

Office Use Only:

Council District: 17      New Appointment  Reappointment      Attendance Record:

### Library Board of Trustees Commission

The Library Board of Trustees meets at 12:00 Noon on the 4th Monday of each month at the Main Library- 25 Heritage Green Plaza, Greenville.

Name: Loren Frant

Occupation: Chief Operating Officer

Employer: Sidewall Hospitality Group

Highest Degree Earned: master's

School Attended: UCLA

Year of Graduation: 2004

Field of Study: Library & Information Science

Linked In Profile:

Social Media Profile:

#### Military Experience:

n/a

#### Certifications:

n/a

#### Civic Organizations / Other Affiliations:

Greenville Jewish Federation -- participant  
Cayuga Forum -- member  
Cornell Alumni Association of the Blue Ridge Mountains -- participant

**Volunteer Experience (Please List & Describe):**

Friday Fun for the Little Ones -- created a weekly craft and story time for young children and their adults, free and open to the public, a welcoming social event for kids and adults alike!

Back to School Backpack Drives -- organized volunteers to pack and distribute thousands of backpacks filled with school supplies to schools throughout Greenville county.

Swamp Rabbit Trail Cleanups -- picked up trash along the Swamp Rabbit Trail, with Let's Keep TR Beautiful and other groups.

Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network -- Alumni Ambassador -- conducted informational meetings with first year applicants to Cornell University's undergraduate programs, answered applicants' questions about the university and shared my enthusiastic first-hand experiences about all that the university has to offer its students.

**My interest in serving on the Library Board of Trustees Commission:**

I currently serve as the Chief Operating Officer for a 175-person independent restaurant company that my husband and I founded in Travelers Rest in 2015.

However, prior to my career as an entrepreneur and restaurant company executive, I spent 15 years in archives, museums, software/web project management, and libraries.

I loved my library career and I have missed it.

Serving on the Greenville County Library Board of Trustees would allow me to combine my business and my library experience in service to my community.

Helping the Greenville County Library system to be the very best that it can be would be a tremendous honor for me.

**Describe your understanding of the position for which you are applying:**

I am applying to serve as one of the eleven Trustees on the Greenville County Library Board of Trustees. I understand that, if appointed by the Greenville County Council, I would serve a 4 year term. During that 4 year term I would be required to attend monthly meetings of the full board, as well as meetings of any committees to which I'm assigned.

I understand that the Library Board of Trustees has responsibility for managing the Greenville County Library System and that the details of those responsibilities are enumerated in the Powers and Duties listed on the county's website.

Most importantly, I understand that, as a Trustee, I must serve as a fierce advocate for the library, empowering it to fulfill its responsibility for providing the residents of Greenville County with the best possible library services and the best possible library system, while at the same time maintaining accountability to the public and to the Greenville County Council.

**Describe your strengths or skills that would positively contribute to the Library Board of Trustees Commission:**

I am a local business owner, the parent of school-age children, and a former librarian.

I will bring all of these perspectives to my service on the Library Board of Trustees.

In my current Chief Operating Officer position, I implement policies, procedures, and standards that help our company do a great job for our guests and for our team members. To succeed as COO, I have to be organized, responsive, and reliable. I also have to be a strong critical thinker, an expert at soliciting and incorporating feedback from my constituents, and I have to be an excellent communicator. These are all skills that I believe are important to being an effective Trustee as well.

While I continue to hone these skills in my current position, I learned and developed them when I was a librarian.

Prior to starting our restaurant company, I spent 15 years working in archives, museums, software/web project management, and libraries. I had my first library job as a sophomore at Cornell University. I later earned my Master in Library and Information Science degree from UCLA and spent the majority of my library career as a federal employee at the National Library of Medicine, which is the world's largest medical library (and a public library).

I started at the National Library of Medicine in a post-graduate leadership development fellowship and, through successive opportunities, eventually became the Deputy Chief of the Public Services Division. In addition to developing all of the leadership skills that I listed above, my time at the National Library of Medicine taught me, in a detailed and comprehensive way, what it takes to run a library -- multi-million dollar budgets, contracts, policies, standards, vision, mission, and public accountability.

As a trained librarian myself, I know what it takes to be a great librarian, and I believe that librarians are great. I understand the breadth and scope of the formal education that librarians receive in order to earn their degrees and I am well-versed in the ethics, standards, and professionalism with which they are taught to and expected to conduct themselves. I also understand the responsibilities that librarians and library systems face in being excellent stewards of public funding and the public trust.

I believe that my first-hand understanding of the workings of a library combined with my more-recent business and entrepreneurship experiences will be excellent additions to the Library Board of Trustees.

In sum, I am a passionate believer in the power of libraries with a grounded understanding of the practicalities of running a large organization with accountability to the public. I will view my Board appointment as an honor and a privilege to be continuously earned.

**My community topics of concern that relate to the Library Board of Trustees Commission:**

During my 10+ years in Travelers Rest, the library has been a great gathering place for our community. I first started using the library when I was new to the area and needed a quiet place to work. The staff was welcoming and helpful. The facilities have always been clean, well kept, and comfortable. And, as I started to get to know people in the area, the library was a place I could count on to run into them. Once I had children, the weekly story times were some of our favorite outings, and, years later, we are still friends with many of the families that we met there. We continue to use the Greenville County Library System on a regular basis to get books for our family and the service is always excellent. The Greenville County Library System has provided me with a sense of place, joy, and connection. As a Trustee, I will strive to make accountable decisions that allow the library to continue to foster a sense of place, joy, and connection for its users.

Do you currently hold an elected or appointed office or commission?

- Yes       No

If yes, please list:

Have you previously held an elected or appointed office or commission?

- Yes       No

If yes, please list:

Have you ever been fined for an ethics violation?

- Yes       No

If yes, please explain:

Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation?

- Yes       No

If yes, please give details:

Are you currently, or have ever been, a part or party to any litigation with or against Greenville County?

- Yes       No

If yes, please give details:

Would you be willing to submit to a criminal background check and/or credit check?

- Yes       No

Are you aware of the meeting schedule and time commitment for the Library Board of Trustees Commission

- Yes       No

Have you attended a meeting of the Library Board of Trustees Commission

- Yes       No

Are you aware of the County's attendance policy as it relates to County boards and commissions?

- Yes       No

Are you aware this is not a compensated position?

- Yes       No

*It is the policy of Greenville County to require disclosure of any personal or financial interest that may be influenced by decisions of the Committee, Board or Commission for which any citizen applies for membership.*

Do you or a member of your immediate family provide goods and/or services to this board?

Yes  No

Do you or a member of your immediate family benefit from the action of this board?

Yes  No

Does your employer provide goods and/or services to this board?

Yes  No

Does your employer receive direct services from this board?

Yes  No

Does your employer financially benefit from the actions of this board?

Yes  No

By signing your name and turning in your application, you agree to and attest to the following:

*All information contained in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.*

*I understand it is my responsibility to insure my application is submitted within the application period and that it has been received by the Clerk to Council's office.*

*I have read the Greenville County Board and Commission Policy and I understand the rules of conduct for the position for which I am applying.*

*I understand my lack of attendance for three (3) consecutive meetings or 25% of all regular scheduled meetings within a 12-month period may result in my removal from the board.*

*I understand that I serve at the pleasure of County Council and all appointments are subject to the Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act, S.C. Code Ann. Section 8-13-100 et. seq. Any member appointed to a board or commission whose action is inconsistent or may be perceived to be inconsistent with the spirit or intent of the Act, may be subject for removal.*

*I understand that information provided in this application may be subject to South Carolina Freedom of Information disclosure.*

Applicant Signature:

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Date:

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*Applicants are encouraged to notify their representing Council Member of their interest to be considered for a desired board seat.*