



City of Fortuna
APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
CITY BOARD/COMMISSION

JAN 3 AM 11:31

Name of Board or Commission: Fortuna Historical Commission

Applicant Name: Susan O'Hara

Home Address: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address (if different):

Home Phone: Business/Cell Phone: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Education: B.A., History & Anthropology, U.C. Santa Cruz, M.A. History, U.C. Santa Barbara, Teacher Cert., HSU

Length of Time in the Fortuna Area: 30 + years, 60 years in Southern Humboldt

Present Employer: Southern Humboldt Unified School District

Job Title: English and History Teacher, Casterlin High

Organizations in which you are currently involved: Fortuna Historical Commission, Fortuna Garden Club

Reason for wanting to serve on this Board/Commission: I still have knowledge and expertise to share with the board.

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Expertise you bring to this Board/Commission: she and I are collaborating on the 100 year History of the Fortuna Rod

she and I are collaborating on the 100 year History of the Fortuna Rodeo, which will be released in 2022.

References:

1. Shannon McWhorter, Sequoia Gas, [REDACTED]

2. Christine Mengel, [REDACTED]

Signature

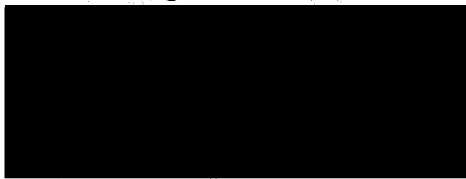
Jan. 1, 2022

Date

This application will be kept on file for six months.



Susan J.P. O'Hara



**Teacher ✎Determined ✎ Experienced ✎
Collaborator ✎Historian ✎**

Objective: History Commission Appointment

Professional Experience:

Teacher, High School, History & English
Casterlin High, Southern Humboldt
Unified,

2020- Present

- ❖ Teach Students History &
English skills including writing and
research

Teacher 6 – 7- 8th Grades Casterlin
Elementary, Southern Humboldt Unified

2016- 2020

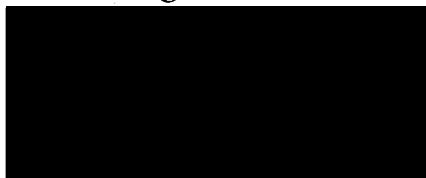
- ❖ Taught multiple subjects, including
Ancient Civilizations, Medieval History,
U.S. History and Local History.
Students presented “Grave Matters” at
local Cemetery about lives of early
Blocksburg residents
- ❖ Write Grants for School

Teacher at Rio Dell Elementary for 20
years

- ❖ Taught grades 1 -8, 1995- 2016
Served on Site Council, Master
Teacher, Presented several
workshops on reading to staff,
mentorship in history, wrote local
history book for students in third
grade,
- ❖ Taught 7-8 grade History and
Language Arts classes
- ❖ Taught 1st and 5th grades at Agnes
Johnson, Southern Humboldt Unified



Susan J.P. O'Hara



1991-1992, and 1994-1995
Osprey Learning Center, 1992
❖ Trainer for Governor's Reading
Institutes for Sacramento Office of
Education, 2002-2007

Volunteer Experience:

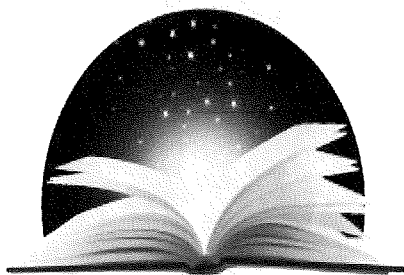
❖ 1990-2018 Humboldt Redwoods
Interpretive Association
❖ President 7 years
❖ Created 3 large permanent
exhibits, including Native
Americans, Split Product Industry
and Photo History of Park
❖ Wrote History of Humboldt
Redwoods State Park with Dave
Stockton

❖ Fortuna Historical Commission 2006-
Present

❖ Created annual holiday
interpretive exhibits including
1964 Flood and Fortuna Rodeo
❖ Wrote four local history books
with curator Dr. Alex Service;
Contracted to write 100 year
history of the Fortuna Rodeo, to be
published in 2022
❖ Chairman of Commission 2010 -
Present

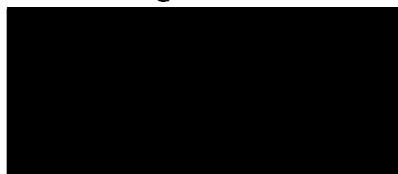
Credentials & Certificates:

❖ California Clear Credential, with single
subject endorsement for History
exp. 2020
❖ California CLAD Credential
❖ National Board Certified Teacher,
Childhood Generalist, 2001, re-certified,
2011



❖ Celebrate Literacy
Award, The
International
Reading Council,

Susan J.P. O'Hara



Humboldt Reading Council, Exemplary
Service in the Promotion of Literacy,
2011

Education

❖ **Teaching Credential**, Humboldt State
University, 1990

❖ **Master of Arts, History**, University of
California at Santa Barbara 1987

❖ **Bachelor of Arts, Double Major, History
and Anthropology**, University of California at
Santa Cruz, 1984 Graduated with Honors

Publications:

*In and Around the Arena, The 100 Year
History of the Fortuna Rodeo* (2022, Archway
Press, Bloomington, Indiana co-authored with
Alex Service)

Mills of Humboldt County, 1910-1945 (2018,
Arcadia Publishing South Carolina Co-authored
with Alex Service)

Mills of Humboldt County, 1850-1900 (2016,
Arcadia Publishing South Carolina Co-authored
with Alex Service)

*Northwestern Pacific Railroad, Eureka to
Willits* (2013, Arcadia Publishing South
Carolina Co-authored with Alex Service)

Humboldt Redwoods State Park (2012, Arcadia
Publishing South Carolina Co-authored with Dave
Stockton)

Fortuna and the Eel River Valley (2011,
Arcadia Publishing South Carolina Co-authored
with Alex Service)

*Saving California's Coast, Army Engineers at
Oceanside and Humboldt Bay* (1991, Arthur
H. Clark Company, Spokane)

*Public Justice, A History of the Santa
Barbara County District Attorney, Chapter
One The Early Years*, (1988, Graduate
Program in Public History, U.C. Santa Barbara)