

Corbin City Commission

Seven candidates for running for the Corbin City Commission. The top four voter getters will a seat on the commission. Voters may vote for up to four candidates. The race is nonpartisan. Lisa Garrison responded to the KFTC candidate survey.

Lisa Garrison

Campaign facebook:

www.facebook.com/Lisa-Garrison-Candidate-for-Corbin-City-Commission-113442186863290

QUESTIONS

Do you support mandatory mask requirements to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and also to protect public health during times when the virus is rapidly spreading? Why or why not? What other actions should our city take to both prevent and slow the spread of this disease in our community?

Lisa Garrison: Yes because we trust our public health scientists to give us the best guidance in how to protect our community. We wear masks in our family out of concern and compassion for our neighbors. Our city has been very proactive and has provided outside seating for our downtown restaurants so that the lower capacities can be maintained. I feel that our schools should not have in-person learning unless all students, staff and teachers are required to wear masks or face shields and ensure daily cleaning and sanitizing of each classroom after use.

What role will you play to address structural racism, oppose white supremacy, and support racial justice in our city? Please list at least two specific policies you plan to pursue that would address systemic racism and inequality.

Lisa Garrison: I am a member of our local racial justice organization, The SunUp Initiative and work with others to raise awareness of racial injustice so that we can combat it. 1. I would encourage our city commission to conduct regular racial equity assessments of the budget decisions and make financial decisions driven by a desire to address systemic racism in our community. 2. I would pursue the establishment of a Citizen's Police Review Board to work with the Corbin Police Department to ensure that justice is being properly served without bias and prejudice.

As a city official, what do you plan to do to ensure all residents have safe, fair, and affordable housing? Please share specific local and/or state level policy changes that you support to further safe, fair, and affordable housing in our city.

Lisa Garrison: I would encourage our city to convert the two school campuses that are no longer being used into affordable housing communities.

What can be done to make utility bills, such as electric, cable, and internet bills, more affordable to ensure that these important services are available to all in our community?

Lisa Garrison: I would encourage our city to advertise the availability of LIHEAP so community members know where to get the help they need. I would encourage keeping taxes low for utilities.

What actions will you take to ensure Eastern Kentucky has a strong, sustainable, and equitable economy?

Lisa Garrison: I would encourage partnerships with other area counties so that development is balanced.

Do you support a local Fairness ordinance to protect LGBTQ people (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, queer) from discrimination in housing, employment, financial transactions, and public accommodations based on sexual orientation and gender identity? Please explain.

Lisa Garrison: Yes. I think it is crucial for all people to feel welcome in their community and by having a fairness ordinance in place, that shows LGBTQ citizens that they are valued members of the community.

What actions will you take to ensure that everyone, regardless of the color of their skin, income, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, and other identities feels safe and welcome in our community?

Lisa Garrison: I will organize community events/town halls for people to come together to talk to each other because communication is the key to inclusion and tolerance.

Without adequate broadband internet Eastern Kentuckians lack access to the world outside of their own communities. What is your plan for expanding broadband internet access in our city and throughout Eastern Kentucky?

Lisa Garrison: To advocate for tax benefits for providing low-cost broadband to areas that do not have it.

In these times, Eastern Kentucky communities are struggling to continue public service programs for seniors, young people, and disabled residents while also dealing with increasingly worsening infrastructure. And these problems have been exacerbated by the current global pandemic. As a city council member, how would you use your position to advocate for more federal support to local governments hit hard by the COVID-19 health and economic crisis?

Lisa Garrison: I would look for grants that the city can apply for that focus on youth, seniors and disabled citizens. I would work with other city officials and state and federal legislators to clearly communicate our city's need for those funds.

**Once in office, what actions will you take to ensure the preservation of our environment?
Do you support renewable energy? Why or why not?**

Lisa Garrison: I will work with our city to ensure that our tree board is being utilized to educate our community about the need to plant trees. I would help organize and participate in community trash pick up. I do support renewable energy and would encourage our city to invest in wind and solar energy where it is feasible.