



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item 14(B)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: Appointment of Members
to the Miami-Dade County
Public Library Advisory
Board – Herskowitz and
Gudaitis

Christopher Agrippa, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

It is recommended that the Board consider the appointment of Ms. Barbara S. Herskowitz and Ms. Christine A. Gudaitis, to serve as members of the Miami-Dade County Public Library Advisory Board, as recommended by the City of Miami Beach and the Library Advisory Board.

The Advisory Board consists of eleven (11) members to include two (2) members as may be recommended by the Miami Beach City Manager and approved by the Miami Beach City Commission, in accordance with County Ordinance 86-65. Ms. Herskowitz and Ms. Gudaitis will fill the City of Miami Beach vacancies.

The memorandum of recommendation from the Director of Libraries; the letter of recommendation from the Miami Beach City Manager; Resolution No. 2014-28507 adopted by the Miami Beach City Commission; and the resume of each candidate are attached for your review.

CA:sm


Attachments

Memorandum



Date: April 1, 2014

To: Shania Moore
Clerk of the Board Division

From: Raymond Santiago 
Director of Libraries

Subject: Library Advisory Board Vacancies

CLERK OF THE BOARD
2014 APR - 1 PM 3:37
CLERK, CIRCUIT & COUNTY CLKS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLA.
#1

In compliance with ordinance 77-81, the Library Advisory Board, at its meeting of January 23, 2014 selected candidates to fill three vacancies on the Board. All candidates are qualified and each has agreed to serve if appointed by the Commission.

The Board highly recommends that Rogelio C. Cuevas be appointed to fill the remainder of the term vacated by Xavier Cortada on March 20, 2013 (term expires 6/9/15) and Christine A. Gudaitis and Barbara S. Herskowitz be appointed to fill the City of Miami Beach vacancies.

Also, the Board highly recommends the reappointment of two incumbents: Lea Nickless Verrecchia and E. Darwin Fuchs. They have given invaluable time and effort in their service to the Library and the community.

Attached is a list of the candidates, named in order of Board preference.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Attachments

cc: Lisa Martinez, Chief of Staff
Michael Spring, Sr. Advisor to the Mayor

VACANCIES – MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

VACANCIES

Candidates recommended by the Board listed in order of Board preference.

VACANT

1. **Roger Cuevas**
12353 SW 104 Lane
Miami, FL 33186
Ph (305) 596-0333
Email: rogerc236@aol.com
2. **Ruth Trencher**
5901 SW 60 Street
Miami, FL 33143
Ph (305) 665-3380
Email: trencher3380@bellsouth.net

VACANT

(City of Miami Beach Appointment)

2. **Christine A. Gudaitis**
Ver Ploeg & Lumpkin, P.A.
100 SE 2nd Street, 301th Floor
Miami, FL 33131
Ph (305) 577-3996
Email: cgudaitis@vpl-law.com

VACANT

(City of Miami Beach Appointment)

1. **Barbara S. Herskowitz**
4345 Jefferson Avenue
Miami Beach, FL 33140
Ph (305) 788-8989
Email: yalemiami@aol.com

Lea N. Verrecchia

1. **Lea N. Verrecchia (Incumbent)**
3572 Vista Court
Coconut Grove, FL 33133
Ph (305) 856-4582
Email: leanickless@gmail.com
2. **Yudit Lam**
817 Wallace Street
Coral Gables, FL 33134
Ph (305) 322-9988
Email: yudit_lam@yahoo.com

E. Darwin Fuchs

1. **E. Darwin Fuchs (Incumbent)**
6401 SW 102 Street
Miami, FL 33156
Ph (305) 667-8782
Email: edffish@bellsouth.net
2. Patricia S. Gormley, Esq.
6427 Windmill Gate Road
Miami Lakes, FL 33014
Ph (305) 498-7941
Email: brontejd@gmail.com



MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager
Tel: 305-673-7010, Fax: 305-673-7782

March 13, 2014

Mr. Raymond Santiago
Director of Libraries
Main Library
101 W. Flagler Street
Miami, FL 33130

Dear Mr. Santiago:

In accordance to Miami-Dade County Commission Ordinance No. 86-65, in which I am authorized to recommend two (2) membership positions to the Miami-Dade County Library Advisory Board, I take this opportunity to express my highest recommendations for Ms. Barbara S. Herskowitz and Ms. Christine A. Gudaitis to serve as members.

I consider both Ms. Herskowitz and Ms. Gudaitis to be especially qualified for the available membership positions due to their extensive work history, and keen interest in the current affairs of Miami-Dade County Libraries. I am certain they will be great assets, and contribute much to the Library Advisory Board. I have attached both of their résumés to this letter, as well as Resolution 2014-28507, wherein the Miami Beach City Commission recommend Ms. Herskowitz and Mrs. Gudaitis for the Miami-Dade County Library Advisory Board.

I thank you very much for your time and consideration of my candidates.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to meet or speak to either of the candidates, please let me know.

Respectfully,



Jimmy Morales
Miami Beach City Manager

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Barbara S. Herskowitz
Ms. Christine A. Gudaitis

JLM/reg

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3/19/14

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-28507

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA RECOMMENDING MS.
BARBARA S. HERSKOWITZ AND MS. CHRISTINE A. GUDAITIS
FOR THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD.**

WHEREAS, on June 18, 1998, the Mayor and City Commission approved Resolution No. 86-18488 and entered into an Agreement with Miami-Dade County that authorized the County among other things, to provide library services to the residents of the City of Miami Beach; and,

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County Commission adopted Ordinance No. 86-65, which expanded the composition of the Miami-Dade County Library Advisory Board by two members; and,

WHEREAS, as stipulated in Section 27 of the Agreement between the City and the County, the Mayor and the City Commission, upon recommendation by the City Manager, shall appoint two members to the Miami-Dade County Library Advisory Board; and,

WHEREAS, the City is committed to ensuring that our libraries remain properly funded, professionally staffed, and adequately stocked with the materials and books the public expects; and,

WHEREAS, the City wants its representatives on the Miami-Dade County Library Advisory Board to have input on the Master Plan formulated by Mayor Carlos Gimenez's Blue Ribbon Task Force for the Miami-Dade Public Library System; and,

WHEREAS, the City wishes to continue to serve and represent its citizens on the Miami-Dade County Library Advisory Board; and,

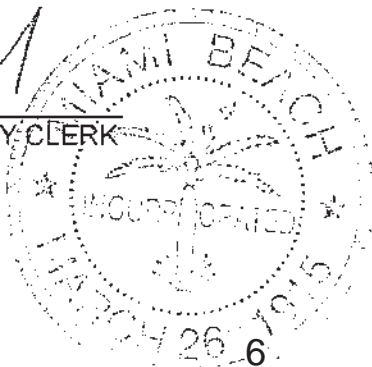
WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends two qualified candidates: Ms. Barbara S. Herskowitz and Ms. Christine A. Gudaitis, to be appointed to the Miami-Dade County Public Library Advisory Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DULY RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, that, based on the recommendation of the City Manager, Ms. Barbara S. Herskowitz and Ms. Christine A. Gudaitis are to be appointed as the City's representatives on the Miami-Dade County Library Advisory Board.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 26th day of February, 2014.


ATTEST:


Rafael Granado, CITY CLERK




Philip Levine, MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO
FORM & LANGUAGE
& FOR EXECUTION

 2/28/14
City Attorney

BARBARA S. HERSKOWITZ

4345 Jefferson Avenue
Miami Beach, FL 33140
305-788-8989
valemiami@aol.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

- Prepared monthly consolidation reports and entries
- Generated 10k and annual reports
- Projected forecasts for the cruise line and subsidiaries
- Compiled annual budget for the entire company
- Developed and wrote the General Ledger manual
- Programmed the computer system
- Trained company employees on the computer application
- Ten years experience in all phases of accounting

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

- Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills
- Problem solver/team player with proven leadership qualities
- Able to lead a team or work independently
- Proficient in Microsoft Word
- Create budget and work within parameters of budget

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

- Manage and supervise volunteers
- Deal with vendors
- Handle public relations for events

ORGANIZATION SKILLS AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

- Write all event invitations and literature
- Identify appropriate location for events
- Plan fundraising events for 500 plus attendees

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- **Financial Reporting**, Carnival Cruise Lines, Miami, FL
- **Mortgage Loan Accountant**, Centrust Savings Bank, Miami, FL

CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Greater Miami Hebrew Academy School, Member of the Board of Directors
- Miami Beach Board of Parks and Recreation
- Miami Beach Board of The Status of Women
- Miami Beach Board Waterfront Protection

Christine A. Gudaitis

Ver Ploeg & Lumpkin, A.A.
100 SE 2nd Street, 30th Floor
Miami, FL 33131
(305) 577-3996

Christine A. Gudaitis is a shareholder in the law firm of Ver Ploeg & Lumpkin, P.A. She concentrates her trial and appellate practice in the areas of insurance coverage and bad faith litigation, representing both individual and corporate policyholders. Ms. Gudaitis has written extensively on the subjects of insurance coverage and bad faith, and has been a presenter at various seminars on insurance-related issues. She is admitted to practice before the Florida Bar and the U.S. District Court for the Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

Born in New Jersey, Ms. Gudaitis is a 1990 graduate of Mount Holyoke College and a 2001 *cum laude* graduate of the University of Miami School of Law, where she was a Dean's Merit Scholarship recipient. While in law school, she served as a member of the University of Miami International and Comparative Law Review, the Moot Court Board, and the Phi Delta Phi Honor Society.

Ms. Gudaitis is a member of the Dade County and American Bar Associations, the Florida Association of Women Lawyers, the Miami-Dade Justice Association, the Miami-Dade County Bar Association Construction Law Committee, and the Florida Justice Association.

In addition, Ms. Gudaitis is Legal Chair and Director for the South Florida SPCA/Help the Horses organization, a member of the University of Miami Citizens Board, a volunteer for the Young Patronesses of the Opera, and a South Florida alumnae representative for Mount Holyoke College.

Ms. Gudaitis resides in Miami Beach.