members asked Gore to provide a more complete image to present to the Board for approval;
- Discussion/action to determine if certain amendments should be made to the City of Clinton Zoning Ordinance as it relates to Interstate Corridor Signs and for related purposes;
- Discussion/action to Appoint/Reappoint Department Heads.

A fourth agenda item, a resolution for the Easthaven Homeowner's Association to donate a piece of land on Patio Place to the City for the intention of building a city park was also tabled at the July 6 meeting, however, it was not brought up to be considered at

the July 20 meeting.

"The Board of Aldermen had tabled four items in its first meeting [July 6] in order to get further information and data before voting. Since only a vote of the Board can bring an item off of the table, it was inappropriate for three of the four items to be back on the agenda for consideration," Alderwoman Garrett explained. "For that reason, the Board voted 6-1 [Ward 3 Alderman William O. Barnett was the dissenting vote] to remove them from the agenda. The Board is gathering the additional information it needs so that all four items can be taken up for consideration at a future meeting."

Regarding the Executive Session, Garrett explained: "The Executive Session was for a legal issue and for personnel issues. Both of these are exceptions to the Open Meetings Act, and the Board gained important information for future decision-making."

Other discussion at the meeting included a department head report from Adam Wade, Director of Parks and Recreation; the appointment of Barbara Linn to the City of Clinton Planning and Zoning Commission; the appointment of Robert Logan to the City of Clinton Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee; and unanimous approval of the Board for Mayor Phil Fisher to executive an agreement with Entergy Mississippi to convert street lighting to LED fixtures.

The Board will meet for a work session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 2, at the Municipal Courtroom, 305 Monroe Street. A Board meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, August 3, at the Municipal Courtroom. Both meetings are expected to be live-streamed via the City's website.