

Why are you interested in serving?

Serving on the Board is not about me, it's about helping our community. I want to live in a healthy, welcoming, and desirable community where individual residents, not just board members, are willing to participate and contribute. Some proactive examples that I've seen include picking up trash, pulling weeds, raking leaves, watering shrubs and bushes, answering questions online, and opening work orders with Associa. It's encouraging to see residents opening work orders for community issues like landscaping concerns, garbage collection mishaps, drainage issues, broken street signs, downed trees, animal control, and blown lights. Seeing others willing to help makes me want to help.

I see serving on the Board as an opportunity to learn from existing board members; build on their past and ongoing successes. I want to maintain NGW's reputation, improve our community (little things and big things), and help residents take pride in where they live. Additionally, I want to help shape the future of NGW by listening to suggestions from my neighbors. A community working together can accomplish more than just a handful of volunteer board members.

Moreover, I want our home values to increase. I know you are depending on me to preserve your existing investment and to maintain the quality of our neighborhood. I want you to assure you, I am fiscally conservative and do not want to increase our monthly fee unless absolutely necessary.

What experience do you have that you believe would benefit the community and the Board?

I've been a successful member of various teams (large and small) building software for over 20 years. Collaborating with others, not going rogue or solo, helped me to learn when to make compromises, when to offer alternatives, and when to stick to my guns.

I believe my professional success is a direct result of my positive attitude and working with people with diverse viewpoints or experiences. I've also had good mentors along the way and benefited greatly from their wisdom.

Yes, I write computer code for a living. But the act of conversing with other people determines the success of the code. I'm a professional problem solver who asks questions. I don't know everything. And I own up to my mistakes and then learn from them. Friends, family, and coworkers would agree that I am fair, honest, and reasonable. I'm a good listener (and a semi-introverted computer programmer) who brings a positive attitude and an open mind.

Finally, I created, owned, and operated an online community for 8 years with over 20K members. I witnessed dysfunction and learned to address community matters sooner, rather than later. Lingering issues can grow quickly and turn an entire community sour. Similarly, but on a smaller scale, I started NGW on Nextdoor.com as a way for community members to discuss issues, sell or give away items, find answers to community-related questions, and to help one another. It's free and I make zero dollars.

What are the critical issues of NGW? And how would you participate to correct them?

The critical issue is communication. I am thinking of a monthly status report. Nothing too elaborate, maybe just some quick bullet points. I prefer to send electronically (save a stamp), but residents can opt for snail mail.

Onboarding new homeowners with Associa's contact information as well as board member contact information. Something a little friendlier and informal. When we moved here I received a big pile of dusty legal documents, Pam's (from Access) phone number, and a worrisome "good luck" pat on the back.

Thanks for your time. And even if you do not vote for me, send me an email (kris.krause@gmail.com) anyway and say hello. Although we might not agree, at least you'll know where I stand on an issue.

P.S. - I like name tags at Board meetings too!