



MEET YOUR GEM CITY MARKET BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES



Jamie Robinson

What connects you to Gem City Market and what motivates you to run for the board?

My family and I reside in Grafton Hill and are frequent shoppers at Gem City Market. It is invaluable to have a market within walking distance that also provides services such as health clinics and cooking classes. As a pediatric nurse, it is important to me that there is access to fresh and affordable food close to home for local families, as well as community resources to help serve one another. As a board member, I would seek out new opportunities for Gem City Market to grow in the Dayton area and that the Market continues providing necessary resources for the local community.

What role do you think Gem City Market will play in Dayton's future?

Gem City Market will serve as a model and a catalyst for change for the Dayton area. There are more areas in the community that could benefit from this model. The "We Own It" model provides a collaborative approach to addressing issues and meeting the needs of our neighbors with practical solutions.

In what ways are you working to contribute to, and improve, the Dayton community?

I serve on the events committee for Levitt Pavillion. Engaging our community through intentional gatherings supports the vitality of our city. As a native of Cincinnati, I have seen first hand how a city can come together for positive change. In Dayton I serve as a community resource through the work I do at Dayton Children's. Living in Grafton Hill has allowed my husband and I to participate in local events such as the Stoddard Pumpkin Glow and neighborhood clean up initiatives. We are passionate about the restoration we have seen occurring in Downtown Dayton and are excited for what is to come.

If you were speaking to a prospective owner or shopper, how would you explain to them why they should support and shop at Gem City Market?

Supporting Gem City Market through shopping or a membership provides direct impact back into our local community. Members have a voice in how they shop and the items that are available to them.



Which of our Principles resonates with you most and why?

I most resonate with the principle of social transformation. Gem City Market provides opportunities towards a more just economic structure through their cooperative model. This transformational change excites me as we see Dayton growing into a more vibrant and equitable city.

The Gem City Market Board has expressed that the following experiences or skills will enhance the effectiveness of the future board: financial management, retail management, small business ownership or management. Do you have any of these skills? If so, please explain.

My professional background is in healthcare management and leadership development. Additionally, I have a master's degree in nursing administration. I believe skills that I use professionally, such as time management, conflict resolution, and project development will be applicable to this role.



Carrie Scarff

What connects you to Gem City Market and what motivates you to run for the board?

The Gem City Market has fixed the most fundamental problem a community can have: access to healthy food. Everyone—everyone—deserves access to healthy food, but the neighborhoods in West Dayton didn't have it. Healthy food is so personal to everyone, and I'm no exception. I've served on the Gem City Market Board for the last five years and am currently the Vice President. I have chaired multiple committees and contributed actively in many other ways. I helped guide store construction, hire store leadership, and set Board policies. I feel strongly that I want to continue my service on the Board so that I can follow through on my commitment to help the Gem City Market become a successful and stable grocery in West Dayton

for years to come.

What role do you think Gem City Market will play in Dayton's future?

I hope that the Gem City Market is a model to solve service inequities of all types. I hope that additional grocery stores using the Gem City model can be built and that other co-op businesses will develop as well. These businesses will never pick up and leave because they think they can make more money in wealthier neighborhoods because they are owned by the residents themselves.

In what ways are you working to contribute to, and improve, the Dayton community?

I've served on the Gem City Market Board for five years and am currently the Vice President. Since I've been on the Board, I've served on the Building Committee during Market construction and have chaired many committees: the Marketing Committee, the Policy Committee, and the Search Committee for the General Manager in both 2019 and 2022. I've facilitated three compression planning sessions for the Market and currently serve as the Board's single point of contact to the General Manager. In addition, in my professional career with Five Rivers MetroParks, I've overseen the Second Street Market and led the development of the Dayton Riverfront Plan, including site plans for Sunrise, RiverScape, Island, and Wesleyan MetroParks, all either in or near to the Market's target area.

If you were speaking to a prospective owner or shopper, how would you explain to them why they should support and shop at Gem City Market?

Not only can they get their groceries close to home, including fresh meat and produce, for reasonable prices, but they can also be part of a community. Every time they walk into the store they can feel that they're visiting friends.



Which of our Principles resonates with you most and why?

Participatory Management: the staff at the Gem City Market is so dedicated to the Market and has done great work to make it the attractive grocery that it is today. I look forward to continuing to watch them grow into stronger roles under the idea of participatory management. With the information and tools they need to contribute to the leadership and management of the Market, the staff, as well as Market members, will create the collaborative management environment that is central to the cooperative model and that is core to the ideals on which the Market was founded.

The Gem City Market Board has expressed that the following experiences or skills will enhance the effectiveness of the future board: financial management, retail management, small business ownership or management. Do you have any of these skills? If so, please explain.

I grew up in a family nursery business, including a retail garden store, where I learned how to run all aspects of the business from my father, mother, grandfather and uncle for nearly 60 years. I have been responsible for multi-million dollar budgets in my position at Five Rivers MetroParks for over 15 years.



Jacob Davis

What connects you to Gem City Market and what motivates you to run for the board?

Dayton is a special place. I live here, I work here, and most importantly, I shop here. I am a firm believer that community action creates better outcomes for all. That is why I am interested in serving on the Board. Gem City Market is what happens when the community comes together to create positive change, and now, we need fresh and innovative ideas to ensure the Market remains sustainable. I am an attorney, a

local business owner and policy analyst, a husband, and a father. I want to see the Market succeed because it has a direct impact on my life.

What role do you think Gem City Market will play in Dayton's future?

Gem City Market will continue to build community, host important events, and provide a safe and affordable shopping experience for members and consumers. The Market is not just a grocery store. It is an anchor tenant for Salem Avenue and demonstrates what can happen when people come together to ensure that healthy food choices are available for all in our community. As a co-op, Gem City Market will provide an example that we can take to other underserved areas in Dayton.

In what ways are you working to contribute to, and improve, the Dayton community?

I often provide pro bono legal services to underserved residents in our community. As a local attorney, I work daily to improve access to fair housing and equal employment opportunity. I previously served the public for the Dayton Human Relations Council where I was responsible for enforcing the City of Dayton's anti-discrimination ordinances, and now, I work daily in the areas of business law, employment law, and real estate and fair housing law. Additionally, my wife and I now exclusively shop locally and purchase all our weekly groceries from the Market. Lastly, I am a proud member and contributor of the Mount Vernon Neighborhood Association.

If you were speaking to a prospective owner or shopper, how would you explain to them why they should support and shop at Gem City Market?

Gem City Market is not just a grocery store. It is a movement. It is collective community action to help ensure that all residents in the area have access to healthy food options, a kitchen, a mini health clinic, and a powerful sense of community while visiting the Market. It is community owned and serves as inspiration for what can be achieved by hard work, dedication, and teamwork. As members, we own it so come shop with us, learn with us, and lead with us.



Which of our Principles resonates with you most and why?

Open Admission most resonates with me, because I have worked as a civil rights attorney to ensure that Dayton is free from discrimination in credit, employment, housing, and public accommodations. Non-discrimination is critically important, and people in our community are, unfortunately, routinely subjected to discrimination in housing, employment, and credit and consumer transactions. The Market's Open Admission policy serves as a reminder of the good in our community and the continuous fight for a more fair, equitable, and inclusive Dayton.

The Gem City Market Board has expressed that the following experiences or skills will enhance the effectiveness of the future board: financial management, retail management, small business ownership or management. Do you have any of these skills? If so, please explain.

As the Managing Attorney at Nalls Davis, I am responsible for financial management and matter management at our law firm. This includes building a book of business, exercising due diligence with our finances, providing superior customer service, conducting research, processing account and trust payments, and operating an efficient and effective law firm. Additionally, I worked as a Club Associate at a large retailer in college and have experience working with the public. I have the skills needed to provide thoughtful and analytical recommendations to ensure that the Market not only survives—but thrives.