

MAY 24 2022



City Clerk Department

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE
BEACHES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
APPLICATION

1. Name: Susan Ambrose

2. How long have you lived in San Clemente? 30 years

3. What is your occupation? Coastal Environ /Public Policy, Public & Govt. Affrs Sp

4. Please explain why you would like to serve on the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission.

I can bring great experience from living in San Clemente and visiting parks in San Clemente and volunteering and participating in countless school activities. I have made thousands of contacts with community members and business owners over the years while working Earth Day, beach cleanups, other community events, Coastal Trail walks, school functions, church, etc. where coastal issues have been brought up by them and I have responded. I have received many calls and been stopped in stores and on my walks by community members who have asked me to apply again, disappointed about the disbanding of the Coastal Advisory Committee. I see great potential in this merging collaboration of Beaches, Parks & Recreation and bringing expertise in ocean water quality and/or beach environmental stewardship. I believe a positive attitude, doing your homework and listening are the most important tools each can bring to the table. I am a team player and am confident I can add positivity, encouragement, productivity, and good work to the team. Hence, I offer my services for your consideration and throw my hat in the ring.

5. Please explain how your background and experience would contribute to the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission.

I have a Bachelor's Degree and 2 Masters' Degrees in Education and Administration. I began my career as a teacher (K-College) and moved along to District Administration, Management, and the Corporate world. I have used my training to advance my goals in Education, Administration, and the Corporate world. I have extensive training and experience in coalition building, problem solving, critical thinking skills, public outreach, marketing, fund raising, legislative analysis, lobbying, non-profit creation & management, Board Member Administration, Corporate Office Government Relations Management, PAC Oversight, Corporate Communications Committee, and collaborative committee work with local, county, regional, state, and federal agencies and organizations. I share these things because they have taught me much about working with others and communicating the facts and pertinent information to them in order to make the best informed decisions. I am a service oriented person. I know the value of respecting others at the table and listening to their ideas and comments. I practice it myself. I am a team player as well as a leader.

6. Please explain any expertise that you may have in the area of ocean water quality and/or beach environmental stewardship.

I have sat on the Coastal Advisory Committee at the behest and appointment of several San Clemente City Councils. I have actively participated in the CAC over the years, much of the years in leadership positions of Chair or Vice Chair, however my leadership attitude is every member has a voice that is counted. You can see by my response to Question 4 and 6, I have decades of experience in coastal issues, including water quality and beach environmental stewardship. I grew up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan where we could walk or bike to any of 7 different lakes in the weather permitting months. Pollution wasn't in our dictionary for the community respected our natural resources, there was no trash on the beaches or trails. Over the past 5 years, I have also participated in coastal issue classes, workshops, and seminars at the invitation of the the California Coastal Commission, Ocean Protection Council, County of Orange, Orange County Transportation Authority, Coastkeepers, Heal the Bay, Coastal Quest, Surfrider, Zero Trash, and CA Environmental Heroes, CR&R Environmental Services, UCI Newkirk Center for Science & Society,

7. What is your educational background?

High School/Colleges Attended	Major Field of Study	Degree?
West Iron County Highschool	College Prep	Yes
Michigan State University, 4 yr. Scholar	Education/Fine Arts	Yes
CA State University	Education/Admin.	2 Master's

8. Please explain any experience that you have in community, governmental, charitable or educational affairs.

I have always been a service minded person, when I make a commitment, I honor it. I have volunteered in campaigns, for non-profit issues, schools, community minded efforts, business efforts, clean ocean and clean beach events, cleanups, meetings, government meetings that promote good will, inform and educate the public and encourage the community. I've had many leadership roles in my volunteer work.

I am the co-founder of the San Onofre Foundation, a non-profit that works on site cooperatively with CA State Parks to protect and preserve San Onofre and San Clemente State each and Parks by promoting environmental awareness through educational and interpretive programs that will enhance visitor experiences in State Parks and Beaches as well as provide activities that showcase the beautiful coastal environment and beach and park use.

9. The Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission meets on the second Tuesday in February, April, June, August, October and December at 6:00 p m. Please explain any challenges, if any, you may have in meeting this commitment.

None

10. Please describe your views on the quality of City beaches and parks, including any steps you feel should be taken for improvement.

I think our Parks are managed very well. I applaud the City and the BP&R Dept. for their ongoing oversight and maintenance of safety and cleanliness as that draws community members and schools to participate in park activities and enjoy park amenities. Some of our Parks even draw outside competitive sports teams to play in playoffs having a great time and in turn bringing revenue to help fund park related projects. The wonderful varied Recreation programs are designed for young to old encourage community members to join in the healthy selection of fun and healthy options available in Parks and locations all over San Clemente. Great job Samantha and team!

I wonder if a survey box could be available at all exits using colorful student art cards and on the back asking positive questions about the event and what they liked best, etc. + one question that asks "What one thing would you suggest to make this event even better?" The BP&R Department would then have another hands -on evaluative tool to assess the event and report and respond to the City in real time. Is this feasible?

11. Please use the space below to explain any other factors about yourself that you would like for the Councilmembers to consider as they review your application.

I love San Clemente! I have been and am a strong advocate for the City of San Clemente and all of our service programs. Especially, preserving our natural resources. I am a positive person and active in recruiting others to join me. Go San Clemente!

Beaches, Parks & Recreation Application, Question 6
May 23, 2022

To: City Council
From: Susan Ambrose

It has been an honor and privilege to have served on the Coastal Advisory Committee since appointed in June of 2010 - September of 2021. As a citizen and in my career, I have long been a clean ocean and clean beaches environmental supporter so when the opportunity to serve the City of San Clemente as well as the community in order to advocate, protect and preserve clean oceans, beaches, and our coastline, it was and has been my call to service. During the past years, the Committee has reviewed and discussed and made recommendations on many issues suggested both by Committee Members or Staff including, but not limited to: the Army Corps of Engineers San Clemente Sand Replenishment Project; Opportunistic Sand Replenishment Project at North Beach; Regional Sand Replenishment Collaborative Opportunities; Ocean Water Quality Testing & Monitoring of Weekly Ocean Monitoring Bacteria Data; Poche Beach Urban Runoff Treatment System; Poche Falconry Program to reduce bacteria from other sea birds; Watershed Bacteria Source Identification Study; Pier Bowl Characterization Study and formation of the Pier Bowl Stakeholder Advisory Committee; Pier Netting Project; Review of the Coastal Element and Local Coastal Program; the Land Use Plan Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Study & Assessment; Creation of a San Clemente Beach Cleanup Manual, Review of 2018 Beaches, Parks, & Recreation Master Plan; Annual National, State, and City Coastal Cleanup Day; Annual National, State, and City Coastal Cleanup Month in 2020 to comply with COVID-19 pandemic constraints; Earth Day Public Education & Participation at Pier; Toll Road Trek; Environmental Sustainability Grants; Ocean Institute Watershed and Ocean Related School Outreach & Teacher Mentoring Programs; Solid Waste & Recycling, including Organic Waste; Award Winning Coastal Related Issues Presentations (including MY HERO Projects); Street Sweeping; Clean Ocean Fee Education & Awareness; Bottle Refill Station on Coastal Trail (T-Street); and Community Outreach Environmental Related Movie Nite.

I have made thousands of contacts with community members and business owners over the years while working Earth Day, beach cleanups, and many other community events, Coastal Trail walks, school functions, church, etc. Often conversations regarding coastal issues have been brought up by them and I have responded. I get calls and notes in my mail slot at my house in my community asking questions saying they trust me to give them the answer. I humbly tell you they thank me for the work I am doing, they say know they can count on me to be honest and diligent and if I don't have a complete answer, I will go to Staff or others to obtain that answer and will get back to them. Many of these people, including business owners, tell me they want to be part of preserving our beautiful beaches, ocean, and coastline. Just let

them know. I have received many many calls and been stopped in stores and on my walks by community members who have asked me to apply again, disappointed about the disbanding of the Coastal Advisory Committee. I have been encouraged last year and now to apply for a seat on the Beaches, Parks, and Recreation Commission by many people as well as City employees. Throughout the years in Coastal Advisory Committee, I monitored BP&R Agendas and spoke up when a coastal or beach event was being considered. I was invited to attend the meetings when the last BP&R 20 Year Plan was being reviewed and did so as a CAC Chair and a resident. I shared with CAC members and in turn shared their comments with BP&R Commission and City Council.

I have stayed informed on issues related to beaches, and to parks and recreation because my family has lived here for so long and very involved in various sports. Our Parks are just as important to many Park users as our Beaches are to the many beach users for the obvious differences. Parks are land users, Beaches are chiefly ocean and sandy beach lovers. I know I am well qualified to step in, I am a thinker and a team player and am confident I can add positivity, encouragement, productivity, and good work to the team. Hence, I offer my services for your consideration and throw my hat in the ring.

I have lived in the beach community for 43 years, the past 29 in the same beach neighborhood in San Clemente. My children were raised on the beach and were involved in a variety of responsible coastal environmental activities involving beach conservation and protection, respect for marine life and native plants, and reduce and recycle practices that they also shared with their classrooms and Scout troops. They participated in CA State Jr. Lifeguards as well, my daughter moving on to become the youngest CA State Lifeguard ever hired and won the Rookie of the Year Award. I remain a strong supporter of CA State Beaches and Parks as well and have been blessed to speak annually at their Annual State Lifeguard Dinner and Awards Ceremony. Both of my children went on to continue their commitment to clean oceans and clean beaches into their adulthood, organizing beach and neighborhood cleanups in cities and states they have lived in, and joining me in volunteering at the San Clemente Ocean Festival and other related functions. I also appreciate and support our City Guards.

I continue my advocacy for clean oceans and clean beaches in and with the City as well as my affiliations with the California Coastal Commission and the Ocean Protection Council which functions as an arm of the Governor's Office. I find it is always wise to stay informed with all levels of government regarding coastal issues that could affect our City Operations and community way of life.

Thank you for your consideration of my application,

Susan Ambrose