



**To:** All members of the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce  
**From:** Aly Evans, Foodnet Meals on Wheels  
*Chair of the Chamber Nominating Committee*  
Peggy Coleman, *Chamber President*  
**Date:** October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**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 Kellyann O'Mara (M&T Bank), Kelli Cartmill (Baywood Hotels), Jeremiah Craig (Jeremiah Craig Media), and Astrid Jirka (Discover Cayuga), as well as general Chamber members Laura Vineyard (Center for Transformative Action) and Chris Roscoe (Bailey Place Insurance).

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 **12** seats on the ballot this year. Ten seats are occupied by current Board members seeking to continue their service, and two seats are fully vacant. 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 to fill the remainder of a vacated term, 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.

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 36-60 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](mailto:chansen@tompkinschamber.org).

### **Available Seats for 2026-2028 Board Term**

- 2 seats\***      **Small Business & Service (7 seats total)** - Small businesses and microenterprises with less than 50 employees in any sector
- 1 seat\***      **Education (3 seats total)** — Educational institutions, educators
- 1 seat\***      **Finance (3 seats total)** — Financial institutions, large stockbroker and investment firms, large insurance agencies
- 3 seat\***      **Large Business (3 seats total)** — Major employers and large businesses over 50 employees in any sector
- 1 seat\***      **Non-profit (2 seats total)** — Not-for-profit service organizations
- 2 seats\***      **Industry (2 seats total)** — Manufacturers, food processors and high tech
- 2 seats\***      **At-Large (2 seats total)** — Represents any of the above sectors

*(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 December, based on voting allocation per member as dictated by the Chamber bylaws.

**To apply for nomination, 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](mailto:chansen@tompkinschamber.org)) or by mail to 124 Brindley Street, Ithaca, NY 14850 by **Tuesday November 25<sup>th</sup> by 5pm.**

**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](mailto:chansen@tompkinschamber.org)

**Attached:**      Application for Board of Directors Nomination

# APPLICATION FOR TOMPKINS CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION

**YES**, I would like to be considered as a candidate for the \_\_\_\_\_ category position on the Board of Directors of the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce. I certify that I am a member in good standing and have been a member for at least one year. I further understand that as a member of the Board, I will need to attend regularly scheduled monthly meetings, special meetings called by the Board Chair, as well as Chamber functions and events. I also understand that I will be asked to serve on a committee of the Chamber as a liaison to the Board and will from time-to-time work on special projects.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

A brief bio of experiences and qualifications I would bring to the Board are listed below:

I. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

II. PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

III. AFFILIATIONS (CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

IV. HOBBIES & INTERESTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

V. CURRENT CHAMBER INVOLVEMENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

VI. MY AMBITIONS FOR THE CHAMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

VII. PLEASE SHARE HOW YOU WILL HELP THE CHAMBER & CVB FULFILL OUR MISSION AND ACHIEVE OUR VISION:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Mission:** To foster a healthy economy, a vibrant destination, and improve quality of life in Tompkins County.

**Vision:** To be an inclusive organization that supports thriving communities where businesses are successful, nonprofits are inspiring, and the tourism economy is flourishing.

VIII. PLEASE SHARE WHICH OF OUR VALUES YOU FEEL MOST ALIGNED WITH:

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**Our Values:** Participation & Collaboration; Integrity & Accountability; Diversity & Inclusion; Entrepreneurial Spirit & Free Enterprise; Involved Leadership; Commitment to our Community; Environmental Stewardship

IX: PLEASE SHARE HOW YOU MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO OR ADVANCE THE ORGANIZATION'S GOALS AROUND DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION:

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X: WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT BEING CONSIDERED FOR BOARD SERVICE WITH THE CHAMBER/ CVB?

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**Please complete and submit this form as well as a short bio and headshot to:**

Aly Evans, Nominating Committee Chair, Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce, 124 Brindley Street, Ithaca, NY 14850 or by email to [chansen@tompkinschamber.org](mailto:chansen@tompkinschamber.org) by **November 25 at 5:00pm.**