

**AGENDA  
LEBANON CITY COUNCIL  
JUNE 3, 2020**

**6. APPOINTMENTS:**

**APPOINTMENTS**

Board/Committee Appointments as presented by City Clerk Sandra Allard

- Arts & Culture Commission: Joe Clifford (Reappointment)

**Included in this Section:**

1. Memo from City Clerk Sandra Allard dated May 27, 2020.

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# OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 27, 2020

**TO:** The Honorable Mayor & City Council

**FROM:** Sandra L. Allard, City Clerk

**RE:** **Appointments Proposed for Council Discussion/Action:**

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If the Council wishes to proceed with action on the appointments below, a nomination should be made and voted on for each appointment. *Note: nominations do not need to be seconded.*

### Arts & Culture Commission

- **Joe Clifford**– Reappointment as an Arts Organization Representative member of the Arts & Culture Commission.  
Interviewed by: Councilor Heistad  
Three-year term (6/20-6/23)

**From:** [noreply@civicplus.com](mailto:noreply@civicplus.com)  
**To:** [cityclerk](#); [webmaster](#)  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Board Member Application  
**Date:** Sunday, January 20, 2019 5:02:32 PM

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## Board Member Application

Board Member Application  
*City of Lebanon board / committee member application.*

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### Basic Requirements

- *Lebanon/West Lebanon resident (except for those boards whose membership makeup includes non-resident)*
  - *Willingness to learn*
  - *Commitment to attend meetings*
  - *Treat people fairly*
  - *Consider the best interest of the community as a whole when making decisions*
  - *Must have attended one meeting of the board that you wish to apply to within the last six months to observe the process and function of the board.*
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First Name	Joe
Last Name	Clifford
How long have you resided in Lebanon?	N/a
Current Address	111 Dodge Rd
City	Plainfield
State	NH
Zip Code	03781
Is this your mailing address?	Yes
Home Phone Number	8023567092
Work Number	6034480400
Email Address	jclifford@lebanonoperahouse.org

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Is this an application for re-appointment?

This application is not for re-appointment.

For which board, committee, or commission are you applying?

Other (please fill in blank)

Other Committee

Arts Commission

Why would you like to serve?

As a member of the Mayor's Arts and Culture Task Force, I am eager to continue our important work as a member of the Arts Commission. For nearly two years, I've been meeting with Trip Anderson (AVA Gallery) and Ben Van Vliet (Upper Valley Music Center) for a series of monthly lunch discussions about the ways in which our individual arts organizations can partner to make Lebanon a cultural destination in the Upper Valley. Each meeting has featured a guest including Mayor Prentiss and City Manager Shaun Mulholland as well as representatives from Scratch, Lebanon Area Chamber of Commerce, City Council, CCBA and Mascoma Bank. I embarked upon this strategic outreach throughout my first year as Executive Director of Lebanon Opera House to quickly learn about the opportunities and challenges the City faces in terms of the creative economy. Since LOH is the home stage for so many regional arts organizations--Opera North, City Center Ballet and North Country Community Theatre to name a few--it's imperative that LOH continues to have a voice at the table.

State a few of what you feel your qualifications are or why you wish to be appointed to this board / committee.

I was named Executive Director of Lebanon Opera House in March 2017. I am an arts administration leader with more than 20 years of non-profit and arts presenting experience. From 2000-2017, I rose through the ranks at Dartmouth College's Hopkins Center for the Arts. My most recent work as Audience Engagement Director included oversight of the Hop's strategic communication—marketing, public relations and design—as well as ongoing research about student engagement in the arts. Previously, I'd spent ten years leading the Hop's Outreach and Arts Education programs. Each year, I planned 200 multi-disciplinary residency events on campus and in the community through the visiting performing artist series. I'm a 2018 graduate of Vital Communities' Leadership Upper Valley program and an active board member (and immediate past president) of the Arts Presenters of Northern New England (APNNE) consortium. I recently completed a two-year fellowship program created by the Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP) and the Arts Leadership Program at the University of Southern California. In 2004, I was identified by APAP as an "emerging leader" in the presenting field. I'm also a founding member and past chair of the NH/VT Upper Valley Arts Alliance.

Certification

I hereby certify that I meet the basic requirements for applying to a Lebanon board / committee.

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## Councilor Interview Report Form

Councilor Name: Erling Heistad      Date of Interview: 5/14/2020

Applicant Name Joe Cliffors

Board(s) to Which Applied: Arts and Culture Commission

Regular Seat

Has Applicant Attended Meeting of Board to Which Applying?       Yes

(If yes, indicate date of meeting.) Date: Current member and attends meetings

Recommend Appointment:       Yes

Regular Seat

General Comments:

Joe Clifford is currently a member of the Arts and Culture commission. He brings to it a voice representing the performing arts. He is the director of the Lebanon Opera house and is in a position of seeing the many issues that need to be addressed to provide a space for artists to perform. Joe has emerged as a prominent voice statewide advocating for performance venues during this time of the Covid-19 crisis. He expressed to me the many concerns which need to be overcome to provide a safe and welcoming venue for Lebanon to offer to organizations wishing to present performances to future audiences. Joe is a realist and I feel his understanding of the issues will bring a thoughtful and considered opinion to the commission as they work to support arts and culture events in Lebanon. Joe will continue to bring valuable input to the commission and I feel it is important to have performing arts represented on this board.

I recommend his reappointment.

(PLEASE NOTE: THIS FORM WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA MATERIALS WHEN APPLICANT IS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL.)

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