

Application for Membership
City Council Boards/Commissions/Committees
City of Ann Arbor, Michigan

Return To: Mayor's Office
City Hall -3rd Floor
100 North Fifth Ave, PO Box 8647
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647

Phone: 734 994-2766
Fax: 734 332-5966

Name Mr. Shannon Brines
Home Address 810 Sunrise Ct., Ann Arbor, MI ZIP 48103
Ann Arbor Resident: YES NO Number of Years Resident 15 Ward 5 (since Dec. 2002)
Phone (H) 734-926-5463 (W) 734-763-3573 (Fax) _____
Email Address SJBRINES@YAHOO.COM
Occupation Research Staff, Lecturer and Farmer
Employer Name & Address University of Michigan, 440 Church St., Ann Arbor, MI
ZIP 48109

Board/Commission/Committee on which you are interested in serving:

- 1) Greenbelt Advisory Commission 3) _____
2) _____ 4) _____

Reasons for Seeking Appointment (Areas of Interest, Goals, etc.):

I am interested in the work of the greenbelt advisory commission. I have interest in land use and local food production. I have expertise and experience in land use mapping, assessing land use prioritization using GIS, as well as farming.

Please submit a résumé including your job experience and education along with this application or a detailed letter of intent delineating relevant qualifications.

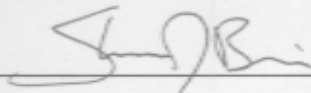
DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In order to avoid any potential conflict of interest, I, the undersigned, agree not to be involved in any recommendations or decision making regarding any agency(ies) or entity(ies) for which I serve in the following capacity(ies) which may contract or subcontract with the City of Ann Arbor.

Agency

Capacity in Which I Serve

Signature



Date

9/12/2011

BRINES FARM

12 September 2011

Mayor's Office, City Hall – 3rd Floor
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my interest in a possible appointment to the Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC). As a lifelong area resident I have had a strong interest in the mission and work of the GAC and have kept abreast of its work through televised meetings and meeting minutes as well as press coverage. I was raised in Dexter, Michigan and attended the University of Michigan. I began living permanently in Ann Arbor towards the conclusion of graduate school and at the start of a professional career with the University of Michigan. I have been a homeowner in Ward 5 since December 2002. I believe I bring a unique combination of expertise, experience, and perspective that would be of value to the GAC.

My professional career at the University of Michigan is a research staff and lecturer appointment as an applied geographer where I help faculty and students integrate spatial analysis into their work through the use of Geographic Information Systems. Due to my interests and the because of the researchers I work with I have assisted with a lot of work quantifying the environment, land use/land cover, and public health outcomes related to the built environment using mapping technologies. This experience means I am comfortable assessing and prioritizing the locations and suitability of parcels based upon various criteria that can be mapped.

In 2004 I established a small farming operation on family land in Webster Township. I will note that this is a small parcel in the Brines Family (located at 8218 Donovan Road, Dexter, MI) that is outside of the Greenbelt boundary (and is also I believe outside any of the recently proposed expanded Greenbelt boundaries). This small farm sells year-round produce at the local farmers markets and via a Community Supported Agriculture share model from November through April. We are probably best known in the area as one of the first farms to utilize passive solar hoopouses as a way to harvest and sell fresh greens and cold hardy produce at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market throughout the winter.

I am also active in the local food system through my work with non-profit organizations and service on committees. I serve on the Slow Food Huron Valley board, HomeGrown Festival steering committee, Local Food Summit steering committee, and I have served on the mayor-appointed Public Market Advisory Commission since 2007 as the “daily market vendor” representative.

BRINES FARM

Recently, I have taken on roles assisting a business incubator project aimed at creating new farm businesses which was established on Ann Arbor Township land this past year: serving on the Tilian Farm Development Center steering committee and Four Season Farmer Development Program advisory team.

I believe in the value of ensuring aesthetically-pleasing open spaces in our area as well as creating a stronger local food system that maintains farming as a viable profession and valued community component. Again, I believe my expertise and experience in our region means I could be an effective contributor to the mission and tasks of the Greenbelt Advisory Commission. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further discussion. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shannon J. Brines