



KINGFIELD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

KFNA Board of Directors Election 2020

Voting Instructions: There are eight (8) candidates running for the KFNA Board of Directors in 2020. Review the candidate information below and vote for up to six (6) candidates. Voting ends March 18, 2020.

Board of Director Candidates:

- [Kristina Brenner-Adam](#)
- [Becky Dankowski](#)
- [Chris DesRoches](#)
- [Rita Holland](#)
- [Derek Holt](#)
- [Lesa Hudak](#)
- [Jerome Rankine](#)
- [David Searl](#)

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Kristina Brenner-Adam (4100 block of Pleasant)

Relationship to Kingfield Neighborhood: Renter

What is your favorite event or place in Kingfield? Why? My favorite place/event in Kingfield is the Kingfield Farmers Market. Having a place in the warmer months to go and get farm-fresh produce and other local goods while staying in the neighborhood is convenient and fun. The Farmers Market makes for a great Sunday morning bike ride and summer past time!

List 3 of your special skills: My special skills include: training/teaching others, helping others achieve their goals, and making excellent coffee :)



KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. How will you contribute to KFNA's goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization? As a renter in the neighborhood, I was shocked to learn that I could have a place with KFNA. As a young queer woman, I can help KFNA realize its goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization by helping to amplify the concerns of neighbors who are historically underinvested in by the neighborhood association. However, as a white woman, I also acknowledge that there will be times when I will need to step back and let those in the community directly impacted (BIPOC, seniors, etc) speak and if those voices are not represented on the board, it is our duty to get in contact with those people in other ways (through outreach, community forums, etc).

What does another community or organization do that you think is interesting and would like to see KFNA take on? Other organizations have done a grant program for small businesses and start ups, which would be something that would be really cool to see KFNA implement, especially with the number of business that are leaving the neighborhood due to 35W construction. Something similar to Powderhorn's Shark Tank but scaled down, where monies are raised for a few small grants that business are using to make improvements in ways that match the neighborhood's goals (green, fair wages, etc).

If you are selected to serve on the KFNA Board what would you like to see different at the end of your term? And how would you contribute to that change? I would like to see a stronger internet and neighborhood presence for KFNA, and I would contribute to that change in any way I can. While the internet is not the best way to reach all of our neighbors, it is a good way to reach many of them, and the current way that different social media accounts are structured it can leave folks confused as to if information they are receiving is from "the people in charge" aka KFNA. A list of board members on social media pages/groups would help to eliminate this confusion.

Becky Dankowski (4000 block of Garfield)

Relationship to Kingfield Neighborhood: Home owner

What is your favorite event or place in Kingfield? Why? It's hard to narrow down so I'll have to say all the great restaurants and coffee shops. I love the walkability of Kingfield and seeing my neighbors out and about patronizing local businesses.

List 3 of your special skills: I am a small business owner and am good at maintaining and nurturing my business relationships. I like to fundraise and have no problem asking people for donations. I am enthusiastic and like to get things done, once I set my mind on accomplishing something, I will work like crazy to get it done.



KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. How will you contribute to KFNA's goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization? One of the main reasons I am interested in being on the board is to address housing equity in Kingfield. I would like to see more affordable housing in the neighborhood and a greater outreach to underserved communities.

What does another community or organization do that you think is interesting and would like to see KFNA take on? Beacon Interfaith Housing is an amazing organization that the KFNA already supports. I'd like to see the relationship grow and perhaps partner with them to encourage the growth of affordable housing in Kingfield.

If you are selected to serve on the KFNA Board what would you like to see different at the end of your term? And how would you contribute to that change? I'd like to see more rental housing, more affordable housing, and a greater diversity of people in Kingfield. I think partnering with organizations like Beacon may be a way to further that goal. I also think as a neighborhood we could do more to support environmental initiatives and the schools in our neighborhood.

Chris DesRoches (4400 block of Grand)

Relationship to Kingfield Neighborhood: Home owner

What is your favorite event or place in Kingfield? Why?

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park- I love how MLK park serves as a gathering place for both our neighborhood and surrounding communities. It is an active, inclusive and vibrant space that represents the ideals of our community. MLK Park has also served as a key space for KFNA as the location of our Board Meetings, large community events and community garden + orchard. As a community we are incredibly lucky to have such a great park embedded into our community.



List 3 of your special skills: 1. Empathy 2. Urban Planning/Design 3. Practical application of big ideas

KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. How will you contribute to KFNA's goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization? If elected for another term, I will continue to advocate for the use of equity and inclusion as the vital lens in which KFNA evaluates and pursues change within the organization, the board of directors, events and initiatives. I will continue to serve on the inclusion and engagement sub-committee pursuing both practical efforts like door-knocking, board recruitment and event evaluation to ensure that every effort KFNA pursues considers the impact on, and inclusion of, every person within our community and city.

What does another community or organization do that you think is interesting and would like to see KFNA take on? The Lyndale Neighborhood Organization holds weekly community dinners in partnership with a local organization. These consistent events offer an informal space for residents to come together and build community, discuss issues and create connections. These events also provide a way for a neighborhood organization to directly give back to the community and provide an open and inclusive space for community members to come together.

If you are selected to serve on the KFNA Board what would you like to see different at the end of your term? And how would you contribute to that change? I would like to see KFNA serving as an asset and resource for organizations/organizing both within and outside our community. KFNA should be actively supporting and lifting up the great work that is already happening within our community. KFNA should also be consciously working to share the work it is doing with other community based organizations to both expand its impact and support all communities within our city.

Rita Holland (3700 block of Pleasant)

Relationship to Kingfield Neighborhood: Home owner and rental property owner

What is your favorite event or place in Kingfield? Why? My favorite events are voting days at MLK Park. I love seeing the community come together to exercise their right to vote and I am always so proud of how the KFNA supports the residents: putting signs up to inform folks of the polling place and date, setting up a booth with coffee and a warm fire, helping people safely cross the street. Makes me so proud to live here!



List 3 of your special skills: Project management. Proficient in MS Excel.

My full time job is in the print industry, so I'm well-versed in purchasing print and mail products (banners, flyers, mailers)

KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. How will you contribute to KFNA's goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization? I think that connecting with other neighborhood associations from areas with similar values as ours would be a unique opportunity to find out what they are doing to support these incredibly important groups of people who are under represented. I would feel confident reaching out to these groups and facilitating these conversations.

What does another community or organization do that you think is interesting and would like to see KFNA take on? In my corporate role, we utilize a Net Promoter Score (NPS) survey to measure our customers' happiness with our services and their confidence in us. This type of survey is unique in how it is scored and measured, bucketing responders into promoters, detractors, and neutrals. It gives a really great overall picture of measuring success. We could utilize the NPS to find out how many of our residents are promoters and detractors as it relates to the KFNA.

If you are selected to serve on the KFNA Board what would you like to see different at the end of your term? And how would you contribute to that change? I would like to see more Kingfield businesses see success. We've had a lot of turnover since I've lived here, and I would like to dig in and find out what the challenges are and how the business owners feel that we could support them better.

Derek Holt (40th & Pleasant)

Relationship to Kingfield Neighborhood: Home owner

What is your favorite event or place in Kingfield? Why?

PorchFest. My wife and I love live music while hosting friends and family. PorchFest is everything we love about Kingfield.

List 3 of your special skills: I am a very detailed and organized person. Would say me three special skills are, communication, planning and organization building.



KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. How will you contribute to KFNA's goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization? I would like to continue Kingfield's work on bring individuals to the neighborhood, and making the neighborhood accessible. As prices continue to climb, it is important that Kingfield is a leader in accessibility.

What does another community or organization do that you think is interesting and would like to see KFNA take on? I would to see Kingfield take on the ideas of Open Streets Minneapolis.

If you are selected to serve on the KFNA Board what would you like to see different at the end of your term? And how would you contribute to that change? Similar to previous questions, I would like to see Kingfield become more walk able and affordable. To achieve this, I would partner with more nonprofits to bring more options to the area.

Lesya Hudak (4500 block of Pleasant)

Relationship to Kingfield Neighborhood: Home owner

What is your favorite event or place in Kingfield? Why? Apoy for karaoke

List 3 of your special skills: engaging, responsible, driven

KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. How will you contribute to KFNA's goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization? I will do what I can to support the initiatives and help find ways to connect with the people in our neighborhood that have been underinvested in.

What does another community or organization do that you think is interesting and would like to see KFNA take on? I loved the Arbor Days celebration. And I realize that we probably cannot afford to do something that large every year, but an event like that is fun.

If you are selected to serve on the KFNA Board what would you like to see different at the end of your term? And how would you contribute to that change? I'd like to see a full board again. I'd like to see us be able to get volunteers for events. For me this means making sure I am working my connections, specifically asking people to participate/volunteer for an event, and continually talking about the great things KFNA does.



Jerome Rankine (3900 block of Pleasant)

Relationship to Kingfield Neighborhood: Home owner

What is your favorite event or place in Kingfield? Why? I love Open Streets on both Lyndale and Nicollet. It brings neighbors out and gives us a chance to connect in a different setting. We get to experience our streets in a new way - instead of speeding by all our neighborhood has to offer, we can slow down, look around, and take it in. And it's also a chance to show off! People from different parts of the city get a chance to see how special Kingfield is.



List 3 of your special skills: I think I'm a strong storyteller, with a good grasp of what makes a compelling narrative. More tactically, I'm a proficient writer and editor who can turn complex ideas into engaging prose. And I think I'm a good and willing listener, which I think is an important skill in building connections, especially in an age when many are talking past each other.

KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. How will you contribute to KFNA's goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization? Outside of the fact that I'm a black man and an immigrant myself, my professional work at Pollen is explicitly tied to shining a light on the often overlooked narratives in our city, helping people connect across difference by offering them exposure to new ideas and stories, and celebrating our shared humanity. I'd be excited to bring that personal and professional lens to KFNA. Representation is the bare minimum! To be truly inclusive, we need participation!

What does another community or organization do that you think is interesting and would like to see KFNA take on? I don't know if there's a neighborhood organization doing this, but I'd love to see a series where experts in their field host little gatherings to share with neighbors - helping us as a community be better educated about the different issues that we face or - perhaps more importantly - that others in our city face.

If you are selected to serve on the KFNA Board what would you like to see different at the end of your term? And how would you contribute to that change? I'd love to see the diversity of our neighborhood better represented at KFNA events. I know there are people of color living around me, but too many times at neighborhood events I find that myself or my children are the only POC in the room. We can do better by being intentional and directed in our outreach, and trying new ways to connect with neighbors who might not feel like KFNA events are "for them."

David Searl (3800 block of 1st Ave S)

Relationship to Kingfield Neighborhood: Home owner

What is your favorite event or place in Kingfield? Why?

MLK park. I walk my dog there twice a day and it is beautiful to see the activity at the tennis courts, people coming in and out of the MLK building, people playing in the park (or when it is usually empty in the winter - an wide open quiet space.) I also love that we vote there.



List 3 of your special skills: My last career was as a Camp Director, I am good at organizing volunteers on the day of an event, problem solving, and breaking down tasks for groups to be successful. I am skilled at talking to people on the phone or in person, small and large groups (it terrifies me, but I do love it all the same) Third skill? Listening to information or competing ideas and synthesizing a consensus.

KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. How will you contribute to KFNA's goal of being an equitable and inclusive organization? I occupy a privileged intersection of identities, so I remember this when planning and seeking input. I feel like I have a developed sense that my lived experience is not that of everyone (rather than minimizing differences) and seek to remind myself constantly of this. I learned a lot leading a community of 100+ young staff members and hundreds of campers. We worked to create a safe space of expression and to change hiring pipelines to increase opportunity and representation - these weren't a given in my industry that loves tradition, but were values I held and led to the camp's success.

What does another community or organization do that you think is interesting and would like to see KFNA take on? I don't yet have an earth shattering idea - so instead I'll throw out two more fun ideas - more kingfield stickers, tool lending library at the MLK building.

If you are selected to serve on the KFNA Board what would you like to see different at the end of your term? And how would you contribute to that change? I feel a strong sense of the Kingfield community, but don't know if my neighbors do. One thing I'd like to get a sense of what pockets of our neighborhood feel "kingfield" and how we can serve them and their desires for a neighborhood.