

Statement from Cyndi Long, candidate for MSRNA Board of Directors, April 2021

How long have you lived in Shooks Run? I've lived in Shooks Run for one year, but I am a Colorado Springs native. Though I haven't lived in the Springs for a number of years my family is here so I've never completely been away.

What do you value most about the neighborhood? I value the community. I chose to relocate specifically to this area of the Springs because I wanted to be part of the "front porch community" that is inherent in this historic neighborhood - meeting neighbors, walking to parks, community events and downtown, and experiencing all it has to offer, including the arts.

The irony of the pandemic and buying my home in Shooks Run literally on the day the first COVID case was documented in Colorado is that it brought so many people out of their homes onto their front porches and working on garden and landscape projects in their front yards. I've been able to meet dozens and dozens of wonderful neighbors from the sidewalks as I walked my dogs exploring all Shooks Run has to offer.

Why are you interested in being a board member? I believe in the importance of community and that community involvement strengthens my commitment to recognizing and supporting all the wonderful aspects of my community while also facilitating positive change where needed.

I've volunteered all my life. Giving back is fundamental to who I am, and being an MSRNA board member would fall in line with my belief that it is important to be a good steward of all that I value in life.

What strengths would you bring? Listen, learn and action. If I see a problem or concern, I step up to the plate and figure out what I can do to make a positive difference, whether that's on my own or in collaboration with others. That's why I created the Sharing Fence - to facilitate community members being able to share anything extra they may have with those in need simply by pinning them on to my fence. It's been extraordinarily successful and empowers those who are able to help a bit as well as those who are in need. This video link explains it best.

<https://www.fox21news.com/news/local/colorado-springs-woman-not-on-the-fence-about-sharing-this-season/>

What would you expect to accomplish as a board member? My goals would be two-fold. First, obtaining a better understanding of the Shooks Run community strengths and concerns. Second, in exploring options for helping neighbors and enhancing community resources, whether it be providing education regarding shoveling sidewalks or arranging for services for those in need or exploring dog park options. Just two examples. Goals would best be defined by the community I seek to serve.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve Shooks Run!

Cyndi Long