

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

DRAFT

TO: All Councilmembers

FROM: Chairman Phil Mendelson
Committee of the Whole

DATE: July 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Report on PR 24-227, “Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach Confirmation Resolution of 2021”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 24-227, the “Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach Confirmation Resolution of 2021,” was referred, reports favorably thereon and recommends approval by the Council.

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I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

On May 11, 2021, PR 24-227, the “Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach Confirmation Resolution of 2021,” was introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor. The purpose of PR 24-227 is to confirm the reappointment of Andrew Aurbach as an historian member of the Historic Preservation Review Board (the Board) for a term to expire July 21, 2023. Mr. Aurbach is a Ward 5 resident.

Mr. Aurbach is a communications consultant with over 25 years of experience in education programs, community engagement, media strategy, and video content production with a focus on planning, urbanism, cultural and environmental sustainability, and community building. His early career focused on documentary and public affairs television where he produced a number of award winning historical pieces on figures such as Vincent Van Gogh, Hap Arnold, Rocky and Bullwinkle, and Hector Berlioz. Mr. Aurbach holds a Master’s degree in City and Regional Planning from the Catholic University of America School of Architecture and Planning, and a Bachelor’s degree in Journalism and History from the University of Wisconsin. Mr. Aurbach is

the President of Media Production and Communications Consulting for Rivendell International, Inc. He is also a Principal at ASAA Multimedia, LLC, and is involved with Capital Sustainability, Inc.

Mr. Aurbach is a member of the Coalition for Smarter Growth, on the Steering Committee for Ward 3 Vision, former President of the Sidwell Friends School Alumni Association, and a former board member of the Cleveland Park Historical Society. He also is a member of the Connecticut Avenue Pedestrian Action Steering Committee and a previous member of the Office of Planning's Neighborhood Sustainability Indicator Pilot Project. In 2015, Mr. Aurbach helped launch Tenleytown Main Street, a National Trust for Historic Preservation initiative funded by the city and deeply intertwined with preservation.

The Historic Preservation Review Board was created by the "Historic Landmark and Historic District Protection Act of 1978" (District Act).¹ This law includes a section declaring the purposes behind the legislation, which include: to protect and enhance landmarks and districts "which represent distinctive elements of the city's cultural, social, economic, political, and architectural history," to in turn "[s]afeguard the city's historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage," in order to foster civic pride in the history of the city, to enhance and perpetuate tourism, to bolster the economy, and to generally promote the use of the District's landmarks and historic districts "for the education, pleasure, and welfare of the people" of the city.²

The Board is composed of nine members appointed by the Mayor after confirmation by the Council.³ The District Act requires that the Board shall be constituted and its members qualified in order to comply with the requirements for a State Review Board pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (federal Act) and federal regulations.⁴ The federal Act was enacted as a response to the destruction of older buildings and neighborhoods following World War II and to preserve the history and heritage of the nation.⁵ With the federal law, a national framework was established that linked national with local historic preservation efforts, creating historic preservation offices in the states and the District, expanding the National Register of Historic Places to include state and local properties, and making preservation grants available to the states.⁶

The federal regulations for State Review Boards require that all Board members have "demonstrated competence, interest, or knowledge in historic preservation."⁷ Additionally, a majority of the members must meet the "Secretary of the Interior's (Historic Preservation) Professional Qualification Standards."⁸ The Secretary's Standards specify professional qualifications for the disciplines of history, archeology, architectural history, architecture, and

¹ See Bill 2-367; D.C. Law 2-144 (codified at D.C. Official Code § 6-1101 *et seq.* (2014)).

² D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 6-1101(a) (2016).

³ *Id.* § 6-1103(a).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Preserving America's Historic Places*, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, <http://www.nps.gov/history/40th/> (last visited Mar. 28, 2016).

⁶ See TANYA EDWARDS BEAUCHAMP, FROM GERMANY TO AMERICA: HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOLUTIONS FOR ADOLF CLUSS BUILDINGS 1962-2005 2 (undated), *available at*: <http://goo.gl/VqxS3s>.

⁷ 36 C.F.R. § 61.4(f)(1) (2016).

⁸ *Id.*

historic architecture. The members of the Board subject to the Standards must include, at a minimum, one individual meeting the Standards for history, one meeting the Standards for prehistoric archeology or historic archeology, and one meeting the Standards for architectural history.⁹ The remaining members of the Board subject to the Standards may represent any of the described disciplines.¹⁰

Table 1: Membership of the Historic Preservation Review Board

Resolution #	Position	Appointee	Term Expiring:	Residency
PR 24-225*	Public Member	Carisa Stanley Beatty	July 21, 2024	Ward 5
PR 24-226*	Archaeologist Member	Dr. Alexandra Jones	July 21, 2024	Ward 1
PR 22-227	Historian Member	Andrew P. Aurbach	July 21, 2024	Ward 5
PR 24-228*	Architectural Historian Member	Gretchen K. Pfaehler	July 21, 2024	Ward 6
R-23-577	Architect Member	Matthew Bell	July 21, 2022	Ward 3
R 23-578	Historian Member	Sandra Jowers-Barber	July 21, 2023	Ward 4
R 23-579	Architect Member	Marnique Heath	July 21, 2023	Ward 6
R 23-200	Public Member	Linda Greene	July 21, 2022	Ward 8
R 23-109	Public Member	Outerbridge Horsey	July 21, 2022	Ward 2

* Other nominations pending.

Mr. Aurbach is nominated for reappointment as a historian member of the Board. As discussed in Table 2 below, the qualifications for a Board member specializing in history are a graduate degree in history or closely-related field; or a bachelor's degree in history or closely-related field, plus either two years of full-time experience in a professional activity with an academic institution, historic organization or agency, museum, or other professional institution or substantial contribution through research and publication to the body of scholarly knowledge in the field of history. While Mr. Aurbach meets the two-year professional activity and contribution requirement as demonstrated by his professional experience producing historic documentaries, the Committee recognizes and acknowledges that Mr. Aurbach lacks the degree requirements. However, given Mr. Aurbach's involvement in historic preservation in the District and his nine years of service on the Board, the Committee recommends moving forward with his reappointment as an historian member.

⁹ *Id.* (The regulations state that one person may meet the standards for more than one required discipline. *Id.*).

¹⁰ *Id.*

Table 2: Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Standards for Historic Preservation¹¹

Discipline	Professional Qualifications
History	Graduate degree in history or closely-related field; or Bachelor’s degree in history or closely-related field, plus one of the following: 1. At least two years of full-time experience in research, writing, teaching, interpretation, or other demonstrable professional activity with an academic institution, historic organization or agency, museum, or other professional institution; or 2. Substantial contribution through research and publication to the body of scholarly knowledge in the field of history.
Archeology	Graduate degree in archeology, anthropology, or closely-related field, plus: 1. At least one year of full-time professional experience or equivalent specialized training in archeological research, administration, or management; 2. At least four months of supervised field and analytic experience in general North American archeology, and 3. Demonstrated ability to carry research to completion. For prehistoric archeology , must also have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the prehistoric period. For historic archeology , must also have at least one year of full-time professional experience at a supervisory level in the study of archeological resources of the historic period.
Architectural History	Graduate degree in architectural history, art history, historic preservation, or closely-related field, with coursework in American architectural history, or Bachelor’s degree in architectural history, art history, historic preservation or closely-related field, plus one of the following: 1. At least two years of full-time experience in research, writing, or teaching in American architectural history or restoration architecture with an academic institution, historical organization or agency, museum, or other professional institution; or 2. Substantial contribution through research and publication to the body of scholarly knowledge in the field of American architectural history.
Architecture	Professional degree in architecture plus: 1. At least two years of full-time experience in architecture; or 2. A state license to practice architecture.
Historic Architecture	Professional degree in architecture, or state license to practice architecture, plus one of the following: 1. At least one year of graduate study in architectural preservation, American architectural history, preservation planning, or closely- related field; or 2. At least one year of full-time professional experience on historic preservation projects. Graduate study or experience must include detailed investigations of historic structures, preparation of historic structures research reports, and preparation of plans and specifications for preservation projects.

¹¹ *Archeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines [As Amended and Annotated]*, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, <http://goo.gl/qDMbmn> (last visited Mar. 28, 2016).

D.C. Law 21-144 specifies that all appointments to the Board: "...shall be made with a view toward having its membership represent to the greatest practicable extent the composition of the adult population of the District of Columbia with regard to race, sex, geographic distribution and other demographic characteristics."¹² Each member serves a term of three years, and terms are staggered so that one-third of the appointments expire each year.¹³ Dr. Jones' nomination by the Mayor for appointment is for a term to end July 21, 2023. Dr. Jones is a resident of Ward 1.

The duties of the Board include:

- Advising the Mayor on whether proposed demolitions, alterations, subdivisions, and new construction affecting historic properties in the District are compatible with the Historic Landmark and Historic District Protection Act of 1978 (D.C. Law 2-144; D.C. Official Code § 6-1101 *et seq.*);
- Designating and maintaining a current inventory of historic landmarks and historic districts;
- Performing the functions and duties of a State Review Board pursuant to D.C. Law 2-144 and the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*);
- Acting on referrals from the Foreign Missions Board of Zoning Adjustment relating to the demolition, alteration, or new construction of foreign missions, chanceries, and international organizations located in historic districts or that are historic landmarks, pursuant to the Foreign Missions Act (22 U.S.C. § 4306); and
- Other functions and duties relating to the "protection, preservation, enhancement and perpetuation of the historic, architectural, cultural and aesthetic heritage" of the District as assigned by the Mayor.¹⁴

Mr. Aurbach noted that his service on HPRB stoked a deepening interest in the District and its relationship to the environment. He stated that after completing a Master's degree and being reappointed to the Board that he used he learned to promote sustainability to underserved communities in the District and throughout the region. The Committee recommends Council approval of PR 24-227, the confirmation of Dr. Jones' nomination for appointment as an archaeologist member of the Historic Preservation Review Board.

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

May 11, 2021 PR 24-227, "Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach Confirmation Resolution of 2021" is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor.

¹² D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 6-1103(b) (2014).

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Id.* § 6-1103(c); D.C. MUN. REGS. tit. 10C, § 106 (2004).

- May 18, 2021 PR 24-227 is officially “read” at the Committee of the Whole; on this date the referral of the proposed resolution to the Committee of the Whole is official and the 90-day period for Council review begins. If the Council does not act by October 19, 2021, PR 24-227 is deemed disapproved.¹⁵
- May 21, 2021 Notice of Intent to Act on PR 24-227 is published in the *District of Columbia Register*.
- May 28, 2021 Notice of a Public Hearing on PR 24-227 is published in the *District of Columbia Register*.
- June 24, 2021 The Committee of the Whole holds a public hearing on PR 24-227.
- July 13, 2021 The Committee of the Whole marks-up PR 24-227.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Aurbach is the Mayor’s nominee for appointment to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission on PR 24-227.

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public hearing on PR 24-227 and other Board nominations on Thursday, October 8, 2020. The testimony summarized below is from that hearing pertaining to Mr. Aurbach. Copies of the written testimony are attached to this report.

Rebecca Miller, Executive Director, DC Historic Preservation League testified about the League’s mission with regard to historic preservation in the District, its interactions with the HPRB members, and the qualifications of the nominee.

Andrew Aurbach, Nominee, testified and answered questions regarding his background and experience as it pertains to the Board.

The Committee received no written comments regarding this nominee to the Board.

¹⁵ Should the Council extend the 2021 summer recess, this date would extend.

VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Nine positions exist on the Historic Preservation Review Board and all require Council confirmation. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 6-1103(a), the Board shall be constituted and its members qualified in order to meet the requirements for a State Review Board under regulations issued pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. These regulations require all Review Board members to have “demonstrated competence, interest, or knowledge in historic preservation,” and that a majority of Board members meet the Secretary of the Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards for Historic Preservation.¹⁶ That majority must specifically include at a minimum, one individual meeting the Secretary’s Standards for history, one meeting the Standards for archeology, and one meeting the Standards for architectural history.¹⁷ One member may meet the Standards for more than one of the required disciplines, and the other members required to meet the Standards may represent any of the described disciplines.¹⁸ Thus, five members of the Board must meet the Standards as described above, while the other four members are not so required. As an historian member, Mr. Aurbach is required to meet the Secretary’s standards for professional qualifications, which he does not entirely meet, but the Committee is willing to move forward given his years of service on the Board and supplementary experience in historic preservation (as discussed in this report).

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

PR 24-227 will have no fiscal impact on the District of Columbia budget or financial plan. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 1-611.08(c)(2)(h), Historic Preservation Review Board members are compensated for their services at a rate of \$25 per hour, with a cap of \$3,000 per board member per year.¹⁹ The compensation for members of the Board is included as part of the annual budget for the Office of Planning.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of PR 24-227.
<u>Section 2</u>	Confirms the appointment of Mr. Aurbach as a member of the Historic Preservation Review Board for a term to expire July 21, 2023.
<u>Section 3</u>	Requires that a copy of the resolution, upon adoption, be transmitted to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.
<u>Section 4</u>	Provides that PR 24-227 shall take effect immediately.

¹⁶ 36 C.F.R. 61.4(f)(1) (2016).

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ In the case when the Chairperson of the Board is a public member, that member receives an additional compensation of 20% above the annual \$3,000 cap. See D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 1-611.08.

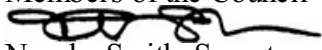
IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 24-227 as introduced
2. Nominee's response to Committee questions
3. Written testimony and letters in support of nominee
4. Legal sufficiency determination
6. Committee Print for PR 24-227

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20004

Memorandum

To : Members of the Council
From :  Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council
Date : Monday, May 17, 2021
Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach Confirmation Resolution of 2021", PR24-0227

INTRODUCED BY: Chairman Mendelson, at the request of Mayor

The Chairman is referring this legislation to Committee of the Whole. This resolution will be deemed disapproved on Friday, October 01, 2021 without Council action.

Attachment
cc: General Counsel
Budget Director
Legislative Services



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

May 11, 2021

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

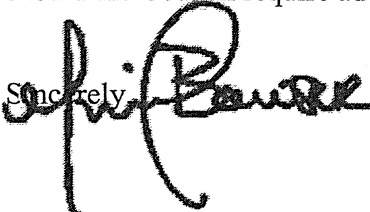
In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and pursuant to Mayor's Order 83-119, dated May 6, 1983, and section 4 of the Historic Landmark and Historic Protection Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-144; D.C. Official Code § 6-1103), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

Mr. Andrew Aurbach
Morrison Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015
(Ward 3)

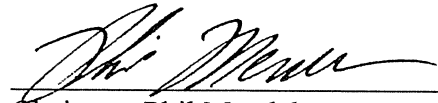
for reappointment as a historian member of the Historic Preservation Review Board, to serve a term to end July 21, 2024.

Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,


Muriel Bowser



Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the reappointment of Mr. Andrew Aurbach to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach Confirmation Resolution of 2021".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

Mr. Andrew Aurbach
Morrison Street, NW
Washington, DC 20015
(Ward 3)

as a historian member of the Historic Preservation Review Board, established by Mayor's Order 83-119, dated May 6, 1983, pursuant to section 4 of the Historic Landmark and Historic District Protection Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-144; D.C. Official Code § 6-1103), to serve a term to end July 21, 2024.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.



Andrew Phillip Aurbach

Over twenty years of years of entrepreneurial experience designing and executing educational programs, tactical community engagement and advocacy campaigns, innovative media strategy, award-winning video and multimedia production, meeting/conference planning and communications consulting for a diverse set of clients across the corporate, government and non-profit sectors.

Professional

Consulting and strategy for the development and implementation of content across video, print and multimedia platforms including broadcast and non-broadcast video, web applications, mobile applications, analytics, SEO, digital relationships and social media. Focus on planning, urbanism, cultural and environmental sustainability and community building at the local, state and regional level. Manage multiple projects and a flexible work staff across many locations based on project work.

Capital Sustainability, Inc. Community, environmental and energy sustainability, 2014-Present

Rivendell International, Inc., Media Production and Communications Consulting, President 1992-Present

ASAA Multimedia, LLC Digital Solutions and Application Development, Principal 1997-Present

Selected Clients:

Government: US Department of Defense, US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Emergency Management Administration, Transportation Security Administration, National Academy of Sciences, Prince William County, Virginia,

Non-Profit: AASHTO, Washington, DC and the Capital Region USA, Conservation International, World Wildlife Fund, Georgetown University, Institute of Medicine, American Psychological Association, International Association of Women Judges, Constitution Project, DC Cooperative Housing Coalition

Corporate: Sodexo, Distributed Energy Financial Group, Central Uniforms, Dress it Up Dressing, Leadership Connection, DCBiofuel, DinolnShaw, GreaterPlaces.com

Selected Awards: Telly, Aurora, Aegis, Communicator, Accolade, Das Goldene Stattdor (Travel and Tourism, Germany)

Guest Lecturer, Catholic University of America, City and Regional Planning

Topics: Digital Media, Community Engagement, Public Participation

Selected Educational and Advocacy Programming

- Day In the Life of the Utility Customer, award-winning program that brought customer care leaders from utilities nationwide for a series of working meetings that yielded content envisioning the customer experience in 2015 (see www.rivendell.tv/dilo). First produced in 2008, the 2020 update is currently underway.
- Prince William County, Virginia, ongoing video, online and print materials supporting the Building Development Division, Neighborhood Services Division and the County Communications Office; educating county residents and businesses to navigate the various regulatory processes including starting a business and obtaining occupancy permits.
- *Great Decisions*, Producer for half-hour international policy series for Georgetown University and the Foreign Policy Association, distributed nationally on Public Television. Broadcast program content coordinated with the publishers of briefing books that catalyzed discussion with local discussion groups nationwide (1994-2006).

Boards and Appointments

Coalition for Smarter Growth, (Current) Member, Champions/Advisory Council,
Ward 3 Vision, (Current) Steering Committee

Advising CSG on organizational sustainability, strategic marketing and communications and on issues related to advocacy of sustainable development. At the community level, promoting Smart Growth and Transit Oriented Development in the District of Columbia. Work with community stakeholders, local legislative bodies and the executive branch to articulate and implement policies and actions associated with housing and transportation choices, compact development in conjunction with sustainable and livable communities' initiatives. Successfully worked with community stakeholders on development projects to incorporate smart growth principles to the benefit of neighborhoods and the District.

District of Columbia Historic Preservation Review Board, (2006-2009, 2012-present) Mayoral appointee charged with designation and design review of historic assets in the Nation's Capital. Currently, as Chair of the Sustainability Task Force, responsible for rewriting historic building guidelines and incorporating sustainable features to be compatible with historic structures. Responsible for bringing representatives from OP, DDOE, DCRA, DOES, DGS, OSSE and HPO into the program and coordinating the funding from a variety of city capital and operational sources across these agencies. The Task Force will oversee the creation and deployment of communications programs and outreach strategies including social media, web resources and meeting materials to ensure stakeholder acceptance and community involvement.

Sidwell Friends School Alumni Association, President, 2008-2011. Oversaw programming for and fundraising of a membership of over 3,000. Successfully implemented first Strategic Plan which resulted in measured increases in alumni participation and fundraising, expanded volunteer base and utilization of resources for the benefit of the community; ex-Officio member of the Board of Trustees.
Current: Chair of the Nominating Committee

The Cleveland Park Historical Society 2000-2007
Board Member and Webmaster

University of Wisconsin Alumni Club of Washington, DC President, 1992-1997
Planned and executed events for over 4,000 local alumni. Created a local foundation fund and raised over \$30,000 for the local scholarship endowment

Community Organizations

Connecticut Avenue Pedestrian Action Steering Committee Member; work with community groups, legislative stakeholders and the DC Department of Transportation to advocate for and implement a progressive multi-modal solution for this heavily traveled corridor; Successfully raised monies and completed a pedestrian audit working with over 80 volunteers in phase one of the project.

District of Columbia Office of Planning, Neighborhood Sustainability Indicator Pilot Project, Task Force, Identified sustainability indicators and potential stakeholders to collaborate on this neighborhood focused project to enable the community mitigate negative environmental impacts and to promote and improve more responsible and environmentally sustainable practices (2009-2010).

Selected Broadcast Credits

- Network White House Producer, 1996 Campaign and Election
- Producer, *Legends of Airpower*, a multi-part series detailing the lives and times of those who shaped United States aviation history
- U.S. Production Coordinator, *The Clintons: A Marriage of Power*, a three-part miniseries produced for the BBC and Discovery Networks
- Producer, *Runways of Fire*, documentary on the quest for zero-length launch of Air Force F-100 aircraft during the Cold War. Distributed nationally for [Air & Space Smithsonian](#)

EDUCATION

The Catholic University of America, School of Architecture and Planning

Masters in City and Regional Planning

Tau Sigma Delta Honors Society

Thesis: Innovative Technology Platforms in the Public Engagement Process

Outstanding Student Award

Member, American Planning Association

The University of Wisconsin at Madison, Bachelor of Sciences

Awarded Distinction in both majors: Journalism and History (1990)

Earned Certificate in Integrated Liberal Studies



Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

Andrew Aurbach



Andrew Aurbach currently serves as a member of the Historic Preservation Review Board, and is the President of Media Production and Communications Consulting for Rivendell International, Inc.

Mr. Aurbach has built a successful media consulting business that includes designing and implementing multimedia and communications strategies for numerous clients spanning Fortune 500 companies, federal, state, local governments, major institutions of higher learning, trade associations, and community groups. He was previously a network White House producer and produced the first interactive DVD-ROM, Encyclopedia Electronica, a multimedia educational resource. Mr. Aurbach has developed an interactive presence for the Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council of the US Federal Highway Administration and also served as a team member for the update of the FEMA Risk Map initiative for the web.

A Ward 3 resident, Mr. Aurbach obtained a Bachelor of Science in Journalism and History from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from The Catholic University of America School of Architecture and Planning.



Andrew Aurbach
Response to Chairman Phill Mendelson Questionnaire
Historic Preservation Review Board
June 24, 2021

1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions no. 2-8 in lieu of that statement.

Please see attached BEGA form.

2. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.

American Planning Association

3. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member and include the term of service for each.

Historic Preservation Review Board 2007-2010; 2012-present

4. Please list any other boards (e.g., Board of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are currently a member.

Tenleytown Main Street

5. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal, or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim.

N/A

6. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the HPRB?

Consulting for Redbrick, a local developer involved with St Elizabeth's redevelopment; have recused and will continue to recuse from any cases related to Redbrick or St Elizabeths.

7. Please describe any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) that you have engaged in over the past five years, including all campaign contributions to a D.C. candidate or political committee.

Probably have contributed to the Mary Cheh, Councilmember Ward 3, campaigns.

14. Are you registered with any local, state, or federal government to lobby? If so, list the jurisdiction(s) in which you are registered.

N/A

15. Why have you agreed to serve another term and how do you plan to continue to help the Board fulfill its role and mission during your time on the Board?

I continue to appreciate the built environment in the District of Columbia and the role historic preservation has played over the past 40 years, particularly when DC was shrinking in population and many of our historic assets were threatened. In a time of population and economic growth, the role for historic preservation is different. How this manifests with proposals to adaptively re-use our historic structures and provide new infill buildings in our historic districts are an interesting proposition, and of particular note, how this challenge aligns with the Mayor's goals to achieve new housing milestones can provide demanding tests for the Board. Since we do not consider "use," it provides a unique challenge.

I will continue to support the HPO efforts to engage the community, inform the public of pending cases and review decisions in retrospect to learn and improve Board actions. I will also continue to support any outreach and education necessary to promote the values around celebrating the unique culture and history of the District of Columbia.

I will continue to listen and learn from community members, community groups and the Advisory Neighborhood Commission, who are given "great weight" under the law.

16. Given that you have previously served on the Board, what challenges do you believe the Board has experienced during your time on the Board, and how do you believe these challenges should be addressed moving forward?

Over the period of my service to the Board, I have watched a growing consistency in staff reports and how the professionals at HPO weigh proposals to the preservation law. As I said in my testimony, the challenges around preservation in a period of a shrinking population and declining city are very different than those of a growing city and corresponding pressure of land values and housing affordability. This is a tension the Board will have to address in the coming years.

Combine this with the "low hanging fruit" as SHPO David Maloney described, that which has been designated, and it begins to provide a basis for the threshold to designate new landmarks and historic districts. When we have cases that might inhibit the opportunity for more affordable housing or more density in general, there becomes a competing tension between policy goals and preservation law. This is a tension the Board will have to address within its limits, in the coming years.

FDS Filing Details for 2020

Name: Andrew Aurbach

Date of Appointment or Employment: 7/18/2018

Final Date of Service:

Position: Board Member

Agency:Historic Preservation Review Board

Position Held with the District Government During the Prior calendar year (If Not The Same As Above)

Position:

Final Date in Position:

Agency:

Non District Employment/Business

1) Did you have any non-District employment or engage in any outside business or other activity during the previous calendar year for which you received compensation of \$200 or more?

Position / Title	Name of Employer	Description of Work	Start Date	End Date	Income Received from Outside Business	Client Name	Website of business or employer
Owner	Rivendell International, Inc	Communications Consultant, website development, Video Production	09/09/1992		\$0 - \$1,000		www.rivendell.tv
Co-Owner	Capital Sustainability, Inc	Sustainability Consultant	05/02/2016		\$0 - \$1,000		www.capitalsustainability.com
Co-Owner	ASAA Multimedia	Website and Application Development	09/01/1997		\$0 - \$1,000		www.asaa.net

2) Was your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) employed by a private entity or did they engage in any business endeavors during the previous calendar year for which they received compensation of \$200 or more?

Position / Title	Name of Employer	Description of Work	Start Date	End Date	Client Name	Website of business or employer (if applicable)
Associate General Counsel	American Red Cross	Attorney	04/15/2016			

3) In the previous calendar year, did you serve in any unpaid position or in any other formal capacity (without compensation) of a non-government board or other outside entity where you had influence over the entity's finances or decision-making (e.g., as an officer, director, partner, consultant, contractor, volunteer, or member)?

Position / Title	Name of Entity	Start Date	End Date	Website of entity
Board Member	Tenleytown Main Street	09/15/2016		tenleytownmainstreet.org

4) During the previous calendar year, did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) serve in any unpaid

position or in any other formal capacity (without compensation) of a non-government board or other outside entity where they had influence over the entity's finances or decision-making (e.g., as an officer, director, partner, consultant, contractor, volunteer, or member)?

Position / Title	Name of Entity	Start Date	End Date	Website of entity
Board Member	Young Artists of America	06/16/2018		

5) During the previous calendar year, did you have any agreements with a former or current employer, other than with the District of Columbia, for future payments or benefits (such as separation pay, partnership buyouts, or pension or retirement pay) or for future employment or for a leave of absence?

No

6) During the previous calendar year, did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have any agreements with a former or current employer, other than with the District of Columbia, for future payments or benefits (such as separation pay, partnership buyouts, or pension or retirement pay) or for future employment or for a leave of absence?

No

Securities, Holdings and Investments

7) Did you have a beneficial interest in or hold any security at the close of the previous calendar year that exceeded, in the aggregate, \$1,000 or that produced income of \$200 or more?

List each security and/or beneficial interest you held below	Total Value of Beneficial Interests or Securities at the close of previous calendar year.
Waiver Granted	\$0 - \$1,000

8) Did your spouse, registered domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have a beneficial interest in or hold any security, at the close of the previous calendar year, that exceeded, in the aggregate, \$1,000 or that produced income of \$200 or more?

List each security and/or beneficial interest you held below	Total Value of Beneficial Interests or Securities at the close of previous calendar year.
Waiver Granted	\$0 - \$1,000

9) Did you owe any entity or person (other than a member of your immediate family) \$1,000 or more (excluding: mortgages on your personal residence, student loans, automobile loans, credit card accounts or other revolving credit, and other loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution) during the previous calendar year?

No

10) Did your spouse, domestic partner or dependent child(ren) owe any entity or person (other than a member of their immediate family) \$1,000 or more, (excluding: mortgages on your personal residence, student loans, automobile loans, credit card accounts or other revolving credit, and other loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution) during the previous calendar year?

No

11) Did you have an interest in any real property located in the District of Columbia during the previous calendar year, aside from your primary personal residence, where your interest had a fair market value \$1,000 or more, or where the property produced income of \$200 or more?

Location of Real Property	Purchase or Acquisition Date	Date Sold or Conveyed	Value of Ownership Interest in Real Estate
Howard Road, SE	07/13/2018		\$15,001 - \$50,000
Parcel 17, St Elizabeths	07/17/2017		\$15,001 - \$50,000

12) Did your spouse, domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) have an interest in any real property located in the District of Columbia during the previous calendar year aside from their primary personal residence, where their interest had a fair market value of more than \$1,000, or where the property produced income of \$200 or more?

No

Regulated Professions

13) Do you hold any professional or occupational licenses issued by the District of Columbia government (i.e., are you licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, or are you licensed by the District's Department of Health, the District's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the District's Department of Mental Health, the District's Department of Insurance Securities and Banking, the Metropolitan Police Department, the District's Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration, etc.)?

No

14) Does your spouse, domestic partner, or dependent child(ren) hold any professional or occupational licenses issued by the District of Columbia government (i.e., are they licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, or are they licensed by the District's Department of Health, the District's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the District's Department of Mental Health, the District's Department of Insurance Securities and Banking, the Metropolitan Police Department, or the District's Occupational and Professional Licensing Administration, etc.)?

Type of License Issued	Issuing Entity	Expiration date (if applicable)
Law	DC Bar	

Gifts

15) Did you receive any gift(s) from any person that has or is seeking to do business with the District, conducts operations or activities that are regulated by the District, or has an interest that may be favorably affected by the performance or nonperformance of your duties in the total amount or with a total value of \$100 or more during the previous calendar year?

No

Additional Comments

Supporting Documents

I certify that I have:

- Not caused title to property to be placed in the legal name, possession, or control of another person or entity for the purpose of avoiding the disclosure requirements on this form;
- Filed and paid my income and property taxes or am in current good standing with the IRS and state tax collector because of an extension, payment plan or other arrangement or agreement;
- Diligently safeguarded the assets of the taxpayers and the District;
- Complied with my duty to report known illegal activity, including attempted bribes, to the appropriate authorities;
- Not been offered or accepted any bribes;
- Not directly or indirectly received government funds through illegal or improper means;
- Not raised or received funds in violation of federal or District law; and
- Not received or been given anything of value, including a gift, favor, service, loan gratuity, discount, hospitality, political contribution, or promise of future employment, based on any understanding that my official actions or judgment or vote would be influenced.
- Completed a full ethics training within the last 365 days;

I understand that:

- Submission of this report means that I have completed the report with all applicable schedules and that the report is ready for filing with BEGA.
- Once this report is submitted, it cannot be edited. All modifications thereafter can only be done by filing an amendment.

Additional Comments



Testimony to the Committee on the Whole

PR24-0225 Historic Preservation Review Board Carisa Stanley Confirmation Resolution
PR24-0226 Historic Preservation Review Board Alexandra Jones Confirmation Resolution
PR24-0227 Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach Confirmation Resolution
PR24-0228 Historic Preservation Review Board Gretchen Pfahler Confirmation Resolution

Thursday, June 24, 2021

Rebecca Miller on Behalf of the DC Preservation League

Good afternoon, Chairman Mendelson and members of the Committee of the Whole. My name is Rebecca Miller, Executive Director of the DC Preservation League (DCPL). For 50 years, DCPL staff, dedicated volunteers, and membership have dedicated themselves to preserving and protecting our city's irreplaceable historic resources. I am pleased to be here today, and thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

DC's historic preservation law, which DCPL's predecessor Don't Tear It Down authored, is one of the most robust and most successful ordinances of its kind in the country. The HPRB members' mandate under the Historic Landmark and Historic District Protection Act of 1978 is to implement and maintain the Act on behalf of the Mayor through the designation of historic landmarks and districts and the review of development projects affecting protected properties.

Two sets of regulations govern the make-up of the HPRB: one at the federal level mandating specific professional qualifications be represented to allow participation in the National Register programs and qualify for federal grant money, and the other at the city level requiring representation of the composition of the adult population of the District of Columbia concerning race, sex, geographic distribution, and other demographic characteristics, to be met with members who only need have a "demonstrated interest in historic preservation."

DCPL had the opportunity to meet with the Mayor's newest appointee, Carisa Stanley, regarding her interest in serving as a member of the HPRB. Ms. Stanley is a Ward 5 resident who discussed her background and passion for our city's history and her desire to ensure that preservation is equitable across the District. She acknowledged her unfamiliarity with the preservation law but has received information from HPRB Chair Marnique Heath and HPO Staff and is confident in her ability to apply the regulations as charged. We have no objection to Ms. Stanley's appointment.

Dr. Jones (Ward 5) and Ms. Phaeler (Ward 6) represent two required professional positions (Architectural History and Archaeology). Mr. Aurbach's (Ward 3) appointment as a historian is redundant as this professional position, and Ward residency is otherwise represented. Only one of each required professional position is necessary to meet the National Register program requirements. Given that this will be Mr. Aurbach's fifth appointment to the HPRB, the Mayor and

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Scott P. DeMartino, Esq., *President* | Fay Armstrong, *Vice President* | Howard S. Berger, *Treasurer* | Melissa Cohen, AIA, LEED AP, *Secretary*
Amy Ballard | Philip Brault, LEED AP, BD+C | M. Jesse Carlson, Esq. | John DeFerrari | Greta Fuller | Hany Hassan, FAIA
Rob McLennan, AIA | D. Peter Sefton | Joseph E. Taylor, AIA | Benjamin L. Williams, Esq., LEED AP | Jason T. Young | Juliet Zucker

the Council should consider whether this seat might be better served to diversify the board further and allow other interested citizens to shape our city's character.

As DCPL noted at the 2020 HPRB Nomination hearing, no board members reside in Wards 1 (3500 contributing buildings) or Ward 7 (more than 500 contributing buildings.) Geographic diversity is vital for communities to feel that their views are considered when decisions are made about their properties or neighborhoods.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our comments, and I am happy to answer any questions you or the other committee members may have.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Historic Preservation Review Board



Public Roundtable on

PR24-0227, the “Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach Confirmation Resolution of 2021.”

**Testimony of
Andrew Aurbach**

Before the
Committee of the Whole
Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairman

Virtual Meeting Platform
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

June 24, 2021
1:00 PM

Good Afternoon, Chairman Mendelson, it is my honor to come before the Committee of the Whole today in support of my re-nomination as a historian member to the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). I am grateful to Mayor Bowser for entrusting me with this opportunity. Since 2007, I have had the privilege to serve the District in this capacity and have witnessed first hand some of the most exciting adaptive re-use and new developments in our time.

Professionally, I am a communications consultant with a twenty-five year record of providing clients in the public and private sector with a variety of services. My early career focused on documentary and public affairs television, and I helped produce a number of award-winning historical pieces on such figures as Vincent Van Gogh, Hap Arnold, Rocky and Bullwinkle, and Hector Berlioz. My practice has evolved with technology advances to include interactive platforms and social media. I have received many peer awards for my documentary and video work.

As you know, I was invited to join the Cleveland Park Historical Society (CPHS) board in 2000, where I served for two terms. As my CPHS Board term was winding down, then Mayor Adrian Fenty nominated me to the Historic Preservation Review Board. My service to both the CPHS and HPRB stoked a deepening interest in the District and the relationship between to the environment. This led me back to school - to Catholic University, where I earned a Masters Degree in City and Regional Planning with a focus on Sustainability. Soon after, I was re-appointed to the Board. I have used what I learned studying for my Masters Degree as part of a foundational approach to bringing sustainability to underserved communities in the District and throughout the region. It has been a meaningful and humbling experience to make the direct connections between my studies, my interests and my love of the District and its many communities, to help people in a significant manner.

Community engagement and volunteerism are central to my life, and I have dedicated my time and efforts to a number of different organizations and causes, from coaching youth sports to serving on a variety of Boards. In 2015, I worked with a small group of community members to found and launch Tenleytown Main Street, which is funded in part by the city. The Main Street program is deeply intertwined with preservation as it is an initiative of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The concept of historic preservation as both an urban planning tool and an act of sustainability is core to why I am such a supporter of the preservation movement. However, the challenges today are different than those 35 years ago. In a time of a city declining in population, preservation was a tool that helped stabilize the physical and cultural environment. With a growing population the role of preservation is different. How we respond, particularly in the areas of housing affordability and environmental sustainability will set a standard for the next generation not only in Washington, DC but throughout the country as DC serves as a national model.

During my tenure on the Board, we have witnessed significant progress in community engagement through digital platforms and through the institutionalization of the notification process both to the ANCs and the broader community which is in large part to the fantastic Historic Preservation Office staff, and one positive of the COVID-19 emergency was the utilization of online platforms, like the one we are using today, to host our monthly Board meetings, hopefully making it easier for the public to participate. I hope the District is examining how to continue to use these platforms once the emergency as passed.

While on the Board, an ad hoc task force came together to examine the Preservation Guidelines through the lens of sustainability. This effort took over ten years and involved stakeholders from DOEE, DCRA, and other agencies. The new guidelines were adopted in January, 2020 after significant effort from staff and fellow Board members.

In addition to the Sustainability Task Force, we are concerned about the role the preservation process place as the city tries to address the affordable housing crisis. Yet, I continue to embrace and look forward to the role of providing advice to the Mayor on new development proposals, adaptive re-use proposals, and renovation of the historic structures in the District.

It is an honor to receive this re-appointment and serve the city I love. I stand ready to answer any questions you might have.

1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 Committee of the Whole
3 July 13, 2021
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6
7

8 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION
9

10 24-227
11

12 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
13
14 _____
15

16
17 To confirm the Mayoral reappointment of Mr. Andrew Aurbach to the Historic Preservation
18 Review Board.
19

20 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
21 resolution may be cited as the “Historic Preservation Review Board Andrew Aurbach
22 Confirmation Resolution of 2021.”

23 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

24 Mr. Andrew Aurbach
25 Morrison Street, NW
26 Washington, DC 20015
27 (Ward 3)
28

29 as an historian member of the Historic Preservation Review Board, established by Mayor’s Order
30 83-119, dated May 6, 1983, pursuant to section 4 of the Historic Landmark and Historic District
31 Protection Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-144; D.C. Official Code § 6-1103),
32 to serve a term to end July 21, 2024.

33 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,
34 upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

35 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.