

Ann Arbor Downtown Development Authority Board Member Bios (2020-2021)

Micah Bartelme – Co-chair Affordable Housing/Economic Development Committee. Appointed to the Board in 2019. Micah is the founder and CEO of BarStar Group, an entertainment and development investment company focused on hospitality and mixed use real estate, with properties including several downtown Ann Arbor bars and restaurants. Micah grew up walking to downtown from what is now Water Hill and is a proud Pioneer High graduate. He and his wife Devon have twin daughters.

Tom Crawford: Joined the board in 2020. Tom is the Ann Arbor Interim City Administrator and oversees all municipal government operations. He's a graduate of both the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He moved to Ann Arbor in 1996. He worked at Ford Motor Company for 9 years in a variety of roles in their finance department. He joined the City of Ann Arbor in 2005 as its Chief Financial Officer overseeing the financial and administrative functions as well as the Information Technology Department. Tom resides in Ann Arbor with his wife Cindy. They have two children in the AAPS system.

Alexandra Dieck – Co-chair Capital Improvements Committee. Appointed to the Board in 2019. Alex is an attorney with the Ann Arbor office of Bodman PLC. She focuses her legal practice on commercial real estate transactions, including land acquisition, land development and leasing, and general real property management. She serves on the board of directors of Friends in Deed, a Washtenaw County nonprofit that helps low-income individuals and families with utilities payments, furniture and vehicle purchases, and more. Alex lives on the west side of Ann Arbor with her German Shepherd, Sammy.

Robert Guenzel – Co-chair Finance Committee. Appointed to the Board in 2010. Bob Guenzel is on the Board of Directors for Ann Arbor SPARK, has taught at the UM's Ford School and has served as Chair of the Washtenaw Housing Alliance and Co-Chair of the Washtenaw County Health Initiative. Bob retired as the Washtenaw County Administrator after 16 years (retiring in 2010).

Tyler Kinley – Vice Chair of the Board and Co-chair Affordable Housing/Economic Development Committee. Appointed to the Board in 2018. Tyler is a vice president at Praxis Properties, a real estate management & development company that works throughout Washtenaw County. Tyler received a Master's in Urban Planning from the University of Michigan, as well as graduated in the first year of the U of M Real Estate Development certificate program. Tyler is an Ann Arbor native, recently returning from 8 years in Seattle working in real estate management, and now lives downtown. Tyler is also on the USA Ultimate Board of Directors and coaches the University of Michigan Men's ultimate frisbee team.

Marie Klopff – Board Treasurer and Co-chair Finance Committee. Appointed to the Board in 2015. Marie has more than 25 years' experience in operational design and organizational development. After having worked directly with Fortune 500 companies for 15+ years, in 2004 Marie founded Klopff Enterprises and then in 2007, iSupplyCon consulting services. Marie's current role as President of the Ann Arbor Art Center brings her business skills to a non-profit organization focused on infusing visual arts in and around Washtenaw County.

Jessica A.S. Letaw –Board Chairperson. Appointed to the Board in 2018. Jessica curates conversations about the built environment among diverse audiences. Her marketing consultancy emphasizes placemaking, sustainability, and equity; she has published articles for such outlets as ArchDaily, Archinect, and Green Building & Design. She has served as an Ecology Center board advisory committee member, as well as a program partner to other local nonprofits like the Ann Arbor Hands On Museum and the Community Action Network of Ann Arbor. She provides local community architecture education programs, currently leads Ann Arbor YIMBY, and is in the process of founding Ann Arbor Architecture. Jessica lives and gardens near downtown with her rescue hound, Henry.

Molly McFarland – Co-chair Capital Improvements Committee. Appointed to the Board in 2018. Molly is one of the Founders and Chief Revenue Officer of AdAdapted, Inc, a mobile advertising technology company headquartered in downtown Ann Arbor. Molly currently lives on the West Side of Ann Arbor with her husband Seyth Miersma.

Darren McKinnon – Board Secretary and Co-chair Operations Committee. Appointed to the Board in 2016. Darren is a vice president at First Martin Corporation which develops, owns and manages real estate throughout Ann Arbor. He is a licensed professional engineer and has worked for various construction and design firms throughout his career. Darren lives in the Water Hill neighborhood and is on the board of the Allen Creek Greenway Conservancy.

Rishi Narayan –Appointed to the Board in 2013. Rishi is a co-owner of Underground Printing, a national custom apparel provider and collegiate merchandise retailer based in Ann Arbor with locations in downtown Ann Arbor and throughout the country. Originally from the Lansing area, he came to Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan and is a near downtown resident. He currently serves on the board of the South University Area Association as well as the Ann Arbor Summer Festival.

Phil Weiss – Co-chair Operations Committee. Appointed to the Board in 2015. Phil is a Vice President of Commercial Banking at Ann Arbor State Bank. Phil has over 15 years' experience in the financial services industry, including 10 years in Commercial Banking, having started his career at National City Bank as a Commercial Loan Officer. He then served as a Senior Loan Officer with Michigan Certified Development Corporation, specializing in SBA 504 Loans. Phil resides in Ann Arbor with his wife and two teenage children. He has been a Rotarian for eight years and is currently a member of the Ann Arbor Rotary Club. He is a Director of the Ark and Ann Arbor Art Center.