

City Council Application

First Name	Matthew
Last Name	Katz
Phone Number	
Cell Phone Number	
Email Address	
Street Address	
Place of Employment	Corneerstone Design and Renovation, LLC
Position	Owner
Length of residence in Cleveland Heights	9 years
Are you a registered Cleveland Heights voter?	Yes
What do you think would be your role as a member of City Council? What are your priorities for our community and are there areas in which you believe the City needs improvement? How would your service on City Council help achieve those goals and improve the City?	<p>In general, as a city council member, I would work with the rest of council and the mayor collectively to shape the future of Cleveland Heights. Specifically, this would be done through legislation, reviewing and approving a budget, oversite of city departments and most importantly, community representation.</p> <p>My most recent work has me involved in home renovation and restoration. From my experience working exclusively in Cleveland Heights for the last few years, I feel that the housing department could use a bit of reform. I know that there have been some changes over the past few years, but I believe that these improvements should carry forth with more momentum. Also, I'm extremely glad to see that the city has started to address the problem of empty lots and derelict homes. I've worked with Future Heights to help facilitate some of this growth. I would love to be involved in helping the city to realize its full potential</p>

especially through our amazing housing stock. I truly believe that our fine city holds much potential and is due for renaissance!

What special qualities, abilities, skills, insights or perspectives do you possess which would be of value in serving on Cleveland Heights City Council? What working knowledge of City Council meetings do you currently have?

My work and career background lends itself to a diverse learning experience. I spent 18 years in retail, involving everything from visual merchandising to running multimillion dollar stores as a general manager. I then turned my attention to massage therapy. In this line of work, I learned to collaborate with individual clients on a myriad of health and emotional issues. I also extended my managerial background to hire, train and manage the staff of my location and several other locations around the Cleveland area. I then transitioned into teaching massage therapy at a local trade school (Heritage College). While there I worked my way into the role of the Head of the massage therapy department where I was responsible for rolling out the school curriculum and overseeing other teachers.

Through all of these different positions, I have learned to work and collaborate with people of all different backgrounds and dispositions. I have learned to be patient while still driving for positive results. I like to think that I have refined my personal skills to a place where I can work well with anyone. I definitely fall under the category of "works well with others".

What educational training (formal or informal), employment and other life experiences have helped you develop the qualities, abilities, etc., described above?

My formal education includes a BA in Zoology from Miami University along with a lot of art and architecture experience (that didn't necessarily go towards any academic degree). Through this experience I learned patience, to be meticulous with facts and observations and to have an attention to detail. As mentioned above I have also learned much from my work experience.

Please list your recent community, professional or charitable involvements. List the most recent first.

2018 - 2020 delivered meals through Benjamin Rose and Meals on Wheels at the Margaret Hayes Home.
2021 -2023 volunteered for the Future Heights annual benefit and miscellaneous operations
2024 - current I have been on the board of Future Heights, including being the co -chair I also lend financial support to several institutions including Future Heights, The Cleveland Restoration Society, The City Mission and The Greater Cleveland Food Bank.

Do you have other responsibilities which would prevent you from participating in City Council and Council Committee work during certain hours or on certain days? Please note, having a full time job will not disqualify any applicant, and Council works hard to accommodate all members schedules when scheduling meetings.

My work schedule is very flexible and should not conflict with city council duties.
I am pretty sure that my work with Future Heights could be a conflict of interest. If this is the case, I would be willing to leave my responsibilities there in order to pursue the larger responsibilities of city government.

State any additional information you would like to have considered.

Ever since moving to Cleveland Heights from Lakewood (yes, I defected from the west side) I have wanted to be more involved in my community. As stated before, I see a world of potential in our city and would love to help see this vision come to fruition. I am NOT applying to this position because of a need for money or power. We obviously see this way too often in our country's politics. Rather, I hope to move the pendulum back to a place where people get involved in their community and government truly to be public servants and NOT to serve their ego. Thank you for your time.

In gratitude,
Matthew Katz

Do you agree to electronically sign this form?

Yes

Signature

Matthew Katz