



Ray O'Connell, Mayor
City of Allentown
435 Hamilton St, 5th Floor
Allentown, PA 18101-1699
Office 610.437.7546
Fax 610.437.8730
Ray.OConnell@allentownpa.gov

TO: Michael Hanlon
City Clerk

FROM: Ray O'Connell *ROC*
Mayor

DATE: July 9, 2020

SUBJECT: Authorities, Boards, Commissions Appointments

Mayor O'Connell has approved the following appointments for City Council's consideration.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Authority/Board/Commission</u>	<u>Term to Expire</u>
Anna Lightner	Commission on Homeless	
Carolyn J. Hoffman	Commission on Homeless	
Ellen Denizard	Commission on Homeless	
Jennifer Miklus	Commission on Homeless	
Robert Nicoletta	Commission on Homeless	
Larry D. Pickens	Commission on Homeless	
Edwin Ramos	Commission on Homeless	
Hope Sabbagh	Commission on Homeless	
Charlene Smalls	Commission on Homeless	
Benjamin T. Stephens	Commission on Homeless	
Michelle Wagner	Commission on Homeless	

I have attached their resumes to this email for your review.

ROC/kal

Attachments

RECEIVED

MAY 2 / 2020

REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT

MAYOR'S OFFICE DATE May 18, 2020

AUTHORITY, BOARD OR COMMISSION YOU ARE REQUESTING APPOINTMENT TO:

Homeless Commission- City of Allentown

NAME: Larry D. Pickens

HOME ADDRESS: 594 Cedar Hill Drive Allentown, PA 18109

BUSINESS ADDRESS: 457 West Allen Street Allentown, PA 18102

TELEPHONE NO. (RESIDENCE) 847-687-5897

BUSINESS 610-433-6241

EMAIL: lpickens@lehighchurches.org

PRESENTLY EMPLOYED BY: The Lehigh Conference of Churches

JOB TITLE: Ecumenical Director

EMPLOYMENT

(Prior): United Methodist Pastor for 35 years serving various congregations in the Midwest and East Coast, I also served as the General Secretary of the General Commission on Christian Unity of The United Methodist Church.

EDUCATION:

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE: X YES _____ NO

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY GRADUATE X YES _____ NO

DEGREE/FIELD OF STUDY Political Science, Juris Doctorate in Law and a Doctorate in Ministry

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS AND OFFICES: Board Member- Lehigh Valley Meals on Wheels, Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference Trustees-The United Methodist Church, The Northern Illinois Conference-The United Methodist Church, The Lehigh Wheelmen Association and the Lehigh Valley Democratic Party.

PAST ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICES HELD: The Allentown Parking Authority

DO YOU LIVE IN THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN: X YES _____ NO

DO YOU HAVE A SIGNIFICANT "BUSINESS" OR "PROPERTY" INTEREST IN ALLENTOWN? PLEASE EXPLAIN: No.

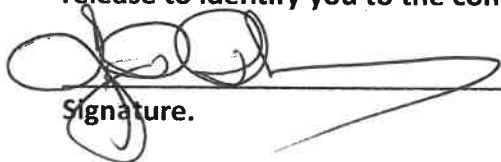
ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER: X YES _____ NO

WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS APPOINTMENT? BE SURE TO INCLUDE WHAT VALUE YOU WILL BRING TO THE BOARD: As the ecumenical director of the Lehigh Conference of Churches I am committed to addressing homeless and helping communities deal with mental illness. In my role I connect with faith communities throughout the Lehigh Valley; faith communities are important resources that actively combat homelessness. The Lehigh Conference of Churches is a stalwart organization that has been critical to meeting the needs of our homeless population. In addition to being a pastor in both the United Methodist Church and United Church of Christ, I am also a trained attorney. I bring legal expertise which is also helpful in addressing the advocacy rights of homeless and mentally ill persons. I look forward to making a contribution.

DO YOU ANTICIPATE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST BY SERVING AS A MEMBER OF AN AUTHORITY, BOARD OR COMMISSION: _____ YES X NO
IF YES, EXPLAIN:

IF YOU ARE BEING CONSIDERED FOR REAPPOINTMENT, PLEASE INDICATE HOW MANY TERMS YOU HAVE SERVED _____ **AND THE YEAR YOU WERE FIRST APPOINTED.**

NOTE: This information will be used for making appointments to authorities, boards and commission and in the event you are appointed/reappointed, it may be used as a news release to identify you to the community.



Signature.

May 19.2020
Date

Please forward this request for appointment, along with a resume to:
Mayor's Office
City Hall
435 Hamilton Street Allentown, PA 18101

LARRY DUANE PICKENS

594 Cedar Hill Drive, Allentown, PA 18109 | (C) 847-687-5897 | larrypickens223@yahoo.com

mission

To Provide Transformational Leadership in Community Development

accomplishments

- Ordained clergy, in good standing for 33 years, The Northern Illinois of The United Methodist Church.
- Graduate of DePaul University College of Law and a practicing attorney with particular expertise in estate planning and real estate development. Recipient of Dean's Scholarship.
- Participant, The African Consultation of the Global Christian Forum, Lusaka, Zambia-The Global Cristian Forum is an international body that brings together Protestants, Catholics, Evangelicals, Orthodox, Pentecostal and Independent leadership in order to address issues of common concern.
- Member of the Fundraising Advisory Committee of the World Council of Churches, setting policy for the fundraising efforts of the international body, comprising 350 communions worldwide.
- Order board member of Oikocredit USA, an organization that provides micro loans, assisting women in developing countries create their own businesses.

professional summary

Exceptional leader-talented in team building, problem solving and creating an organizational vision. Strong awareness of the urban setting and the dynamics involved. Outstanding relationship, community and economic development skills. Dynamic communicator, possessing an international profile; consistently works to find consensus but is also willing to take decisive steps to move the organization forward. Strong advocate of emotional intelligence, which enables greater personal and social awareness. Motivated and adaptable leader with solid experience serving in local, regional and international settings, inclusive of budgeting and administration.

skills

- Problem Solver
- Team Builder
- Self Motivated
- Visionary
- International Profile
- Fundraiser
- Strong Verbal and Written Communication Skills
- Creative

- Community Organizer

congregational and ecumenical achievements

congregational achievements

The United Methodist Church

- Developed small group ministries and community outreach through faith-based community organizing.
- Created the "Pied Piper" music program recruiting community young people to create a youth choir.
- Moved congregations from relying on fundraising activities and committing to tithing as the minimal for of congregational support.
- Created after-school programs for community children.
- Fostered engagement through participation on Chicago's Community Block Grant Committee
- Created a not-for-profit development corporation for affordable housing.
- Negotiated business contracts for the church.
- Engaged suburban congregations in inner city mission and ministry.
- Led congregations in strategic planning and creating a vision for ministry.
- Negotiated with governmental entities in building partnerships for community development.
- Developed initiatives or encourage parishioners to support their congregations through their legacy planning.
- Served effectively in multicultural settings.

Ecumenical Director

January 2014-Current

The Lehigh Conference of Churches

- Develops programming on ecumenical and interfaith engagement in the Lehigh Valley through efforts inclusive of movie nights, book discussions, lectures family

- support classes, continuing education for pastors, drug recovery support and community building.
- Increases the number of congregations, by 10 percent, relating to The Lehigh Conference of Churches through social justice initiatives that include advocacy for the homeless, hungry and the mentally challenged.
- Welcomes the refugees. Planned a major fundraising effort throughout the Lehigh Valley supporting Syrian refugees entering our area following the war and humanitarian crisis in that country. Presently engaged in support efforts to support Puerto Rican families who are entered the Lehigh Valley in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.
- Initiates interfaith efforts to oppose bigotry and intolerance in local schools and throughout the community. Engaging the interfaith community as we find ways to create Beloved Community where we promote mutual respect and cooperation.
- Actively shares the ministry of The Lehigh Conference of Churches through radio, television and newspaper mediums. Actively engages congregations through speaking and preaching opportunities as well.
- Engages the community and congregations, defining ways in which community development initiatives can be coordinated while promoting collective impact.
- Engaging congregational support of The Lehigh inference of Churches through the creation of a Strategy Team for Congregational Support.

Church Leader

Additional Ecumenical Experience

- Implemented a marketing strategy that. Resulted in a 12 % growth in denominational giving to The United Methodist Church Interdenominational Cooperation Fund.
- Initiated a relationship with Africa University, in Old Mutare, Zimbabwe, in order to develop future ecumenical and interfaith leadership.
- Expanded marketing of the ecumenical efforts of The United Methodist Church.
- Created conflict resolution initiatives for churches.

certifications

- Admitted to Illinois Bar, 1997; South Carolina Bar 1997
- Trial Bar of the United States District Court of the Northern District
- Graduate Fellow, the Rider Pool Foundation Collective Impact Program
- Trained in Systems Analysis

education

Juris Doctorate Degree

DePaul University College of Law.

Chicago, IL

Dean's Scholarship

Doctorate of Ministry Degree,
Chicago Theological Seminary.

Chicago, IL

Master of Divinity Degree

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Evanston, IL

Certificate of Ecumenism

Bossey Graduate School.

Céligny, Switzerland

Master of Theology Degree.

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Evanston, IL

Bachelor of Arts Degree Political Science

North Park University.

Chicago, IL