TOMPKINS CHAMBER

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To: All members of the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce
From: Kelli Cartmill, Baywood Hotels
Chair of the Chamber Nominating Committee
Jennifer Tavares, *Chamber President*
Date: August 30, 2024

We are writing to ask for your assistance. To continue to have a great Chamber & CVB, we need to have a strong, dedicated, and diverse Board of Directors. The Chamber's Nominating Committee is seeking your help to find qualified candidates for the Board of Directors. Other members of the Nominating Committee are board members Herb Alexander (Cayuga Health), Rachel Hogancamp (Rasa Spa), and Melissa Vanderhoof (Fingerlakes Wealth Management), as well as general Chamber members Laura Winter Falk (Experience! The Finger Lakes) and Jeremiah Craig (Jeremiah Craig Media).

Please consider whether someone within your business or organization would be interested in serving on the Chamber's Board. **We have exciting opportunities and much good work to do—and we need your input and support!** We will have **10** positions on the ballot this year; seven are for three-year terms, two for a two-year term, and one for a one-year term. The seats are categorized by industry in proportion to our membership, and there are 25 voting members of the board.

- Current sitting board members are running for either their first full term or second term in some open positions, which are noted on the summary that follows.
- The Chamber's bylaws allow board members to serve for two full three-year terms, but no more than seven years total.
- **We especially welcome nominations in the small business/service category this election cycle.**

Board members are responsible for setting policy for the organization, approving the budget and plan of work, and have fiduciary responsibility. Board members also serve on one or more Chamber or CVB committees, attend events, and contribute to the Chamber as event or auction sponsors and CVB as tourism partners. Most board members serve between 50-100 hours per year with the Chamber, depending on which committees they serve on or how many additional events they choose to attend.

The Tompkins Chamber & CVB Board of Directors and staff seek board members who share our commitment to fostering a healthy economy, a vibrant destination, improving our quality of life, and to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion. Candidates must be comfortable supporting the Tompkins Chamber & CVB's stated mission, vision, and values, and in participating as requested in any board related training and development opportunities.

For more information, please call the Tompkins Chamber at 607-273-7080 or email Carly Hansen at chansen@tompkinschamber.org.

Available Seats for 2024-2026 Board Term

4 seats* **Small Business & Service (7 seats total) -** Small businesses and microenterprises with less than 50 employees in any sector *(these are all three-year terms)*

1 seat* **Education (3 seats total) —** Educational institutions, educators *(one two-year term)*

1 seat* **Finance (3 seats total) —** Financial institutions, large stockbroker and investment firms, large insurance agencies *(this is a three-year term)*

1 seat* **Large Business (3 seats total)** — Major employers and large businesses over 50 employees in any sector *(one two-year term)*

1 seat* **Tourism (2 seats total) —** Hotels, motels, tourist services, travel agencies, theaters, marine services and campgrounds *(one three-year term)*

2 seats* **Industry (2 seats total) —** Manufacturers, food processors and high tech *(one three-year term and one one-year term)*

***(An asterisk * means** that at least one current board member is eligible to run for a seat in this classification. Notes indicate sitting board members running for a second term.)*

Candidates must be active members in good standing. Only written applications listing qualifications and interest will be accepted. The Nominating Committee will review the requests and will also search for potential candidates. They will prepare a slate of candidates for consideration by the Board and the membership. A ballot will be sent to all voting members in early November, based on voting allocation per member as dictated by the Chamber bylaws.

To apply to the Nominating Committee please completely fill out the *Application for Board of Directors Nomination* on the following page, provide a short bio and headshot, and return it to the Chamber by email (chansen@tompkinschamber.org) or by mail to 124 Brindley Street, Ithaca, NY 14850 by **September 17th, 2024, at 3 pm.**

PLEASE SUBMIT a short paragraph or two as a bio, plus a headshot. *These will help the membership get to know candidates better before completing the voting process.*

Any questions, please call 607-273-7080 or email Carly at chansen@tompkinschamber.org

Attached: Application for Board of Directors Nomination