

Meet the Candidates!

Village of Elmwood Board of Trustees

Al Peters



How long have you lived in Elmwood? We found our old house on N. 3rd St. almost 11 years ago. Becki and I were living in Lincoln off of 84th at the time and were looking for the peace and quiet of small town living. We definitely found it. We consider Elmwood to be our home.

What is your purpose for running for Elmwood Village Board? Whenever we have had a chance to be involved in the community we have enjoyed it. We helped on a number of occasions with parking and traffic management for local bike races and marathons. We also assisted in putting together the calendar called "125 years of change" Elmwood, Nebraska. Becki is still in the printing business and she put together the files for the calendar. I always thought that I would like to get more involved in the community once we finished the old house restoration project. Heck, that has been going on for 10 years now....what was I thinking?

What goals do you see for Elmwood? Elmwood is ideally located between Nebraska's two largest cities. That offers many opportunities for employment and other activities. However, I do not want Elmwood to be just a bedroom community. We need to take all reasonable opportunities to be business friendly. I believe that government should have a minimal footprint and there should be as few rules and regulations as possible. The village board should also work hard to keep costs for all services as low as possible. Citizens also have a duty to be responsible and keep their homes and properties well maintained.

**More
about**

Al Peters

What do you think are your qualifications for serving on the board? A couple of things come to mind that people in rural areas could relate to. By way of background I came to Nebraska in 1971 to work on a PhD in physical geography at UNL. I came from San Jose State with a master's degree and served for 6 yrs. in the naval reserve at Alameda. I was an air crewman on an anti-submarine patrol bomber. I ran the radar and magnetic air detection systems. I don't remember much about my classes at UNL in that first year but have good memories about the football team. Wow, kick butt! Eventually, I earned the PhD with a focus on satellite and aircraft remote sensing. OK, so where am I going with this? Two different projects that people can relate to involve activities here in or near Nebraska. While at Basin Electric Power Cooperative in Bismarck I served as the Environmental Coordinator for electric power line routing out of the Laramie River Station in Wheatland, Wyoming. One of the options being considered was a 500kv line through the Nebraska Sandhills to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. I played a role internally in convincing the engineers that the Sandhills were not a good place to route a large power line due to the risk for significant wind erosion at the construction sites. Two power lines were routed into Colorado as the alternative. By the way, Lincoln gets about 13% of its electric power from this generating plant. I also supervised the impact statements for the Antelope Valley Station that was built near Beulah, North Dakota. Two high voltage electric power lines were routed into South Dakota. Both of these projects were funded by the Rural Electrification Administration. Another activity that might be of interest to rural people was a grant from NASA at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. Yup, I was back at UNL at the time working on one of my last projects before retiring. This grant involved working with farmers, seed and crop insurance companies. We completed about a dozen projects involving topics such as crop yields and hail damage demonstrating the use of satellite and aircraft imagery. Reports for each of these projects are available and several publications in professional journals were produced. My students really enjoyed working on a practical activity like this.

Any other information you would like to share with the readers? Nope, think I'd better get out of here before they fall asleep. Thanks.