



MARCELIA NICHOLSON
MILWAUKEE COUNTY SUPERVISOR • 5TH DISTRICT

To: Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Milwaukee County Supervisor, Marcelia Nicholson, District 5

CC: Kelly Bablitch

Date: 4/10/18

Re: Intent to Run for 1st Vice Chairwoman of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Honorable Colleagues,

Please accept this memo as my intent to run for the position of the 1st Vice Chairwoman of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

I am running to be our 1st Vice Chairwoman because we need a robust vision for what this position can be, representation of the diverse community we serve, and leadership experience combined with fresh energy, vigor, and genuine appreciation of our work.

As your 1st Vice Chairwoman, I will advance a more robust vision for the role. While many have understood the 1st Vice Chair to be a ceremonial position, my vision is to be an active, involved member of our leadership body. My 1st Vice Chairwomanship will actively foster collaboration amongst ourselves as well as with our constituents. I believe I have a good working relationship with all members, and I have striven to be respectful to all and a team player. I will be fair and impartial. I will work to help us run more efficient meetings by fostering communication. I will help with scheduling and mediate conflicts and difficulties over values and priorities, which arise in a democratic governing body; and, with this approach, I will work to be a fearless voice both within the Board, and outside of it as a public representative of our governing.

Milwaukee is a diverse city. Our leadership team must consist of diversity in gender, race, and background in order to reflect the public we serve. Too often, political leadership defaults to those who fit the mold of the past. As a young working woman of color who grew up in the 53206 zip-code, I ran for office in part because I wanted to advocate and fight on behalf of those left behind by governing processes because we are not included in decision-making. I will bring to our Board leadership not only the perspective of those often left behind, but also the public image of an inclusive and representative Board.

Milwaukee County Courthouse

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As your 1st Vice Chairwoman, I will also bring a combination of proven leadership and the energetic vigor needed to propel our body to its greatest potential. My experiences in leadership began as a public educator, a community organizer, and as an activist in my union. On our Board, I have served as Vice Chair of the Parks, Energy and Environment and Intergovernmental Relations Committee; I serve on quasi-governmental leadership bodies, too, as an active member of the Milwaukee Art Museum board of trustees and the Milwaukee Public Library board of trustees.

I have since being elected, sought further development through the Young Elected Officials Network and Local Progress, both networks of elected state and local policy-makers. In turn, those organizations have recognized my leadership and added me to their governing boards as well. I believe the relationships I've fostered, and these experiences will produce nothing but positive outcomes for our Board and for Milwaukee County as a whole.

Honorable colleagues, I understand that this is a vital role. There will be many challenges, critical issues, and concerns to address- and sometimes that's all the public sees. However, with your support, I will work with you all to not only address these, but to also shed a positive light on the great work we do every single day. We all genuinely appreciate our roles, and humbly serve our district as elected representatives, so I will work to engage the public to make sure our great work shines bright.

Again, I ask for your vote this Monday and give my sincerest promise to work as hard as I can. Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss my candidacy.

Warmest Regards,



Marcelia Nicholson
Milwaukee County Supervisor, District 5

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