



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item 15(D)1

TO: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa, and
Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: April 8, 2014

FROM: Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Circuit and County Courts

SUBJECT: Ballot Appointment of Member
to the Land Acquisition Selection
Committee

Christopher Agrippa, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

Please select one (1) nominee from the attached ballot to fill a regular membership vacancy on the Land Acquisition Selection Committee (LASC), created by the out-of-state relocation of former Committee Member Ms. Audrey Ordenes.

Chapter 24-50 of the Code of Miami-Dade County provides that the Board of County Commissioners appoint, from a list of candidates as recommended by the Mayor of Miami-Dade County, the members of the LASC. In accordance with the Code, the Mayor has submitted the names of eligible candidates from which a replacement can be selected to fill the vacancy. The nominees are presented as follows:

1. Amy G. Creekmur (recommended by The Grove Tree-Man Trust)
2. Patricia L. Phares (recommended by Florida Native Plant Society)

The ballot from which the vacancy will be filled, Mayor Carlos Gimenez's Memorandum, the resumes and letters of recommendation for all nominees have been attached for review.


CA/dmc
Attachments

Memorandum



Date: February 18, 2014

To: Honorable Harvey Ruvin
Clerk of the Court

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: Land Acquisition Selection Committee Appointment

The Land Acquisition Selection Committee (LASC) is a county advisory board having seven regular members and one alternate. The LASC advises the Board of County Commissioners on implementing the Environmentally Endangered Lands Program in order to acquire, protect, preserve, restore and enhance the County's environmental lands and the natural resources on those lands for the benefit of this and future generations.

A serving LASC member moved out of state, creating a vacancy on the board. As required by Chapter 24-50.6 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, I am hereby submitting two nominees per vacancy for appointment by the County Commission.

The nominees for the Regular Member vacancy:

1. Patricia L. Phares, 17615 SW 119 Avenue, Miami
2. Amy Creekmur, 18450 SW 212 Street, Miami

Chapter 24-50.6 also provides that preference be given to candidates who have a record of service in environmental or civic affairs in Miami-Dade County and who have been recommended by one or more bona fide environmental, civic or professional organizations. Ms. Phares is recommended by the Florida Native Plant Society. Ms. Creekmur is recommended by the Grove Tree-Man Trust.

The nominees' resumes and letters of recommendation are attached. Please schedule the appointment for the County Commission agenda as soon as possible.

Attachments

Memorandum



Date: January 29, 2014

To: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

Through: Jack Osterholt, Deputy Mayor/Director
Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources

From: Lee N. Hefty, Assistant Director, Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
Division of Environmental Resources Management

Subject: Land Acquisition Selection Committee Appointment

The Land Acquisition Selection Committee (LASC) is a county advisory board having seven regular members and one alternate. The LASC advises the Board of County Commissioners on implementing the Environmentally Endangered Lands Program in order to acquire, protect, preserve, restore and enhance the County's environmental lands and the natural resources on those lands for the benefit of this and future generations.

A serving LASC member, Ms. Audrey Ordenes, moved out of state, creating a vacancy on the board. Chapter 24-50 of the Code of Miami-Dade County requires that the County Manager submit two nominees for each opening for appointment by the County Commission.

Notice of the vacancy was advertised in the Daily Business Review in October 2013 with a response deadline in November 2013. Attached are the resumes of two individuals who have expressed an interest in serving on the committee and who meet the criteria for membership. I recommend that these names be submitted to the County Commission for appointment.

Please sign the attached memo to Harvey Ruvin, Clerk, regarding these appointments. If you need any additional information, please contact me at 305-372-6754 or at hefty1@miamidade.gov.

The Grove Tree-Man Trust
2940 SW 30th Court
Miami, FL 33133

January 17, 2014

Ms. Cynthia Guerra
Miami Dade County
Environmentally Endangered Lands Program
EEP DEPM
701 NW 1st Court, 6th Floor
Miami, FL 33136

Dear Ms. Guerra,

I am writing on behalf of The Grove Tree-Man Trust, a not for profit tree advocacy organization in the City of Miami, in support of Ms. Amy Creekmurs' application to serve Miami-Dade County on the Land Acquisition Selection Committee.

Ms. Creekmur has an extensive background in natural habitat restoration. She dedicated the past twelve years to serving as the Executive Director of TREEmendous Miami, a not for profit tree advocacy organization in Miami-Dade County. Her knowledge of the objectives of the Environmentally Endangered Lands Program and commitment to its success make her an ideal candidate. She is currently employed as an Environmental Educator for Friends of the Everglades where she educates the public about conservation issues. She also acts as the Program Lead with Tropical Audubon Society in administering a grant from Toyota Together Green by Audubon in building native bird habitat in South Florida.

Ms. Creekmur would be an asset to the committee. Thank you for your consideration of her application.

Sincerely,

James G. McMaster, President
The Grove Tree-Man Trust
305-443-1312

AMY G. CREEKMUR
18450 Southwest 212th Street Miami, FL 33187

Work History:

TROPICAL AUDUBON SOCIETY (September 2013 to present/part time)

Event and Volunteer Coordinator / Toyota TogetherGreen Grant Administrator

Oversee events and volunteer recruitment/placement for the non-profit organization

FRIENDS OF THE EVERGLADES (March 2013 to present/part-time)

Educator

Conduct environmental education sessions at K-12 schools.

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY/ART INSTITUTE (July 2004 to present /part-time)

Instructor: Fashion Show Production

Educate college level students the "ins and outs" of producing and organizing fashion show productions and events.

SOBOL FASHION PRODUCTIONS, INC. (Project /term basis 1999 to present)

Assist in coordination and production of special events. Specifically Miami Fashion Week annually.

TREEMENDOUS MIAMI, INC. (August 2000 to February 2013)

Program Coordinator

Oversee a non-profit volunteer organization united to build community pride by planting, protecting and preserving trees in Miami-Dade County. Coordinate volunteer tree planting projects countywide by recruiting various volunteer organizations forming partnerships.

CITIZENS FOR A BETTER SOUTH FLORIDA

PLEA Program Director

Project PLEA, an environmental education program/workshop stressing the importance of incorporating "the environment" into curriculum. Conducted in various languages.

CROSSMARK (1999-2001)

Merchandiser

Area merchandiser concentrating in drug and department store chains.

HI-RISE RECYCLING SYSTEMS, INC. (1994 -1998)

National Education Specialist / Customer Service Coordinator

Coordinate national recycling education activities for recycling equipment manufacturer. Act as company liaison with customers. Events coordinator (internal & external).

CITIZENS TO PRESERVE FLORIDA (1991 - 1993)

Regional Coordinator

A grass roots project informing the public about the severe impacts of global warming and implementation of remedies.

EDUCATION:

INTERNATIONAL FINE ARTS COLLEGE :

Miami, Florida Associates of Arts Degree 1979 - Fashion Merchandising / Design

MASTER GARDENERS PROGRAM

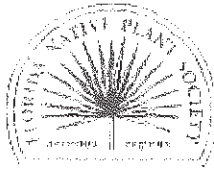
Degree 2002 :University of Florida/Cooperative Extension Division

Qualifications:

Organizational skills.

Ability to favorably introduce change in the form of new and productive ideas.

Avid and active conservationist.



01 January 2014

Cynthia Guerra, Program Director
Environmentally Endangered Lands Program
Miami-Dade County - DERM
701 N.W. 1 Ct., 6th Floor
Miami, FL 33136

Dear Ms. Guerra,

It has been brought to my attention that once again there are openings for the Miami-Dade County Land Acquisition Selection Committee (LASC). It would behoove the mission of the Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resource Management Environmentally Endangered Lands Program to accept Ms. Patty Phares on this committee.

As stated in previous letters, Ms. Phares has been a long time advocate and devotee to conservation in South Florida. Such devotion has been evidenced by her involvement with the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS). Since joining in the 1980's, Ms. Phares has been an active FNPS member & participant aiding FNPS in its mission. Ms. Phares is well suited to the needs of the LASC committee. Ms. Phares has strong community ties and is adeptly familiar with South Florida conservation lands and their rare habitats. She is familiar with South Florida having lived in our fair county for several decades. In addition, you could not find a more knowledgeable person who is capable of using extant resources as well as her in depth knowledge to assist in the analyses determining necessary qualifications for land acquisition. She is also a responsible individual capable of handling several tasks at once while still managing to do a superb job on each one.

I feel strongly that future conservation lands would benefit greatly by Patty Phares involved in their review and selection, and I encourage you to accept her to the LASC committee.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Woodmansee, President
Florida Native Plant Society
8025 SW 102 Ave.
Miami, FL 33173
president@fnps.org
786.488.3101

The mission of the Florida Native Plant Society (FNPS) is to promote the preservation, conservation, and restoration of native plants and native plant communities. FNPS is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization registered in the state of Florida.

Patricia L. Phares (Patty)
17615 SW 119 Ave Miami FL 33177

Environmental and Civic Involvement

Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Member and volunteer, 1981-present
Newsletter editor or staff, 1986-present
Field trip planning committee, 2000-present
Native Plant Day committee, 1991-2008
Everglades National Park Coe Visitors Center Landscaping Project steering committee, 2001-present
Chapter president, 1988-1994, Chapter board member, 1985-1988
State FNPS Conference Co-chair, 1990 and 2000
Green Palmetto Award for service from the Florida Native Plant Society, 2000

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Center for Tropical Plant Conservation

Field and nursery volunteer, 2002-present
Participant in the "Connect to Protect Network", 2008-present

Institute for Regional Conservation

Member and volunteer, 2004-present; Board member, September 2011-present

North American Butterfly Association, Miami Blue Chapter

Member and volunteer, 2004-present; Board member 2011- present

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida

Member, 1986-present; Board member, 2006-present
Annual Everglades Outing (for underserved children) committee, lunch coordinator, 2009-present

Other:

Civic Chorale of Greater Miami / MDC Community Chorus - Executive Committee, 2009-present
Dade County Native Plant Workshop - 2008-present
Miami Bridge - Volunteer at youth shelter, 1985-1986
Trees for Dade (predecessor of TREEmendous Miami) – Volunteer and Board member, 1991-1999
Tropical Audubon Society - Member and volunteer, 1990-present

Education

Master of Statistics, University of Florida, 1977
MA, Mathematics, University of Florida, 1972
BA, Mathematics, Hanover College (Hanover, Indiana), 1970
Botany courses, Miami Dade College, 1992

Employment

Contractor at NOAA Fisheries, Miami (short-term contracts 2007-2009)
Volunteer at NOAA Fisheries, Miami, March 2007-August 2007
Statistician, NOAA Fisheries (Galveston, TX, and Miami), 1977-February 2007
Graduate student assistant, Department of Statistics, University of Florida, 1975-1977
Peace Corps Volunteer, Western Samoa (math and social studies teacher), 1973-1974
Graduate student assistant, Department of Mathematics, University of Florida, 1970-1972
Student assistant, Department of Mathematics, Hanover College, 1976-1970

COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD BALLOT
Miami-Dade County, Florida

April 8, 2014

LAND ACQUISITION SELECTION COMMITTEE	
Vote (✓) for One	
Amy G. Creekmur	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia L. Phares	<input type="checkbox"/>

Commissioner _____

(Please sign Ballot)

Commissioner District Number _____

HARVEY RUVIN
Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 17-202
Miami, FL 33128
305-375-51265