

CANDIDATE NAME: **Christine Vaughan**

Pike Place Market Constituency 2024 Candidate Questionnaire

Please indicate the position for which you are running:

Note: ALL positions require a familiarization with or willingness to learn Robert's Rules of Order, the PDA Charter, and the Constituency Bylaws.

Chair * **

Duties: The Chair chairs all meetings of the Constituency.

Time commitment: The term length is two (2) years. Must attend a minimum of eight (8) General Assembly or Special Meeting(s) per year and eight (8) Executive Committee Meetings per year. May serve on a subcommittee. Meet the PDA Executive Director once a month.

Vice-Chair * **

Duties: The Vice-Chair chairs meetings of the Constituency in the absence of or at the request of the Chair and serves as Election Officer in odd-numbered years.

Time commitment: The term length is two (2) years. Must attend a minimum of eight (8) General Assembly or Special Meeting(s) per year and eight (8) Executive Committee Meetings per year. May serve on a subcommittee.

Officer-at-Large

Duties: Officers-at-Large represent the overall voice of the Constituency, are familiar with the Market, and stay informed of PDA Council and Committee meetings by either attending the meetings or reading the minutes.

Time commitment: The term length is two (2) years. Must attend a minimum of eight (8) General Assembly or Special Meeting(s) per year and eight (8) Executive Committee Meetings per year. May serve on a subcommittee.

PDA Council Representative**

Duties: PDA Council Representatives represent the needs of Market Constituents as members of the PDA Council and its Committees.

Time commitment: The term length is four (4) years. Must attend a minimum of six (6) General Assembly or Special Meeting(s) per year and six (6) Executive Committee Meetings per year. May serve on a subcommittee.

*No employee, officer, or Council member of the PDA, or member of the Pike Place Market Historical Commission, shall be eligible to serve as Chair or Vice Chair.

**Chair, Vice Chair and PDA Council Representative candidates are required to have been a member of the Constituency for the entire preceding year to be eligible to stand for election to the position.

Candidate Questionnaire

The following questionnaire is intended to help voters learn a little about our candidates: their interest in holding office, background, skills, experience, and any vision for the future of the Market. The Constituency values diversity of opinion.

All timely responses will be circulated directly to Constituency members and may also appear on our website and via other news media that is available to the public.

1. What is your connection to the Market? Why are you a member of the Constituency?

I have been a crafter at the Market (and a Constituency member) for 34 years. The Constituency was established by the PDA Charter to provide a vehicle for public participation in the governance of the Market. I think this is important, and so I joined the Constituency during my first year at the Market, and have been a member every year since.

2. Have you attended Constituency meetings and if so, how many in the past year?

I have attended both General Assembly and Executive Committee meetings of the Constituency over the past year, but did not keep track of how many. I have also attended Market Historical Commission meetings (especially those dealing with Victor Steinbrueck Park and City Departments' attempts to intervene in Market) and PDA Council meetings (especially those dealing with the Master Plan and the hiring of the new Executive Director.) Again, I did not keep count.

3. In your view, what are the biggest issues facing the Market now and in the near future? Do you champion any special issue?

I believe that the biggest challenge facing the Market right now is figuring out how to retain the Market's authentic character while keeping the Market financially viable and relevant for both the PDA and Market tenants, all during a time of changing shopper habits and burgeoning tourism. The Market—and its businesses—need the tourist dollars, yet catering solely to tourists' tastes would threaten the historic purpose of the Market as a place for local shoppers.

CANDIDATE NAME: Christine Vaughan

Making policy for the Market is a delicate balancing act. Take, for example, discussions around use of Pike Place. Some say that vehicular use of Pike Place is an historic use of the street and necessary for the Market's operations, and they are right. Some say that closing the street would make walking through Pike Place easier, and they're right. Others say closing Pike Place to traffic would turn the street into a ghost town in the slower times, and they're right. Some say that street closure hurts their business because when people can walk down the middle of the street they don't explore the less-visited parts of the Market, and they're right. Others say that their business is greatly increased by street usages other than vehicular travel, and they're right.

The challenge is crafting a policy that takes into account all these diverse—and sometimes conflicting—priorities. This is but one example of the difficult—and interesting!—part of Market governance.

My special issue is to ensure that the Market is considered as a whole, and governed in a way that respects its historic authenticity, while addressing the complexity of all the Market's competing needs.

4. What can we do to increase public participation in Market advocacy, especially by those who live and work in the Market?

I think the Constituency has taken a step in the direction of community engagement with the creation of the listening committee. Timely meeting announcements and newsletters are also important outreach tools. Meetings that are productive, interesting (and even fun!) help to increase participation.

The following two questions are only for those running for PDA Council representative. Others need not respond.

5. How many PDA Council meetings have you attended in the last 12 months?

See Question 2.

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6. Representing the Constituency on the PDA Council means more than voting. What skills and strategies will you bring to Council meetings to be a persuasive voice on the Council?

I have been around the Market for a long time. During that time, besides working at the Market as a daystall crafter, I have served on both the PDA Council and the Market Historical Commission. The PDA Councilmembers I have spoken with seem to value this institutional memory and historical perspective.

It is important, especially at a time of having a new executive director, that there be institutional memory on the PDA Council. I can offer this historical memory. I hope I will have your vote.

Please return your completed questionnaire by July 8 at the latest. If you are sending it by email, send to marketconstituency@gmail.com. If you are delivering a printed copy, please slide it under the Constituency door (#328 in the Fairley Building) or mail it to 1501 Pike Place #328, Seattle, WA 98101.