


**City of Seattle
Notice of Appointment**

1450
CITY CLERK
APR 24 AM 11:17

Name: Rachel Gleeson		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> Agency Appointment <input type="checkbox"/> PDA Council <input type="checkbox"/> PDA Constituency
Residential Neighborhood: Roosevelt	Zip Code: 98115	Contact Phone No.: 857-998-8871
Appointed to: Seattle Design Commission, Landscape Architect		Date of Appointment: April 23, 2015
Authority (Ord., Res.): Ordinance # 116909		Term of Office: From: March 1, 2015 To: March 1, 2017
Comments: Rachel is a landscape architect with the firm of Michael Van Valkenburg and Associates, based in New York City. Rachel has worked as a licensed landscape architect for over 15 years, focusing her practice on projects that affect the public realm. Rachel's recent work has included the development of a Campus Landscape Framework for the University of Washington, Chelsea Cove Parks on New York's Hudson River, the redevelopment of both Union Square Park in Manhattan and the Brooklyn Bridge Park in Brooklyn. Rachel has a unique perspective on the role of a Design Commissioner, having presented her work to a variety of commissions including the New York City Public Design Commission. Her commitment and expertise in the design and construction of publicly funded projects will be a great asset to the commission and its mission.		
Authorizing Signature: 		Name and Title of Officer Making Appointment: Mayor Edward B. Murray

RACHEL GLEESON, PLA

Senior Associate, Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Inc.

EDUCATION

- 2000 University of Virginia – Master in Landscape Architecture
- 2000 University of Virginia – Master in Architecture
- 1994 University of Washington – Master of Arts, Art History
- 1992 Columbia College, Columbia University – Bachelor of Arts, Art History

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2001 to date Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates, Inc., Landscape Architects, New York, NY
- 2000-2001 Halstead Welles Associates, New York, NY
- 2000 D.I.R.T. Studio, Charlottesville, VA
- 1998-1999 Gregg Bleam Landscape Architects, Charlottesville, VA

SELECTED PROJECTS WITH MVVA

- A Vision for Boston Harbor, Boston, MA
- Portage Bay Vista, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- University of Washington, South Campus Study, Seattle, WA
- University of Washington Campus Landscape Framework, Seattle, WA
- Lynden Sculpture Garden Master Plan, River Hills, WI
- University of Washington, Rainier Vista Conceptual Master Plan, Seattle, WA
- Vassar College Master Plan, Poughkeepsie, NY
- Lower School Play Garden, Fieldston School, Riverdale, NY
- Princeton University Landscape Master Plan, Princeton, NJ
- Union Square Park North End Revitalization, New York, NY
- Conceptual Resource Center Garden, Rockefeller University, New York, NY
- Brooklyn Bridge Park Master Plan, New York, NY
- Segment 5, Hudson River Park, New York, NY
- Old Westbury Gardens Master Plan, Old Westbury, NY
- Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) Open Space Master Plan, Brooklyn, NY

ARTICLES, PRESENTATIONS, ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2012 “Design Approaches for Ecological Restoration: Strategies for Enhancing Marine (And Human) Habitat at Brooklyn Bridge Park,” *Ecological Restoration*, volume 30, No. 1, p. 71-75, (with Matthew Urbanski).

- 2009-present Participated in numerous design reviews of graduate and undergraduate work at UW College of the Built Environment, Departments of Architecture and Landscape Architecture
- 2011 Presenter, *New Methods, New Materials, New Thinking – Innovations of the ARC International Wildlife Crossing Infrastructure Competition*, International Conference on Ecology and Transportation, August 23, 2011, Seattle, WA.
- 2010 "Toronto's Lower Don Lands," *Topos*, December 2010.
- 2009 *Reconstructing With Green Infrastructure*, delivered at the International Federation of Landscape Architect's 46th World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2009 *Cornell University's Bailey Plaza, the Boston Children's Museum Smith Family Waterfront Park, and the North End of Union Square Park in New York City: A Landscape-Based Approach to the Design of Three Plazas*, included in *Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates: Reconstructing Urban Landscapes.*, edited by Anita Berrizbeitia.
- 2008 *Brooklyn Bridge Park: A Case Study*, delivered at the "Designing the Parks" Conference, San Francisco, California

Seattle Design Commission

May 2015

Ten members:

Appointed by the Mayor, confirmed by the City Council who serve a term of two years (*may be reappointed once*)

- 2 Licensed Architects
- 1 Fine Artist
- 1 Member at Large

And at least one and no more than two from the following categories:

- Professional Urban Planner
- Professional Environmental or Urban Designer
- Landscape Architect
- Licensed Engineer, plus
- 1 Get Engaged participant (City/YMCA program)

All appointments are subject to City Council confirmation. (Chair is also appointed by Mayor for a *one-year* term, confirmed by City Council.)

D*	G	Position No.	Name	Appointed	Term Ends	Term #	Position	Appointed By
6	F	1	Brodie Bain	3/1/15	3/1/17	2	Urban Planner	Mayor
6	M	2	Grant Hromas	9/1/14	9/1/15	1	Get Engaged	Mayor
6	M	3	Thaddeus Egging	3/1/14	3/1/16	1	Engineer (Civil/Surface Water)	Mayor
6	M	4	Shannon Loew	3/1/15	3/1/17 (Chair for one year ending 3/1/16)	2	At Large - Developer (Chair)	Mayor
6	M	5	Lee Copeland	3/1/14	3/1/16	1	Architect	Mayor
3	M	6	Rachel Gleeson	3/1/15	3/1/17	1	Landscape Architect	Mayor
5	M	7	John Savo	3/1/15	3/1/17	1	Architect	Mayor
6	M	8	Martin Regge	3/1/14	3/1/16	2	Urban Designer	Mayor
6	M	9	Ross Tilghman	3/1/13	3/1/15	1	Planner (Civil/Transportation)	Mayor
6	F	10	Ellen Sollod	3/1/14	3/1/16	2	Fine Artist	Mayor

***Diversity**

	Men	Women	Vacant	Minority	(1) Asian-American	(2) African-American	(3) Hispanic Latino/a	(4) Native-American	(5) Other**	(6) Caucasian
Mayor	7	3								9
Council										
Total	7	3								9

**Other includes diversity in any of the following: race, gender and/or ability