



Local News

[Cincinnati.Com](#) » [NKY.com](#) » [Local News](#) » Zoning board member retires

Last Updated: 11:01 am | Saturday, December 31, 2005

Zoning board member retires

Newport: Seiter started in post 41 years ago; he's also leaving engineering job

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

The city will lose one of its guiding hands today when Robert Seiter retires from the Planning and Zoning Commission after 41 years.

"He was a class act and a stabilizing force," said city Commissioner Jan Knepshield, who served with Seiter on the board. "Forty-one years of service on one board is an amazing thing."

Seiter graduated in 1962 from the Ohio College of Applied Science, and went to work for the Kentucky Highway Department as a civil engineer. In 1964, his department head, Charlie White, asked if he'd like to be on the commission.

ADVERTISEMENT "He needed a member from the city," Seiter said. "Since I was a surveyor he thought of me. Once I got on, I liked doing it."

The commission works in an advisory capacity, and its recommendations go to city commission. It reviews zoning requests, map amendments, ordinance changes and plans for developments. The board is made up of five citizen members and two city officials - the city manager and engineer.

Seiter has seen dramatic changes in the city. He said the biggest change occurred during the 1970s when zoning regulations were used to prohibit and control adult entertainment.

"It was an improvement for the better. It allowed other businesses to move in that were afraid to before," he said.

Seiter felt that those actions laid the groundwork for future growth.

"The best change - the biggest change - was the Levee and the aquarium," he said.

Recently, Mayor Tom Guidugli issued a proclamation naming a day in Seiter's honor.

"I was humbled that they would do something like that for me," he said. "I just enjoyed it and thought I could give a little back to the city."

Seiter also will be retiring from his daytime job. He has worked for the Kentucky Transportation cabinet for 40 years, the last 14 as a



ZOOM

Robert Seiter

resident engineer.

Seiter and his wife Patricia Jean, who have eight children and 19 grandchildren, plan to move to Tucson, Ariz.

"We all know he will be sorely missed," commissioner Beth Fennell said.

[Print](#) | [Go back](#) | Copyright 2005, *NKY.com*