

CANDIDATES FOR ASSOCIATION OF OREGON RECYCLERS 2020 – 2022 BOARD

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD CHAIR

KRISTIN LEICHNER | PRIDE DISPOSAL | CURRENT AOR CONFERENCE CHAIR

How long and in what capacity(s) have you been involved with AOR?

I've been attending AOR conference for at least 15 years. I got involved on the conference planning committee around 10 years ago and have served on that committee in one way or another since then. I was AOR Board Secretary from 2012-2018 and have served on the AOR Board as Conference Chair for the past 2 years.

Why would you like to serve on the AOR Board of Directors?

I would like to continue my work on the AOR Board as Chair. I've served on the board under 3 different chairs who I think each brought different things to the organization and have taught me different things about AOR as an organization. I've learned a lot through my experience serving on the board and working in the solid waste and recycling industry for so many years. I feel I'm now ready to take on the challenge as serving as your AOR Board Chair and help lead AOR through the next 2 years.

What skills, expertise, and experience do you possess that would be make you a valuable addition?

In addition to my AOR experience, I served as Governmental Affairs Chair for the Oregon Refuse & Recycling Association (ORRA) for approximately 5 years. I'm currently serving on the ORRA board as Secretary. My "real job" is President of Pride Disposal & Recycling Company in Sherwood, Oregon. I've worked for Pride since 2004 and I'm the 4th generation of my family to work in the solid waste and recycling industry.

CANDIDATES FOR CONFERENCE CHAIR

SANNE STEINSTRAS | OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

How long and in what capacity(s) have you been involved with AOR?

I have attended AOR events and been involved with committees for about five years. I have volunteered with the fundraising committee for several of those years, and in 2019-2020, I was a member of the conference committee to plan the 2020 conference.

Why would you like to serve on the AOR Board of Directors?

I would like to serve on the board in order to help plan great conferences with many topics that are relevant to new and existing members of AOR; that promote and advance racial equity and inclusion in AOR and our industry; and to work with the excellent folks who are on the board, as well as other AOR members. I would like to work with this team to continue bringing more diversity to solid waste and materials management in Oregon; to promote equity in AOR's operations, policies and programs; and to bring important and emerging topics to the conference, related to life cycle thinking, material stewardship, environmental justice, and the continued impacts of National Sword. I believe by focusing AOR's work on those areas, AOR can be an effective partner that helps create environmentally sound policies and programs, and we can sustain an inclusive and healthy organization that will create positive environmental and social benefits into the future.

What skills, expertise, and experience do you possess that would be make you a valuable addition?

My skills and experience in the materials management industry, as well as my education and training in racial equity, make me a valuable addition to the AOR board. I have worked in the materials management sector for over a decade, for local, state, and federal government, as well as the nonprofit sector. I have worked on a wide range of topics and programs that are relevant to AOR's membership, including food waste prevention, creative reuse, multifamily and other recycling programs, and now at DEQ, I have most recently been working on the project to modernize Oregon's recycling system. Also, I have significant nonprofit board experience, including as a founding board member for a creative reuse center in Seattle. I have strong organizational and facilitation skills and served on the conference committee this year, so I would be able to do that job well.

CANDIDATES FOR MARKETING CHAIR

JOEL SCHOENING | OREGON BEVERAGE RECYCLING COOPERATIVE (incumbent)

How long and in what capacity(s) have you been involved with?

I first got involved in AOR in 2017 after accepting my current position as the Community Relations Manager at OBRC. I joined the legislative committee right away and then, in 2018, I was elected to the board as the Marketing Chair.

Why would you like to serve on the AOR Board of Directors?

Serving on the AOR board for the last two years has been a pleasure. I have deeply appreciated the people I have met, and everything that I have learned from them. I would be thrilled to continue to serve AOR for another term. The next two years could prove to be very challenging for AOR. Social distancing and other ripple effects of the coronavirus pandemic will continue to force AOR to shift the way that we provide services for our members. At the same time, we will likely see major legislation introduced at the state level, and rare opportunities for AOR to significantly shape the future of Oregon's recycling system. I would be proud to help guide AOR through this time, and to help ensure that we continue to provide value to our existing members and engage new members in our work.

What skills, expertise, and experience do you possess that would be make you a valuable addition?

My skill set and professional experience has prepared me well for a board position. I earned a Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of Oregon which provided my with a deep understanding of social and environmental justice, equity, and the interaction of economic, political, and social forces in the maintenance of social systems. I also have 10 years experience working in communications and public affairs for public infrastructure projects. I am collaborative, a natural facilitator, and a patient communicator. The most valuable experience for this position, however, has been the last two years of service on the AOR board which has helped me to better understand the many different industries and perspectives within AOR's membership.

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

JENNIFER STEFANICK | WASHINGTON COUNTY (incumbent)

How long and in what capacity(s) have you been involved with AOR?

Early on, I won the ROY award in 2008 and have been excited to be apart of the organization since! Later, as a CES student staff member, I joined the conference planning committee in 2016 and organized the Table Topics for 2016 through 2019. I have been the membership chair since June 2018

Why would you like to serve on the AOR Board of Directors?

As current membership chair, I would like to continue to explore and expand our membership base to include a greater number of members from all backgrounds and experiences. As AOR works towards developing its racial equity goals and committing to inclusionary principals, it is my hope to contribute to increasing our membership to reflect that diversity. Other membership goals will be to continue to involve statewide Master Recycler programs and offer free one-year memberships to certified master recyclers and connect with student organizations through statewide colleges and universities.

Two year goals:

- Increase diverse membership with support from entire board and Resource Director
- Add 25+ new members from all backgrounds
- Obtain more access to membership data/assist Resource Director with data management
- Revive the membership committee

What skills, expertise, and experience do you possess that would be make you a valuable addition?

As AOR's current membership chair, I helped develop and support the addition of Master Recyclers being recognized as valuable members of the waste reduction industry in Oregon by offering them free one-year memberships as organizational members of AOR.

Additionally, I work for Washington County's Solid Waste & Recycling division as a Green Business Coordinator providing technical assistance to businesses in waste reduction and management, offering certifications for sustainable actions and providing resources to achieve waste reduction goals. I earned my master recycler certification in 2010, worked for Community Environmental Services for three years while earning a degree in environmental studies at PSU in 2017. I have been involved with waste reduction, recycling and sustainable living for many years as a passionate human of the earth!

I understand that as a member of AOR, I have a responsibility to ensure that the organization does the best work possible in pursuit of its strategic goals. I believe in the purpose and the mission of the organization, and I will act responsibly and prudently as its steward.

CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY

ANGIE MARZANO | LANE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

How long and in what capacity(s) have you been involved with AOR?

I have been involved with AOR in one capacity or the other since 2005, when I attended my first conference as an idealistic, newbie in the role of technical assistance specialist working with Community Environmental Services (CES) on the Washington County technical assistance project. At that time, I was pursuing my graduate degree at Portland State University and stumbled into environmental work and CES. My first AOR conference, blew my mind as I was new to the industry and was able to meet professional colleagues, who to this day are lifelong friends. AOR was the first conference I attended where it became clear that the "recycling" industry and profession was increasingly complex and I was hooked. At that point, AOR members were having hard conversations about how to affect the industry given the export dilemma with China, PLA, exploding consumption of plastics and new LCA information that would transform the industry from merely working on recycling, to pushing Materials Management philosophy – an approach that emphasizes waste prevention, while seeking to reduce environmental impacts by managing materials through all stages of their life.

In addition to observing the changing landscape in the industry, I also served as "Special Projects Chair" from 2006-2008. In this role, I not only planned and worked with committee's to organize AOR's education and annual conference, I attended monthly board meetings to discuss the progress of Oregon's bottle bill, markets research and legislation surrounding solid waste and recycling. During that time we worked cooperatively with government agencies, haulers, business to promote recycling in Oregon; current public policy, planning strategies and legislation surrounding solid waste and recycling. This was a huge learning opportunity for me as a professional and really elevated the need for policy as well as on the ground education and communication around waste prevention and recycling efforts. During this time, it also became apparent to me as someone in the field that AOR served as a convener of ideas, thoughtful conversation, friendship and mutual respect.....all in the name of sustainable materials management.

I am proud to say that I've been part of this community in one way or the other for 15 years. I would be honored to continue where I left off and finish business left unattended in 2005.

Why would you like to serve on the AOR Board of Directors?

I truly love and respect the AOR community of professionals. I feel honored to be among colleagues that give tirelessly, are always open to pick up the phone with a question, send resources, share projects and programs.....all in the spirit of helping each other; continuing the cause of environmental justice and climate change.

In addition to my love of the AOR community, I feel passionately that it's important to have out-of-Portland representation. Most of my professional experience prior to moving to Eugene, was specific to solid waste policy and a governance structure specific to the Portland-Metro region. Now, that I'm working at Lane County, different economic and policy dynamics play a role in our ability to achieve state and local recovery and reuse goals. These conversations should continue to be elevated in

statewide discussions taking place. There are certain constraints that exist in more rural parts of the state that make these conversations more relevant than ever because they allow the opportunity to displace more traditional employment opportunities (e.g., lumber, paper mills) with building the creative/reuse/repair economies that can train and provide economic opportunities to people who desire more flexible, niche, traditional reuse professions like sewing, surging, motor repair, sewing machine repair, etc. to communities in rural parts of the state.

What skills, expertise, and experience do you possess that would be make you a valuable addition?

I am a strategic planner and good writer and think that would benefit the secretary position.

ACHIEVEMENTS & TRAINING

- EMERGE OREGON: Board of Directors, 2019 - Current
- CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY HOUSING: Board of Directors, 2018 - Current
- ASSOCIATION OF OREGON RECYCLERS: Special Projects Chair, 2006
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: IAP2 Certification in Public Participation, 2012

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

COMPUTER PROFICIENCY: Microsoft Office 97 – XP, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Access, and Outlook; Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop 5.5, PageMaker 6.5, InDesign CS6

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATION:

Program development, public speaking, public relations, marketing communications, message development, community/customer/ employee relations, project coordination, special event planning, meeting facilitation, strategic planning, media relations, working with diverse groups, data tracking and reporting, environmental assessments, strategic planning and writing.