

General Retirement System City of Detroit Newsletter
STRIVING TO MAKE RETIREMENT EASY!

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Trustee Crystal Perkins

Board member Perkins just celebrated one year in her role as a trustee. Perkins has been employed with the city since 2007. Below are her thoughts on the upcoming GRS election, who inspires her most, and how she aims to impact the system.



WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS YOUR GREATEST CONTRIBUTION WITH YOUR TIME ON THE BOARD?

My greatest contribution in the past year is a fresh set of eyes and ears. There are situations that have been ongoing for years or decades, which need to be presented again to bring me up to speed and gives co-trustees an opportunity to hear the details again. I can bring out new points with my fresh perspective.

HOW DO YOU AIM TO IMPACT THE GENERAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM DURING YOUR TERM?

Working for a municipality like the City of Detroit can be complicated. Employees have questions and often receive different answers each time, so knowing about a system is best done by joining the leadership. I joined the board to gain a better understanding and to help employees by bringing clarity to a complex system. I aim to help long term.

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT ROLE IN THE GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT?

As a Project Manager and Analytics Specialist, I manage a division for blight remediation. We are responsible for the city's board-up program, seasonal graffiti removal, and corridor clean-up program, to remove items that may be a danger to citizens.

WHY IS THE WEB-BASED ERP INTELLIPLAN PAPERLESS SYSTEM BENEFICIAL?

The new system will be easier and more convenient. It will offer a better way to protect sensitive data. Also, it reduces waste and cuts down on the costs of printing in mass amounts.

WHAT ARE SOME CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES YOU FORECAST WITH INVESTMENTS?

The board has done a great job selecting consulting firm New England Pension Consultants to advise on managing assets. I met the team multiple times and they are trustworthy, genuine, handle the funds as if it's their own and are willing to teach the board about investments. One challenge is the market and future of our economy.

WHO INSPIRES YOU MOST?

My mom inspires me most. She was an awesome person and the big community around her is currently watching and supporting me. I want to make her proud. Secondly, my mentor inspires me. She is a city of Detroit retiree who pushes me. And of course, my children.

WHY SHOULD ACTIVE MEMBERS VOTE IN THE UPCOMING GRS ELECTION?

It is important all active members VOTE and have a say. This is an opportunity to make your voice heard and we want a board that reflects its members. Remember: ballots are mailed to the address on file. To update your address please contact your Human Resources Employee Services Consultant.

UPCOMING ELECTION

Please remember to vote! Mark your calendars with the following dates:

ACTIVE TRUSTEE ELECTION

Primary ballots to be mailed on **APRIL 5, 2019**
Ballots must be received at AAA by **APRIL 19, 2019**
Ballots Counted at AAA on **APRIL 30, 2019**
Primary Ballots to be sealed on **APRIL 30, 2019**
• Note: Candidates will be notified of results by mail after this date
Final Election Ballots to be mailed on **MAY 6, 2019**
• Note: Final Election will be held if no candidate receives greater than 50% of the votes tallied.
Ballots must be received at AAA by **MAY 20, 2019**
Ballots counted at AAA on **MAY 29, 2019**

RETIRED TRUSTEE ELECTION

No election will be conducted this year as no candidate petitions were submitted. Therefore, Thomas Sheehan, the current incumbent, will continue to serve as the Retired Member Trustee for the term ending June 30, 2021.

UP-TO-DATE ADDRESS & BENEFICIARY

It is important to have your current address and beneficiary information on file with the Retirement System Office. Maintain accurate beneficiary info on file for both the death benefit and the annuity savings fund. You can now find the address update form and beneficiary form on the website.

Further instructions and forms are available [here](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

General Retirement System board meetings start at 10 am. Employee Benefit Plan meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday, at 9:30 am, indicated with a *. Investment committee meetings are held at Noon. All are held in the Retirement Systems conference room.

04/17: Board Meeting*	05/15: Board Meeting*	07/03: Board Meeting
05/01: Board Meeting	06/05: Board Meeting	07/15: Investment
05/06: Investment Committee Meeting	06/19: Board Meeting*	Committee Meeting

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

Our brand new website is live! The site is now mobile friendly, more organized, simpler to read, and easier than ever to use. Progress of the site truly reflects and best represents the City of Detroit. View at www.RSCD.org.

RETIREES - GO GREEN!

Experience the benefits of going PAPERLESS. The Retirement System City of Detroit's new payroll provider (Paylocity) reduces paper documents and provides members more efficient service. Complete actions online, 24/7:

- Update address, telephone, or email address
- Access direct deposit information
- Complete tax information

Instructions can be found at www.RSCD.org.

ACTIVE EMPLOYEES

PRESENTATION FOR DEPT. DIVISIONS

Department divisions can now request a presentation from GRSD to discuss basic benefits available, eligibility requirements, and get answers to questions. If interested, please contact Gail A. Oxendine, GRSD Assistant Executive Director, at goxendine@rscd.org.

Future newsletters will only be available online. Please subscribe at www.rscd.org/enotify.

MEMBERS, HAVE A QUESTION?

Contact us via our website. Submit the form at our [contact us link](#).