

Application Form

Profile

John _____ Warnas _____
First Name Last Name

Email Address

Ultimate Travel Inc _____ Owner _____
Employer Job Title

Home Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board: Submitted

Referred by:

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

I was born and raised in Granger (West Valley City), Utah. After graduating from Granger High School, I began my career in the travel industry with our family business. I have always had a passion to serve in my community in different capacities. My hobbies and interests include travel, fitness, running, gardening, and cooking. I currently reside in South Jordan, Utah with my wife Jennifer and daughters Sophia and Chloe.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I feel that a great influencer of our quality of life is the way we spend our free time. I am a big fan of local community facilities and open spaces that allow and invite individuals and families to enjoy their surroundings. By serving on this board, I would have the opportunity to collaborate with others by finding unique and innovative ways in which all members of the communities could experience the many amenities that Salt Lake County provides.

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

I have been community-minded from a very young age. I loved volunteering in the community to make the place I live, the best it can be. I served for many years as a committee member for WestFest (West Valley City's Annual Celebration), including a few terms as Chairman. I have also enjoyed serving with the West Valley City Arts Council, Days of 47 volunteer, and served on committees for the American Cancer Society. Most recently, I served as a Planning Commissioner for the City of Taylorsville. I enjoyed working together with the community and business leaders as we created unique and innovative ways to make Taylorville, a great city to Live, Work and Play.

What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

As I have served on different boards I always strive to be a good listener as I seek input on different matters at hand. I have a passion for fitness. Over the past few years, I have become an avid fan of strength training, swimming, and running. I always look at my surroundings no matter where I am and think how things could work better for individuals and families seeking an active lifestyle. As I travel out of the state, I love to look at other communities offerings for parks and recreation and am always amazed at what innovative ideas different places create. I find myself looking at trails and paths and see how they connect to the communities to offer cohesive movement from place to place while allowing physical activity.

[H. John Warnas Resume - Salt Lake County Parks Recreation Board.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Are you a Salt Lake County employee?

Yes No

Are you a current member of another Salt Lake County board or commission?

Yes No

Race/Ethnicity *

District *

District 2

Gender Pronouns *

Age Range *

Languages *

- English
- Other

Political Affiliation

H. John Warnas

Professional Summary:

Highly motivated and dedicated professional confident in creating and collaborating with others to create a thriving, prosperous community that provides an opportunity, fairness, and choice in how we live, move, learn, work, and play. Extensive background in the ever-changing travel industry by ensuring a high level of customer satisfaction and attention to detail. Proven ability and strong passion for working effectively with diverse populations and virtual environments.

Professional Experience:

2014-Present **Ultimate Travel & Events, Inc.** *South Jordan, UT.*

- ◆ Expert in all aspects of visitor and VIP relations, such as researching and arranging a wide array of travel services, including; entertainment, recreation, and restaurant reservations
- ◆ Knowledge of best travel practices, including reservations, accommodations, and site inspections
- ◆ Escorted FIT and group travel providing personalized attention and anticipating clients' needs
- ◆ Developed and implemented detailed itineraries to educate travelers and escorted tours
- ◆ Provided upscale luxury travel arrangements and products for individuals, groups, and corporations
- ◆ Utilized Galileo, proprietary reservations system, Internet and vendor websites to research pricing, resorts, availability, features, hotel profiles, cruise lines, tour itineraries, geographical facts, sightseeing tours, health issues, weather forecasts, currencies, entry requirements, travel advisories, and special events
- ◆ Researched the best prices and features of airfare, accommodations, tours, rental cars, and entertainment to ensure maximum enjoyment and value for clients
- ◆ Negotiated large group contracts and amenities with airlines, hotels, cruise lines, and tour companies
- ◆ Resolved both internal and external customer service issues and customer requests

2016-2019 **Taylorsville Planning Commissioner**, Taylorsville, UT

- ◆ One of seven appointed officers. (Resigned from the Planning Commission after moving to South Jordan)
- ◆ Responsible for administrating zoning, subdivision, and development-related ordinances
- ◆ Recommendations to the Mayor and City Council regarding planning and community development decisions
- ◆ Promoted public interest in a general plan while consulting with public officials and agencies
- ◆ Reviewed individual projects for consistency with policies and regulations
- ◆ Undertook special planning studies as needed

2011-2014 **American Express Consumer Travel Network**, *Salt Lake City, UT*
Centurion and Platinum Cruise Travel Counselor

- ◆ Experienced in a fast-paced, high customer service level call center environment
- ◆ Extensive knowledge of luxury/high-end travel, including air, fine hotels, and resorts, cruise and tours
- ◆ CORE Champion & Lodging Awareness Champion
- ◆ Knowledge of SABRE computer reservation system
- ◆ Experience with American Express card member servicing platforms

1985-2011 **Ultimate Travel & Events, Inc.** *Taylorsville, UT*
Public Relations, Travel & Event Director

- ◆ Provided general staff supervision, work schedules, training, and motivating office staff of 8-10 employees.
- ◆ Maintained strong relationships with air, hotel, and car vendors, while benchmarking discount programs against industry best practices and negotiating most favorable rates for overall discounts.
- ◆ Supervisory experienced in all aspects of ticketing, check-ins, reservations, and boarding processes.
- ◆ Coordinated standard/electronic customer and vendor communications to promote packages, close sales, confirm reservations, generate itineraries and correspondence, process payment, and issue tickets.

- ◆ Managed computerized bookings and reservations, corporate and private account management, credit card authorizations, billing, and discrepancy resolutions
- ◆ Maintain an excellent track record for effectively managing and growing corporate accounts
- ◆ Made recommendations at opportunities as identified for increased efficiency or cost savings
- ◆ Monitored and maintained inventory control records; prepared sales analysis reports
- ◆ Interviewed and trained prospective new hires while teaching recurrent training sessions
- ◆ Coached and counseled agents to encourage quality performance and to increase productivity
- ◆ Spearheaded and implemented employee recognition program to strengthen office morale
- ◆ Coordinated interfaces with Accounts Payable and Corporate Accounting for all aspects of corporate travel
- ◆ Managed daily operations and all financial accounting
- ◆ Processed special requests to provide general and unique accommodations for clients
- ◆ Reconciled sales slips and cash transactions daily. Prepared weekly ARC reports

Specialized Skills & Qualifications:

- ◆ 35 years of experience in the fast-paced, ever-changing travel industry
- ◆ Advanced training in Galileo (Apollo), TRAMS, Worldspan
- ◆ Graduate of advanced training courses and education programs of cruise, hotel, and tour companies
- ◆ Creative marketing and innovative employee recognition, and motivational team building
- ◆ Solid experience of tailor-made reservations, corporate and leisure travel
- ◆ Great worldwide destination knowledge
- ◆ Excellent customer service experience, with the ability to diffuse difficult situations
- ◆ Remarkable ability to work under pressure and to effectively manage and motivate a team
- ◆ Great team player with great innovation and energy and desire to drive others
- ◆ Excellent communication skills, written and verbal, with proven ability to manage effective relationships
- ◆ Proficient computer software skills, Galileo, TRAMS, Microsoft Word, Outlook, QuickBooks

Professional Affiliations:

- ◆ Cruise Lines International Association Inc. (CLIA)
- ◆ American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA)
- ◆ International Association of Travel Agents Network (IATAN)
- ◆ Chamber West & Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce – Utah’s Business Leaders

Major Accomplishments:

- ◆ Taylorsville Planning Commissioner
- ◆ Fox 13 Utah Featured Travel Specialist
- ◆ Annual WestFest City Celebration Chairman, Vice Chairman, Parade Chairman
- ◆ 2002 Winter Olympics, Executive Hospitality Coordinator, Olympic Family Hotel
- ◆ Leadership West & CERT Certified Graduate
- ◆ West Valley City Volunteer of the Year
- ◆ Past Member of West Valley Arts Council, Days of 47, American Cancer Society

Personal References Available Upon Request