



February 2019

Candidate for Election: City of Gainesville Mayor

Note: Responses Will be Made Public. Please limit your response to 100 words (the published response will be cut off at the limit).

1. Candidate's Name: Jenn Powell
2. Email Address: acr4peace@gmail.com
3. Campaign Website: Jennpowell4gainesville.com
4. Education: High School, some college
5. Occupation: Legal Assistant, screenprinter
6. Employer: Terry Kann, PA
7. Previous Employment: Thompson Painting, Car Keys, LLC
8. Three Qualities Leaders Must Possess and Why:
 1. Integrity- what you say means nothing if you do not follow through
 2. Positive attitude- Your attitude is contagious, this is very important for morale to lead by example.
 3. Humility- to be able to admit and learn from mistakes and grow from them
9. Civic Involvement:

I volunteer with many different organizations in town, mostly focusing on increasing voter turnout and education.
10. Board(s) I've Served and What Prompted Me to Serve on Them:

Affordable Housing(SHIP) board (3rd year)
Citizens Advisory Board Community Development & Block Grants.(3 years)



11. Have you ever served in elected public office? If yes, how many years total have you served in elected public office? Not yet.

12. Why are you running for this office?

When I was raising my two daughters on my own 20 years ago we had safety nets in place that prevented families from falling through the cracks. The elected officials are almost always selected to run by a small handful of people and we lack truly independent voices. I want to end that cycle and give a voice to those who struggle to be heard. I know as a City we can do better. It's time for change and I believe I am the candidate that can best work with everyone in the community to make that happen.

Note: Responses Will be Made Public. Please limit your response to 100 words (the published response will be cut off at the limit).

13. What do you perceive are the three most important concerns facing the City of Gainesville and what would be your top priorities, if elected?

Affordable housing, low wages, lack of economic development east of Waldo Rd and transportation (yes, thats 4, but it's hard to narrow it down to 3)

14. The recent racial inequity study documented significant achievement and opportunity gaps in our community. In your opinion, what are the top two factors that contribute to this gap and what steps would you take to address those?

Education and the lack of opportunity keep all people from living to their full potential. The city can partner with local trades and create apprenticeship programs that will put people to work, not everyone is going to go to college. Also, working with the School Board to ensure every student, regardless of zip code has access to a great education.

15. Limited transportation options contribute to our well-documented equity gaps. What ideas do you have to help citizens get where they need to go? We must go line by line in the budget and make cuts where we can to be able to make our city more accessible to everyone. Increasing access to job centers from lower income areas should be a priority.

16. What do you feel the City's economic development priorities should be over the next four years? Investing in the communities that have not seen any development in over



50 years would be my priority, but also ensuring the communities participate in the changes/improvements made.

17. Discussions surrounding GRU dominated many conversations in the past year. What would you say are the most significant issues facing the utility today? What changes would you make?

It's time our public utility starts managing their budget like the rest of us have to. Management seems out of touch with the lives of everyday working people and the financial decisions being made reflect that.

18. Why should members of the business community support your candidacy? I would like to see more focus on keeping local businesses open and a preference on local contractors instead of out of state developers and out of state work crews. Too many businesses that called Gainesville home are closing their doors and we need to address that as soon as possible.

I hereby certify to the veracity and completeness of the information herein and that no other party other than myself completed this questionnaire.

Original or Electronic Signature

Jenn Powell