

January 20, 2024

To Whom it Concerns:

This is a letter of intent to serve on the City of Valdez Museum and Historical Archive Board. I am a fourth-generation Valdez resident who has a deep interest and appreciation of Valdez history.

I have a B.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Idaho (1999) and have lived in Valdez since graduating college. I have some previous Museum-related volunteer experience from 2000-2003 when I served with the Valdez Preservation and Historical Committee during the restoration of the Old Pioneer Cemetery. I was also a five-year member of the Pioneers before letting my membership lapse two years ago.

Recently, my wife and I had the privilege of purchasing and renovating one of the oldest buildings in the commercial district and converting it into a dance studio. It was a rewarding project to restore and beautify a building that was built in 1917, survived the Earthquake, and relocated to the new town. It gave me a renewed appreciation about the importance of keeping history alive.

Thank you for your consideration for a slot on your board vacancy.

Dan Gilson