

# Statement of Intent for BoD: for Walter Anderson

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Photomancer

Mar 2017

Walter has asked me to post this for him. I am also nominating him or any one else that needs to be that wants to run. here is the statement he has sent me.

From Walter Anderson's email:

This letter is to serve as formal notification that I, Walter Anderson, am officially submitting my name to run for election to the Board of Directors for Dallas Makerspace for the year 2017.

My goals for 2017 are:

- Get the bylaws rewritten and approved by the membership to address some of the current problems with the document. For instance the current document states that only voting members are allowed to 'influence' the corporation. If this by law were actually followed then only voting members would be allowed to speak at member meetings and board meetings. Clearly this should not be the case, but simply ignoring the by laws forces the board to violate their duties. There are many other issues with the document that should be hashed out with the members to obtain mutually agreeable solutions to these problems and place the space on a firm future.
- Increase savings and ensure that the Makerspace is ready for an inevitable move to a new location and the massive costs that will mean for the corporation.
- Currently the credit cards that are used by all purchasing officers are guaranteed by the personal assets of one board member. This is both an unnecessary burden upon him as well as an unreasonable risk for DMS. I will work to find a solution to this situation so that a \$600,000 per year corporation is independent of the financial support and risk with relying on a single member for such a critical aspect of our existence.

As some of you are aware, I was planning on leaving Texas and relocating to Florida sometime during the summer. I have canceled those plans. I have informed my colleagues that I will be officially fully retired, effective Friday March 24, 2017. This will mean that I can devote a [Skip to main content](#) time to helping to manage the Dallas Makerspace.

As part of this Letter of Intent, I also agree to the duties and functions expected of me in this position that include, but are not limited to:

Making every effort to attend the annual meeting(s) and regular meetings. Perform the duties and responsibilities of Director as outlined in the Dallas Makerspace Bylaws as well as the Dallas Makerspace Rules and Policies. If elected, I am fully aware and understand the importance of my full participation as a productive and effective leader during my tenure on Dallas Makerspace Board of Directors, and I agree to the terms and conditions set forth above.

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[🔊 \\*sigh\\* Walter has been muted on Talk](#)

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**Bill** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

[\\*sigh\\* Walter has been muted on Talk](#)

In a few weeks the man will actually show up to a board meeting

...as a director. Blocking Walter may well have given him a seat. Politics works in funny ways and demonizing a candidate sometimes propels him/her to an unexpected victory.

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**clk75201**

**Mar 2017**

That's why there's a vote.

As Walter is a candidate now, I'm interested in knowing more about his really big plans to retire and move the Florida. In the course of a couple of days, he's now planning to be in Texas forever and pursuing a leadership role at DMS. I guess Florida was just Big Talking? Is Big Talking a favorite Walter pass time? I don't know him at all, but that's definitely a question I'll be asking before I vote.

DMS board right now is mostly a group of thinkers sprinkled with some doers. I think there's room for one more doer, but that will mean one of the thinkers needs to step back. I just don't see a Big Talker fitting in to the advantage of the community, so I'll need to investigate if Walter is a Talker or a Doer.

[Skip to main content](#)

(Edited to put this back to post. This was not the comment's original location. It was moved to this thread by moderator Lisa Selk on Friday, March 24.)

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**nicksilva** Makerspace Member

Mar 2017

Vote Walter. Make DMS Great Again.

(sorry can't help myself sometimes when I get a thought in my head)

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**Bill** Makerspace Member

Mar 2017

clk75201

so I'll need to investigate if Walter is a Talker or a Doer.

He is both. To an extreme.

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**Raymond** Makerspace Member

Mar 2017

clk75201

That's why there's a vote.

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DMS board right now is mostly a group of thinkers sprinkled with some doers. I think there's room for one more doer, but that will mean one of the thinkers needs to step back. I just don't see a Big Talker fitting in to the advantage of the community, so I'll need to investigate if Walter is a Talker or a Doer.

Walter has been a huge doer at the space and has been motivated enough by these actions to cancel a move, cancel a job, and retire early. I think his actions speak volumes.

Those actions may speak volumes, but they are very quick to the draw. It concerns me a bit. What if his enthusiasm ebbs and flows with such extremes? Thanks for offering your perspective, though. It's added to my consideration.

Of course, with only two candidates announced, looks like they're both in, huh? (That's a hint to get your name in the hat if you really want the job.)

---

rshill

Mar 2017

clk75201

if you really want the job

I'm pretty sure nobody *wants* that job. From what I've observed, the BODs do a ton of work, and deal with a lot of griping. It seems to be a thankless position. They do it because they love the space.

---

clk75201

Mar 2017

Well right now only two of them "love the space." Time to put your name to the list.

==== Edit below ====

In my three months of watching, I've seen the griping you mentioned. At times, and based on some items to the agenda, it looks like the BoD is being asked to be hall monitor in addition to making guiding decisions for DMS.

Perhaps it's time for the membership to allow a board of hall monitors to handle the "so and so wasn't excellent" complaints. (Oh geez. There are a couple of times where that's the case like not paying for your consumables or IMHO this instance of of third complaint about how a tool is being used, but there are other complaints that are laughable, yet the BoD gets stuck with them anyway.)

Another thing that needs to be buttoned down at DMS is budgeting and asset allocation. Half of the BoD meeting (again, according to the minutes) is pie-in-the-sky proposals for one-off expenditures that departments want the main budget to fund.

The new board needs to arrange a master plan, and that plan needs to be recognized as the guiding document for growth. There's big money at DMS now. It's time to run the place [Skip to main content](#) instead of a hobby shop.

clk75201

I'm interested in knowing more about his really big plans to retire and move the Florida. In the course of a couple of days, he's now planning to be in Texas forever and pursuing a leadership role at DMS. I guess Florida was just Big Talking? Is Big Talking a favorite Walter pass time? I don't know him at all, but that's definitely a question I'll be asking before I vote.

There is an explanation here:

### **Statement of Intent for BoD: for Walter Anderson**

Walter has asked me to post this for him. I am also nominating him or any one else that needs to be that wants to run. here is the statement he has sent me. From Walter Anderson's email: This letter is to serve as formal notification that I, Walter Anderson, am officially submitting my name to run for election to the Board of Directors for Dallas Makerspace for the year 2017. My goals for 2017 are: Get the bylaws rewritten and approved by the membership to address some of the current ...

but I'll quote it here as well, from his [wiki Sol](#) if there are any differences:

As some of you are aware, I was planning on leaving Texas and relocating to Florida sometime during the summer. I have canceled those plans. I have informed my colleagues that I will be officially fully retired, effective Friday March 24, 2017. This will mean that I can devote a significant portion of my time to helping to manage the Dallas Makerspace.

edit: happy retirement day, Walter!

Raymond

Walter has been a huge doer at the space ...

Everyone who knows Walter in person would likely agree with this comment. The list of things that Walter has taught, created, and fixed is long - and all voluntary, I might add. He is a very diverse maker and willing to share his knowledge and talents. The Board was not taking issue with Walter in this capacity - it was solely regarding his online persona.

And no, I don't want to debate his online persona. We've pretty much beaten that to death. I don't see any evidence that anyone is going to change their opinion so I don't see any need to beat it any further.

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**artg\_dms** Electronics Chair

**Mar 2017**

clk75201

As Walter is a candidate now, I'm interested in knowing more about his really big plans to retire and move the Florida. In the course of a couple of days, he's now planning to be in Texas forever and pursuing a leadership role at DMS. I guess Florida was just Big Talking? Is Big Talking a favorite Walter pass time? I don't know him at all, but that's definitely a question I'll be asking before I vote.

**You do not have your facts straight and come off as condescending** Walter was not going to retire and move to Florida. He was asked to return to Florida by a business he is/was part of. Given the hassles of moving, not terribly fond of returning to Florida, not wanting to train/deal w/ ill prepared job candidates, and seeing the future potential of DMS, he decided to retire and stay here.

clk75201

DMS board right now is mostly a group of thinkers sprinkled with some doers. I think there's room for one more doer, but that will mean one of the thinkers needs to step back. I just don't see a Big Talker fitting in to the advantage of the community, so I'll need to investigate if Walter is a Talker or a Doer.

Walter is a Thinker, Doer, and yes, Talker. He has designed/built projects involving at least 7committee/SIG areas. He has also taught in at least 3 different areas. Given his involvement w/ the Space, his business background and attention to detail, he is well prepared to take a position on our BoD

clk75201

**[Skip to main content](#)**

Those actions may speak volumes, but they are very quick to the draw. It concerns me a bit. What if his enthusiasm ebbs and flows with such extremes?

Not going to be a problem. No more than for any of the other candidates.

clk75201

Another thing that needs to be buttoned down at DMS is budgeting and asset allocation. Half of the BoD meeting (again, according to the minutes) is pie-in-the-sky proposals for one-off expenditures that departments want the main budget to fund.

The new board needs to arrange a master plan, and that plan needs to be recognized as the guiding document for growth. There's big money at DMS now. It's time to run the place like a small corporation instead of a hobby shop.

**Again you do not have your facts straight.** Weekly Finance Committee mtngs take place every Sun. mrng starting at 10:00a. Check the Event Calendar. **Attend one and get informed/educated.** There are plans currently in place.

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clk75201

Mar 2017

Sadly, the jumbling of threads is causing a blip in continuity.

Ok, again I'll offer that this is why there's a vote. And again I will suggest that with two members coming forward as candidates for five seats, Walter's gonna be a winner!

I'm going to go weekend. It's going to be fun. I hope you have a good one as well.

---

SewingStuff

Mar 2017

Why are you so interested in his personal life? Is it really any of your business whether Walter is retired, working, a student, or a lion tamer? Why on earth should you be privy to any of this information?

---

zmetzing

Mar 2017

SewingStuff:

[Skip to main content](#)

a lion tamer?

That would be so freaking cool ... 😊

---

**tmc4242** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

Divide and attack works better when you have more details to pick from...

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**kbraby** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

SewingStuff:

lion tamer

This might actually be a good skill for a board member to have. A minor in cat herding should be an absolute requirement.

---

**tmc4242** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

Note that among the things Walter has promoted over and over again are better accounting, budget planning, and financial preparedness. Sounds very much in line with the last point Art addressed above. Walter is ahead of the game on this one.

---

**ESmith** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

kbraby:

A minor in cat herding should be an absolute requirement.

I would recommend a post-doctorate degree in the field and >30 years of experience.

---

**LisaSelk** Regular

**Mar 2017**

Cute sidetrack guys... BUT ~ **This is a thread that should remain focused on Walter's Intent to run for the Board of Directors. Please keep it on topic.**  
**[Skip to main content](#)**



PS... Animals are adorable! Feel free to open a new thread about all that under the [#off-topic](#) category.

Thanks!

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**Lampy**  Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

kbraby:

This might actually be a good skill for a board member to have. A minor in cat herding should be an absolute requirement.

I can say for certain that the board prefers to work on making DMS better and not solving interpersonal conflicts. We don't have the right tools for the job and we always lose since we have to actually make the best determination we can at the time. It's very imperfect.

tmc4242:

Note that among the things Walter has promoted over and over again are better accounting, budget planning, and financial preparedness.

Walter does visit us on the finance meetings fairly often. He asks good questions and is interested in what/how we are doing.

tmc4242

How well do lions respond to snark and sarcasm though

Well my snark has worked only 20%. So I guess they don't respond well.

---

**Bill** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

tmc4242:

Note that among the things Walter has promoted over and over again are better accounting, budget planning, and financial preparedness. Sounds very much in line with the last point Art addressed above. Walter is ahead of the game on this one.

[Skip to main content](#)

Walter is also concerned that we are operating as our bylaws say we should. His “threats” to sue DMS are his way of making the point that we can potentially be sued by anyone with a beef if we do not follow our own rules.

A candidate last year had the same concern, but he did not have the planets lining up in a row to generate sympathy points.

---

**steve** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

Sued by anyone with a beef or a minor’s insurance company when one finally gets hurt at the space.

---

**clk75201**

**Mar 2017**

So you are championing a BoD candidate who often threatens to sue DMS? I’m new here. You might need to fill me in.

---

**Bill** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

He has threatened to use legal means to get the board to operate transparently. There have been many fights in the short year and a half I have been here over access to the member list, proxy voting, banning procedures and record keeping. I’m sure there are more I am not remembering at the top of my head.

IMHO, you may not realize this, but you are probably Walter’s best campaign manager.

---

**clk75201**

**Mar 2017**

Bill:

you may not realize this, but you are probably Walter’s best campaign manager.

Only in your mind, I think. Generally, one who manages a campaign is willing to vote for the candidate. Can’t say the man you describe is the one I’ve encountered.

====

Can others confirm that Walter has threatened to sue DMS? It might be a good idea to have [Skip to main content](#) more than one person on record with this kind of accusation.

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**PearceDunlap DMS Member**

**Mar 2017**

are you saying we should take action against people who might be willing to sue the space?

---

**Tapper**

**Mar 2017**

So, here you are spamming Walter's announcement thread, trashing him, and he's not able to defend himself.

Zero class.

---

**zmetzing**

**Mar 2017**

[@LisaSelk](#) – please move all messages in this thread other than Walter's SOI to another thread for debate, and lock this thread.

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**artg\_dms** Electronics Chair

**Mar 2017**

Tapper:

So, here you are spamming Walter's announcement thread, trashing him, and he's not able to defend himself.

Zero class.

And again without all the facts.  
A pattern is starting to emerge here.

---

**clk75201**

**Mar 2017**

Whoa your ponies [@tapper](#) . I didn't bring this thread to Walter's statement. [@LisaSelk](#) did it. It was clean until her action earlier this afternoon. She moved a discussion here. I was along for the ride.

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**merissa**  
[Skip to main content](#)

**Mar 2017**

So you're saying discussion of a person's intent to run for the board shouldn't be in the thread where they asked to announce it? How is this not the most appropriate place to discuss the candidates qualifications? I'm not supporting specific comments in this thread, but if you think the comments aren't appropriate and don't meet Talk guidelines, flag them as such. I just don't agree that discussion of the candidate is off-topic and should be moved.

And also, there's another thread for another candidate announcing their intent to run. Should we lock that one too and make people discuss the candidate's qualifications in a separate thread? Trying to ensure some consistency here...

---

**merissa**

**Mar 2017**

clk75201:

In my opinion your heated response is a perfect example of how heavily moderating the Talk forum really makes a mess of it.

Cindy your original posts more appropriately fit in this thread as they are on the topic of his intent to run for a position on the board. Do you have an argument that that is not true?

Also Tapper responded to a comment you made in this thread directly.

Moderating this forum is necessary to ensure that discussions are happening in the appropriately defined place so they can be easily found and referenced later, if needed. If you have a suggestion on how we could do that better please let us know, but moderating is not going to go away and I don't think many would agree that it's heavy handed. If you have questions about categories or topics please ask so we can all keep this Talk place a friendly environment.

---

**clk75201**

**Mar 2017**

But I didn't enjoy being accused of "spamming Walter's announcement thread" when I didn't post a thing here until it was moved by [@LisaSelk](#) . I couldn't comment in the other place because it was locked.

---

**merissa**

**Mar 2017**

**[Skip to main content](#)**

I see your point, but we're just trying our best to keep everything on task.

The best reminder I can give to everyone is before you click post, ask yourself: is my comment on topic?, does my comment improve this discussion?, would my comment be better suited for a private message with the person I'm responding to?

Granted *this* comment of mine would be better suited for a private response to you directly, but I want everyone to have these reminders so we can have healthier communication on Talk.

Now let's get back on topic please if anyone still has discussion to share on this statement of intent.

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**zmetzing**

**Mar 2017**

merissa:

So you're saying discussion of a person's intent to run for the board shouldn't be in the thread where they asked to announce it? How is this not the most appropriate place to discuss the candidates qualifications?

This thread differs in one fundamental aspect: Walter currently cannot refute nor defend his past actions, nor provide reasons as to why we should vote for or against him.

Given that handicap, would you not agree that it is unfair to have his Statement of Intent thread turned into a mud-slinging fest by a career political blogger?

---

**merissa**

**Mar 2017**

This Talk forum is a place for community *discussion*. He asked David to post this on a forum he knows to be very active. If he didn't want discussion on the topic to happen, he should have stipulated that in his request or just not have asked for it to be publicized while he can't participate in the discussion. Again if you feel the content of the posts don't meet **forum guidelines**, flag them as inappropriate.

---

**artg\_dms** Electronics Chair

**Mar 2017**

clk75201:

**Skip to main content** ed. For all my mental agility, the logic here confounds me.

This may explain a lot:

### **DMS article in Dallas StreetZine magazine**

I am writing a monthly column for the Dallas homeless paper StreetZine called The Urban Housewife. February will be Dallas transportation, March will be farming at Deep Ellum Urban Garden and shopping the Farmers Market, but I'd like to make April about DMS and my new membership here. Would anyone like to be featured? Have a project featured? I'm comfortable enough in what I do that I can structure the article without violating any one person's or the DMS code of privacy. I'm also more than wil...

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### **SewingStuff**

**Mar 2017**

Yeah I've been saying that for a while now.

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### **DanielHooper** Makerspace Member

**Mar 2017**

Um, not to knock this church's effort, but that barely breaks the personal Blogspot level of high-impact reporting.

The fear that Cindy might write something critical of DMS seems misplaced for a lot of reasons.

[[if that's what this is about? it's hard to tell at this point]]

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### **SewingStuff**

**Mar 2017**

It's not the fear that she will write something. It's that her behavior here reflects a deliberate attempt to aggravate members to generate a story.

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### **clk75201**

**Mar 2017**

Yes. Plus, I've abandoned ever writing about this place for fear I'd die of embarrassment. I even went through all my sign-ins yesterday and removed my name so it won't Google in connection with DMS.

(P.S. My 1,100 word articles in that publication are gaining traction. I'm pleased with my

**[Skip to main content](#)**

Your style of “reporting” seems to be instigate instead of investigate.

You just made another judgemental statement that most of our 1400+ members would strongly disagree with.

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clk75201

Mar 2017

Personal observation. I get to have those.

You have a great Saturday. I'm headed to the space to make a tiny stamp for [@Cairenn\\_Day](#) . If you are around stop into CA and introduce yourself. I'll be the one huddled over the Shapeoko 2.

^^^

That was offensive and worthy of flagging?

---

LisaSelk Regular

Mar 2017

zmetzing:

Walter currently cannot refute nor defend his past actions, nor provide reasons as to why we should vote for or against him.

Walter ( [@wandrson](#) ) is welcome to pass information along in the same manner that this thread was generated. If he would like to send a response to be posted here to my Dallas Makerspace email address (Lisa@...), I will gladly copy/paste the full message on this thread.

Honestly though ~ the vast majority of the posts on this thread, *that aren't from or about another person*, have been overwhelmingly positive about Walter. Those positive responses are probably more beneficial to his intent to run than anything he could add as rebuttal to that one person...

He is definitely welcome to send a response; but, it's probably not really necessary in light of how much positive feedback for him has already been posted.

[Skip to main content](#)

All that being said... This thread continues to be dragged off topic. There have been at least three moderator requests to keep it on topic (*see below*). I am going to lock the thread at this time. If Walter does decide to send a statement to me - or anyone else - to have posted as a response, it can be added by me or any other moderator.

LisaSelk:

This is a thread that should remain focused on Walter's Intent to run for the Board of Directors. Please keep it on topic.

merissa:

Now let's get back on topic please if anyone still has discussion to share on this statement of intent.

merissa:

This Talk forum is a place for community discussion. He asked David to post this on a forum he knows to be very active. If he didn't want discussion on the topic to happen, he should have stipulated that in his request or just not have asked for it to be publicized while he can't participate in the discussion. Again if you feel the content of the posts don't meet [forum guidelines](#), flag them as inappropriate.

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Closed on Mar 25, 2017

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[LisaSelk](#) Regular

Mar 2017

**Below is Walter's response:**

On Mar 25, 2017 10:46 AM, "Walter Anderson" wrote:

Lisa,

Thank you for your generous offer. Below is my response to Zach's request. Please [Skip to main content](#) read.



While I understand the desire to focus conversations, I personally believe the idea that we should limit conversation on electronic mediums to be 'on topic' is a fundamentally bad idea. At least as the medium has created tools to do so.

If one looks at traditional conversation between individuals, it is readily apparent, that going off-topic is the normal way human beings interact. It is something to be encouraged, because it is one source of human creativity. Yes, when the conversation is a meeting to discuss/accomplish some specific act; such as a board meeting, there is a need to keep things more focused. I don't believe this is generally the case with electronic communications, since they don't have a time constraint. Further, I believe attempts to split conversations into separate threads further reduces the functionality of the medium since it removes much of the context that created those spawned conversations, as well as making it even more difficult to use limited search functions to find and locate past conversations.

This latter ability is one of the most important features a board like Talk has for DMS. It represents a knowledge base for the members and prospective members. I have been amazed at the detail and quality of the information made available to others in a permanent way. A perfect example is Beau Williamson's recent thread where he provided an amazing amount of information to a gentleman in Europe concerning his method for producing lighted panels. In short, Talk is yet another means we already use to fulfill our primary purpose; education.

Thank you Lisa, for posting this for me.

## New & Unread Topics

Topic	Replies	Views	Activity
<a href="#">EMT conduit - Powdercoat and bender tool?</a>	3	83	28d
<a href="#">Reminder: Open DMS officer positions</a>	0	107	24d
<a href="#">Skip to main content</a>			

Topic	Replies	Views	Activity
<a href="#">Please be mindful when using the restroom sinks</a>	3	124	21d
<a href="#">Continued Call for Assistance - Officers and Coordinators (Marketing)</a>	0	75	14d
<a href="#">More Classes this Weekend 5/23-5/25?</a>	3	168	11d

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