



**South Schuylkill Unified
At-Large Board Member Application**

Thank you for your interest in serving South Schuylkill Unified. At-large Board Members are selected for their commitment to the South Schuylkill region, their ability to help advance SSU's mission, and the skills, experience, relationships, and perspective they can bring to the Board of Directors. At-large Board Members serve the organization as a whole and are not appointed to represent a single municipality, business, organization, or personal interest. Please email your completed application to deberhart@southschuylkillunified.com.

SSU Mission Statement:

South Schuylkill Unified works to build a welcoming, generationally-diverse, and economically strong region by supporting local businesses, attracting new opportunities, connecting natural assets, and encouraging community participation.

Instructions: Please complete the application and return it to SSU. You may attach a resume, short biography, or letter of interest if helpful. Applicants may be invited to participate in a follow-up conversation with SSU leadership, the Governance Committee, Nominating Committee, or other body designated by the Board.

Confidentiality Note: SSU will use this application for board recruitment, governance review, and related organizational purposes. Applications should be shared only with individuals involved in the review and selection process, except as otherwise required by law or organizational policy.

1. Applicant Information

Full name	
Preferred name	
Home address	
Municipality	
Phone	
Email	
Current employer or occupation	
Preferred method of contact	☐ Phone ☐ Email ☐ Text
Current or recent volunteer, board, civic, municipal, or community affiliations	

2. Interest in SSU Board Service

Why are you interested in serving as an at-large Board Member of South Schuylkill Unified?

How does SSU's mission align with your personal, professional, civic, or community interests?

What do you hope to help SSU accomplish over the next one to three years?

Which SSU priorities or areas of work interest you most? Check all that apply.

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| ☐ Main Street designation and implementation | ☐ Economic development and business recruitment |
| ☐ Commercial facade improvement and design | ☐ Promotions, events, and marketing |
| ☐ Volunteer recruitment and committee development | ☐ Fundraising and donor stewardship |
| ☐ Regional municipal partnerships | ☐ Arts, culture, trails, and destination development |
| ☐ Governance, policy, and strategic planning | ☐ Other:
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3. Skills, Experience, and Contributions

Please identify the skills, experience, relationships, or perspectives you would bring to the Board of Directors. Check all that apply.

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| ☐ Board governance or nonprofit leadership | ☐ Strategic planning |
| ☐ Fundraising, sponsorships, or donor relations | ☐ Grant writing or grant administration |
| ☐ Financial oversight, accounting, or budgeting | ☐ Legal, risk management, or policy review |
| ☐ Human resources or executive supervision | ☐ Small business support or entrepreneurship |
| ☐ Economic development or business recruitment | ☐ Real estate, planning, zoning, or development |
| ☐ Architecture, design, or historic preservation | ☐ Construction or property improvement |
| ☐ Marketing, communications, or public relations | ☐ Event planning or hospitality |

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Volunteer recruitment or community engagement | ☐ Municipal government, public administration, or constituent services |
| ☐ Education, youth engagement, or workforce development | ☐ Arts, culture, tourism, or recreation |
| ☐ Accessibility, inclusion, or community wellbeing | ☐ Technology, website, CRM, or data systems |
| ☐ Research, evaluation, or data analysis | ☐ Local or regional history and community knowledge |
| ☐ Other: | |

Please describe your top three skills or experiences and how they would help SSU.

Are there specific relationships, networks, or community connections you could help SSU build or strengthen?

4. Community Connection and Regional Perspective

SSU seeks Board Members who understand and support the broader South Schuylkill region, including Schuylkill Haven, Cressona, North Manheim Township, South Manheim Township, Wayne Township, and surrounding community partners. Residency, employment, or property ownership in a particular municipality is informational unless otherwise required by SSU bylaws or policy. Check all that apply.

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| ☐ I live in the South Schuylkill region. | ☐ I work in the South Schuylkill region. |
| ☐ I own or operate a business in the region. | ☐ I own property in the region. |
| ☐ I volunteer with a regional organization. | ☐ I have other meaningful community ties. |

Please briefly describe your connection to the South Schuylkill region.

How would you help SSU think regionally while respecting the needs and identity of each community?

5. Availability and Board Member Expectations

At-large Board Members should be prepared to participate actively in governance and, when needed, in the working-board activities typical of emerging Main Street and community revitalization organizations. Please review the expectations below and check the items you are generally able to support.

- ☐ Attend regular Board meetings and special meetings when scheduled.
- ☐ Prepare for meetings by reviewing materials in advance.
- ☐ Serve on at least one committee or task group as needed.
- ☐ Support fundraising, sponsorship, donor identification, or stewardship.
- ☐ Make a personally meaningful annual contribution to SSU, as able.
- ☐ Attend occasional community meetings, public events, or outreach activities.
- ☐ Act as an ambassador for SSU and the South Schuylkill region.
- ☐ Participate in orientation, training, or board development activities.
- ☐ Follow SSU bylaws, adopted policies, and Board decisions.
- ☐ Maintain respectful, constructive, mission-focused communication.

General availability for meetings. Check all that usually work for you.

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|---|---|
| ☐ Weekday mornings | ☐ Weekday lunchtime |
| ☐ Weekday afternoons | ☐ Weekday evenings |
| ☐ In person | ☐ Virtual |
| ☐ Hybrid | ☐ Limited availability, please explain below |

Please describe any availability limitations or scheduling considerations.

6. Eligibility, Fiduciary Duties, Conflicts, and Confidentiality

Board service carries legal, ethical, and organizational responsibilities. Please initial each statement to confirm your understanding.

Initial	Applicant confirmation
	I am a natural person of full age and am eligible to serve if selected in accordance with SSU bylaws and applicable law.

	I understand that Board Members owe fiduciary duties to SSU and must act in good faith, with reasonable care, and in the best interests of the organization.
	I understand that the Board acts as a governing body and that individual Board Members do not have authority to speak for, bind, direct, or act on behalf of SSU unless authority has been granted by the Board or applicable policy.
	I will disclose actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest and will follow SSU conflict of interest procedures, including recusal when appropriate.
	I will not use Board service, confidential information, organizational opportunities, or SSU relationships for improper personal, business, political, or financial gain.
	I will maintain confidentiality regarding nonpublic information, including donor information, personnel matters, business plans, financial information, development opportunities, municipal information, and other sensitive matters reviewed by the Board.
	I will support SSU policies related to nondiscrimination, respectful conduct, financial stewardship, transparency, and accountability.

Please list any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest, including business, financial, property, family, employment, municipal, or organizational relationships that could intersect with SSU work. If none, write none.

Is there anything else SSU should know that could affect your ability to serve effectively, consistently, or in the best interests of the organization?

7. References

Please provide two references who can speak to your leadership, reliability, judgment, community involvement, professional experience, or ability to work collaboratively.

Reference name	Relationship	Phone	Email

8. Optional Attachments

- ☐ Resume or curriculum vitae
☐ Letter of interest

- ☐ Short biography
☐ Other:

9. Applicant Certification and Signature

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I authorize SSU to contact the references listed above and to use this application as part of its board recruitment and selection process. I understand that submission of this application does not guarantee appointment to the Board of Directors.

Applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed name: _____

For SSU Board or Committee Use Only

Date received	
Reviewed by	
Interview or conversation date	
Recommended action	☐ Recommend appointment ☐ Hold for future consideration ☐ Do not recommend
Proposed term	Start: _____ End: _____
Committee or role fit	
Board action date	
Notes	