




**COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS CATE
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
SIXTH DISTRICT**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 1, 2017
TO: Mayor Kevin Faulconer
FROM: Councilmember Chris Cate 
SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations
Nomination

Please consider my nomination of Polly Dong for appointment to the Citizens Advisory Board on Police/Community Relations. Polly Dong currently serves as the Associate Executive Director of the Mission Valley YMCA where she is responsible for planning, implementation, and evaluation of facility policies and programs serving over 30,000 community member clients. Polly has also held positions with the YMCA as the Health and Wellness Director, and the Outreach, PRYDE, and Teen Program Director.

Ms. Dong is a member of the Teach for America Alumni Council, the Rotary International: Breakfast Club, and the YMCA-SD Leadership Development Council. Polly has been recognized for her efforts to ensure a fun and fair environment for all YMCA clients and was the 2016 recipient of the YMCA President's Award.

Polly Dong has a passion for community security and engagement, and she possesses a strong desire to serve the City of San Diego. After reviewing Ms. Dong's enclosed credentials, I'm sure you will agree she will be a strong asset to the Citizens Review Board on Police/Community Relations. Thank you for your consideration.

CC: jh

cc: Honorable Members of the City Council
Francis Barraza, Mayoral Director of Appointments

POLLY M. DONG

WORK EXPERIENCE

YMCA of San Diego County, Mission Valley YMCA; San Diego, CA

Associate Executive Director

Jan 2015-Present

- Responsible for planning, implementation, and evaluation of facility policies and programs serving over 30,000 community members
- Responsible for overall daily branch operations and member experience, in addition to ongoing assessment of community needs
- Management of more than 325 exempt, full-time, and part-time team members
- Supports and advises Regional Vice President on Senior Leadership Team and Board of Management, managing diverse stakeholders
- Creates and manages nine annual budgets, totaling \$1.8M in revenues and \$3.2M in expenses
- Countywide leadership as the Department of Health & Wellness Cluster Chair and Team Lead for Member Satisfaction Connection Project

Health & Wellness Director, Department Head

Dec 2012-Dec 2014

- Responsible for planning, directing, coordinating, and evaluating all department activities at six facilities, including wellness, personal training, group and aquatic fitness, and active adults
- Established inter-branch department collaboration and relationship expectations, leading to increased member and staff satisfaction
- Directed purchase, extraction, and installation of strength and cardiovascular equipment for four major renovations
- Planned and executed two facility closures, including member and staff retention, facility modifications, and program alterations

Outreach, PRYDE, & Teen Program Director

July 2009-Dec 2012

- Coordinated with prospective schools, community leaders, and participants to engage in programming
- Collaborated with local community groups, elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools to assess and meet community needs
- Managed the ongoing development of Community Outreach education, fitness, and character development programming for ages 5-18
- Developed and operated a teen center focused on creative self expression through professional computer and media technology

Association Involvement and Leadership

- Collaborated with peers to develop international programs enhancing global perspectives for youth and young professionals internationally
- Supported the development of diversity, inclusion, and global initiatives with countywide programming and strategic planning

Hillside High School / Teach For America; Durham, NC

Summer 2007-2009

9th-12th Grade Mathematics Teacher, Girls Assistant Basketball Coach

Selected from a pool of 19,000 applicants to be one of 3,300 members of a national service corps in which each member commits two years to teach at public schools in under-resourced communities, working towards closing the achievement gap and expanding educational opportunity.

- Developed engaging long-term, unit, and daily lesson plans to reach students with a wide-range of skill-level, including English language learners and students with special needs
- Provided additional academic and mentor support to target specific student needs and in small group after-school tutoring sessions
- Developed students' extracurricular abilities outside of classroom by assisting girl's junior varsity and varsity basketball teams

Cometerna UBF, Umeå, Sweden

Winter 2007

BG-74 Club, Göttingen, Germany

Fall 2006

Division I, Professional Basketball Player

- Competed against high-level international teams and players throughout Sweden and Germany
- Promoted organizations by interacting with local communities and participating in public speaking, sponsor-hosted events
- Assisted the youth programs by coaching basketball and encouraging development of English-speaking skills with teaching instruction
- Travelled throughout France, Italy, and Spain to learn and explore cultural differences

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- YMCA-SD President's Award, 2016
- YMCA-USA National MECA Program, 2016-present
- YMCA-SD Leadership Development Council, 2015-present
- Rotary International: San Diego Breakfast Club, 2014-present
- Teach For America San Diego Alumni Council, 2013-present
- YMCA-SD Association MDP Representative, 2011-present
- Linda Vista Planning Group Member, 2009-2012
- Carson Elementary Governance & Site Council, 2009-2012

EDUCATION

- **University of San Diego (USD), San Diego, CA**
Bachelor of Business Administration, Marketing emphasis
- **University of San Diego (USD), San Diego, CA**
Master of Science in Real Estate

ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP

University of San Diego NCAA Division I-A, Women's Basketball Team, San Diego, CA

2001 - 2006

Team Captain 2004-2006

Student Athlete Advisory Council, USD, San Diego, CA

Winter 2002-Spring 2006

President, 2004-2006

West Coast Conference Student Athlete Advisory Council, San Bruno, CA

Spring 2002-Spring 2006

President, 2005 - 2006