

Oriental Ordinance 2025-335 (Revised)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ORIENTAL CODE OF GENERAL ORDINANCES. ESTABLISHING A TOURISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR THE TOWN OF ORIENTAL, NORTH CAROLINA

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF ORIENTAL

SECTION 1. *That the Oriental Code of General Ordinances, Chapter L, entitled Tourism, be amended by repealing and replacing with the following Ordinance:*

WHEREAS The Town Board of Commissioners recognizes that tourism, waterfront recreation, maritime culture, and small business vitality are central to the Town's economic well-being and quality of life; and The Town serves as a regional destination for boating, sailing, fishing, festivals, and waterfront activities along the Neuse River and Pamlico Sound; and The Board of Commissioners finds it beneficial to establish an advisory board to assist in promoting tourism, supporting local businesses, encouraging responsible economic growth, and strengthening the Town's reputation as a welcoming destination.

Section 1. Establishment

There is hereby created the Oriental Tourism and Economic Development Board (TEDB). The Board shall function as an advisory body to the Town Board of Commissioners regarding tourism promotion, economic development initiatives, and related strategic opportunities within the Town.

Section 2. Purpose

The purpose of the Board is to promote Oriental as a destination for tourism, boating, sailing, fishing, and waterfront recreation; support the vitality of local businesses; enhance the visitor experience while preserving the Town's coastal character; encourage responsible economic development; support community festivals and maritime events; and advise the Board of Commissioners on tourism promotion and economic development strategies.

Section 3. Composition

The Board shall consist of seven (7) members appointed by the Board of Commissioners. Representation should, when possible, include local business owners, hospitality or tourism professionals, marina or maritime interests, marketing or event planning professionals, and residents with community development experience. At least two (2) members shall reside within the Town limits. Two members of the Board of Commissioners shall be appointed to act as ex officio members to the Tourism and Economic Development Board, one as a primary and one as

an alternate, and shall have the right to vote only when there is a tie, meaning that the number of votes is equal in the affirmative and in the negative.

Section 4. Terms of Office

Members shall serve three-year staggered terms. Initial appointments may include two members appointed for one year, two members appointed for two years, and three members appointed for three years, **ending on June 30 each year.**

Section 5. Vacancies

Vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Commissioners for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 6. Officers

The Board shall annually elect from among its members a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary (if staff support is not assigned). Officers shall serve one-year terms and may be re-elected to one additional one-year term.

Section 7. Meetings

The Board shall meet monthly or more frequently as needed. Meetings shall comply with North Carolina Open Meetings requirements. A majority of appointed members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8. Duties and Responsibilities

The Board shall recommend tourism promotion strategies, support maritime tourism and waterfront activities, assist in developing marketing initiatives and visitor materials, collaborate with regional tourism organizations, recommend tourism-related improvements, and submit an annual report to the Board of Commissioners. The Board shall serve in an advisory capacity and shall not expend Town funds unless authorized by the Board of Commissioners. The Board shall provide a monthly briefing/meeting minutes in advance of the monthly Town Board meeting.

Section 9. Staff Support

The Town Manager may designate staff to provide administrative support to the Board.

Section 10. Removal

Members may be removed by the Board of Commissioners for failure to attend three consecutive meetings without excuse, misconduct or conflict of interest, or failure to fulfill the duties of the position.

Section 11. Occupancy Tax Funding

The Town receives revenues derived from a local occupancy tax authorized under North Carolina law. A portion of such funds shall be allocated for tourism-related expenditures, including marketing and promotion, visitor services, tourism events and festivals, advertising campaigns, tourism-related capital improvements, and development of materials promoting Oriental as a boating, sailing, and waterfront destination. **The Tourism Board is provided 30% of Occupancy Tax collected.**

Section 12. Advisory Role in Occupancy Tax Use

The Tourism and Economic Development Board may review proposed uses of occupancy tax revenues allocated to the Town and provide recommendations to the Board of Commissioners regarding tourism promotion priorities and marketing strategies. The Board shall not independently appropriate or expend occupancy tax funds.

Section 13. Coordination with County Tourism Authorities

The Board may coordinate with Pamlico County or regional tourism organizations to support tourism promotion that benefits the Town of Oriental.

Section 14. Annual Tourism Work Plan

The Board shall prepare an annual tourism promotion work plan and budget recommendation identifying proposed marketing initiatives, tourism-related events or partnerships, visitor services improvements, and recommended use of available occupancy tax revenues.

SECTION 2. *That the Ordinance takes effect immediately upon passage.*

Adopted this 14th day of July, 2026

Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Jordan

Attest:

Diane H. Miller, Clerk to the Board

TOWN OF ORIENTAL

Application

Committee Vacancy/Additional Board Member : Tourism Board

The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name Kim Bell

Address 600 Broad Street

Phone Number (Home) X () -

Email:

Are you a full time resident of Oriental? Yes How long have you been a resident? Feb 29th 2026

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service? No

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member:

As the owner of Inn on Turner, I bring firsthand tourism and hospitality experience, a strong understanding of visitor needs, and a commitment to promoting Oriental as a vibrant coastal destination.

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member Tourism Board

What issues would you like to see the committee/Board address?

I'd like to see the Tourism Board focus on increasing year-round visitation, strengthening Oriental's destination marketing, supporting local businesses, promoting weddings and group travel, and enhancing the visitor experience while preserving the town's unique coastal appeal

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances? No but would very much like to and have attended an introductory board meeting

Date June 1st 2026

Signature : Kim Bell

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall. Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com) and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

Rec'd 7/19 08

TOWN OF ORIENTAL
Application
Committee Vacancy

The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name Leslie Kellenberger

Address 111 SILVERWOOD RD.

Phone Number (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ Email: LKellenberger@comcast.net

Are you a full time resident of Oriental? yes How long have you been a resident? 2002

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service? _____

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member

Co-founder of Front Porch Music Festival & TREASURER
OWNER - Leslie Kellenberger CONSULTING 2014-2024

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member TOURISM

What issues would you like to see the committee/Board address?

ECONOMIC VITALITY OF SMALL BUSINESSES

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances? yes

Date 7-7-26 Signature L Kellenberger

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall. Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com), and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

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7/8
MK

TOWN OF ORIENTAL
Application
Committee Vacancy

The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name Andrea Pape

Address 2107 White Farm Rd., Oriental, NC

Phone Number (Home) _____ (Cell) 5 _____ Email: _____

Are you a full time resident of Oriental? Yes How long have you been a resident? 4 yrs

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service? No

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member

currently serving as secretary of Pamlico Musical Society - 2 yrs to date.
worked in newspaper operations as manager/director for 40 yrs.
Served on multiple boards while employed in Connecticut

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member Tourism Board

What issues would you like to see the committee/Board address?

improve online events calendar, promotions and links.

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances? Yes

Date 7/7/26 Signature 

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall. Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com), and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

Rec'd 7/10/06

TOWN OF ORIENTAL
Application
Committee Vacancy

The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name NIKKI KURDYS

Address 505 BROAD ST.

Phone Number (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ Email: _____

Are you a full time resident of Oriental? YES How long have you been a resident? 142

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service? YES

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member

I OWN THE MAGNOLIA HOUSE B&B SO TOURISM & EC. DEV ARE VITAL TO MY BUSINESS. I HAVE OVER 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN RELATIONSHIP BUILDING.

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

What issues would you like to see the committee/Board address?

BRINGING PEOPLE TO TOWN AND OFFERING SERVICES TO MEET THEIR NEEDS. BETTER CONNECTING THE BUSINESSES THAT ARE HERE.

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances? YES

Date 7.10.26 Signature Nikki Kurdys

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall. Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com), and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

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TOWN OF ORIENTAL
Application
Committee Vacancy

The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name Mark Norman

Address 80 Blackwell Point Loop Rd, Oriental NC 28571

Phone Number (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ Email: mark@norman.com

Are you a full time resident of Oriental? _____ How long have you been a resident? _____

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service? ✓ Have lived just outside the village my whole life,

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member
Vast hospitality experience as well as an eye for logistical challenges.

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member Tourism Board

What issues would you like to see the committee/Board address?
Increasing traffic through town in busier months and the off season,
Larger events that keep money in town.

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances? Yes MN

Date 7-7-2026 Signature Mark Norman

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall. Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com), and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

TOWN OF ORIENTAL
Application
Committee Vacancy

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The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name KAREN Thomas

Address 802 BROAD STREET Oriental, NC 28571

Phone Number (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ Email: _____

Are you a full time resident of Oriental? YES ^{NO} How long have you been a resident? 8 yrs

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service? YES

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member

Business owner hoping to work with others to make Oriental an inviting community for other businesses to be able to service home owners & visitors

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member Tourism

What issues would you like to see the committee/Board address?

Affordable Housing - Marketing for out of town visitors

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances? YES

Date 7-7-2026 Signature K Thomas

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall. Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com), and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

Rec'd 7/7/12 CH

TOWN OF ORIENTAL
Application
Committee Vacancy

The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name Daniela Harrison

Address 7208 Brigantine Blvd. Oriental, NC 28571

Phone Number (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Email: dharrison@orientalnc.com

Are you a full time resident of Oriental? yes How long have you been a resident? 32 years
(Outside town limits)

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service? yes

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member

I interact with visitors regularly + know what creates a memorable guest experience. As a business owner, I'm invested in the economic growth + success of our town + community. I'm good at strategic planning, budgeting, + decision making.

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member Townism

What issues would you like to see the committee/Board address?

Trying to figure out how we can plan more events throughout the year to keep revenue up for the town + businesses.

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances? yes

Date 7-7-12

Signature Daniela Harrison

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall. Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com), and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

Diane Miller

From: Phil Kathy Walters <philkathyw@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2026 9:43 AM
To: Allison DeWeese; manager@townoforiental.com
Subject: Planning Board

Diane and Allison:

As I look at my calendar for July, I see that I will not be available for this month's Planning Board meeting. As I have missed several meetings since December, I feel that my personal commitments do not allow me to be available for the meetings. A case of good intentions and life getting in the way!

Therefore, please accept my resignation from the Planning Board effective immediately.

It's been great getting to know everyone.

All the best,

Kathy

TOWN OF ORIENTAL

Application Committee Vacancy

The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name: Peter Messikomer

Address: 3019 Maritime Dr. Oriental, NC 28571

Phone Number: Cell: 252 338 5511

Are you a full time resident of Oriental?

Yes. How long have you been a resident? 5+ years

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service?

No

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member?

I have been a full-time resident of Oriental for more than five years and bring over 15 years of experience in the marine industry, including marina management, marine repair, and small business ownership. Prior to relocating to Oriental, I managed several Chesapeake Bay marinas and owned a marine services company, giving me extensive knowledge of waterfront operations, harbor infrastructure, and the boating community. I also hold a degree in Industrial Engineering and previously owned a renovation company specializing in historic properties, providing experience in project planning, problem-solving, and balancing development with preservation. In addition, I am an active Oriental volunteer firefighter and have served in leadership roles with Whittaker Pointe Marina, Whittaker Pointe Homeowners Associations, church, and university organizations. I am committed to the future of Oriental and believe my professional experience, leadership background, and community involvement would enable me to be an effective and thoughtful board member.

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member:

Harbor/ Waterfront, Planning

What issues would you like to see the Committee/Board address?

Evaluate options to meet to Oriental's growth while maintaining the charm that Oriental offers.

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances?

Yes

Date 2 June 2026_ Signature _ *Peter E Messikomer*

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall.

Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com, and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

Rec'd
5/29
MK

TOWN OF ORIENTAL
Application
Committee Vacancy

The Town of Oriental often has vacancies for its voluntary Boards and welcomes input from the citizens in several departments. Please indicate the Board you are applying to.

Name Yvonne Jones

Address 911 midyette St

Phone Number (Home) (Cell) (Email)

Are you a full time resident of Oriental? Yes How long have you been a resident? 1985 - Present

Are you a non-resident Oriental business owner or employee associated with a public or commercial water related goods and service? ---

What qualifications do you have that would make you a successful committee member

I love living here and I dont plan on leaving
so I am very interested in what is going on here
and what will go on in the future

Which committee/Board do you want to serve as a member Planning

What issues would you like to see the committee/Board address?

I would like them to provide projects to make
Oriental more welcoming to all types of people

Have you read the appropriate chapter for your chosen Board, of Oriental's Code of General Ordinances? ---

Date 5/29/26 Signature Yvonne Jones

Please fill out the form and return it to Oriental Town Hall. Either via email (Manager@townoforiental.com), and water@townoforiental.com or in person to 507 Church Street, Oriental. If you have any question call Town Hall at 252-249-0555

Planning