KRISTEN WEAVER



CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES BY THE GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

Kristen Weaver was born in Greeley, Colo. She earned a B.S. in computer science and psychology (2004), teaching certificate (2005) and M.A. in education (2006) all from the University of Denver. Kristen taught middle school science and mathematics in Denver Public Schools from 2005-2007. After reconnecting with her now-husband, A.J. Stephens, a friend from childhood, she moved to the D.C. area to teach middle school science in Montgomery County Public Schools from 2007 to 2013. In 2013 she started as an education and outreach specialist at Goddard Space Flight Center, first with Universities Space Research Association and currently with Science Systems and Applications, Inc.

In 2015, Kristen and A.J. moved to Greenbelt, purchasing a townhome in the Greenbelt Station neighborhood for proximity both to her work and to the Metro for his commute downtown. She was also drawn to Greenbelt's history and cooperative ethos. Kristen soon began attending city council meetings to learn more about the planning of the walking path from the Greenbelt Station neighborhood to the Metro station. Events such as the Labor Day parade and Festival brought back fond memories of July Fourth festivities in her hometown, where neighborhood gatherings were frequent. After years of living in apartments and barely knowing neighbors by sight, Kristen was excited to find in Greenbelt the sense of community she had known growing up.

Not long after moving to Greenbelt Station, in 2016 Kristen volunteered for the new homeowner's association Activities Committee. She initially served as secretary, then chair, a position she still holds. Kristen began to look for opportunities for involvement in the larger Greenbelt community and was appointed to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board in the spring of 2018. Simultaneously, she joined a new composting initiative at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, progressing to a leadership role in the Greenbelt Neighborhood Composting group. Working with the composting group, as well as attending other local meetings and events, helped Kristen meet people from all sections of Greenbelt, a process she has continued by joining the Connecting Across Greenbelt organization starting in late 2020 and becoming active on their planning committee.

These activities have helped Kristen focus on what she loves about Greenbelt, but also identify ways Greenbelt can be better. As a member of Greenbelt City Council, she hopes to be part of bringing neighborhoods together and building a stronger sense of community for all city residents.