



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

DRAFT

**CITIZENS COMMITTEE OF RECOGNITION
MEETING AGENDA**

Friday, June 10, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

**City Hall, 8th Floor, City Commission Conference Room
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Genia Ellis, Acting Chair
James Naugle
Ina Lee
Michael Albetta

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Jack Seiler, Chair
Romney Rogers

STAFF

Safeea Ali, Staff Liaison

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Approval of September 24, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion duly made and seconded, to approve the September 24, 2021 meeting minutes. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

III. 2021 Nomination Discussion

Acting Chair Ellis disclosed that she made a recommendation and put it in the wrong category. She asked if the Committee would consider moving the recommendation for Michael Weymouth from Distinguished Citizen to Honored Founder and noted the Committee has always had an opportunity to move people around.

Ms. Ali clarified nominations are on behalf of 2021 because a recommendation for the 2020 nomination for the Heroes of the Pandemic was for Fire, Police, and Healthcare. They are planning on doing 2019/2020 awards at the July 5, 2022 Commission meeting.

Acting Chair Ellis began the discussion of the awards with the Citizen of the Year category.

Citizen of the Year

Acting Chair Ellis opened the floor for discussion of the 2021 Citizen of the Year nominees. Several names were offered for consideration: Christina Currie, William (Bill) Rotella, Jay Schechtman, Dr. Warren Sturman, and Anthony Ginsburg.

Motion duly made and seconded, to recommend William "Bill" Rotella as Citizen of the Year 2021. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Distinguished Citizen

Acting Chair Ellis opened the floor for discussion of the 2021 Distinguished Citizen nominees. Several names were offered for consideration: Michael Weymouth, Richard Campillo, and Austin Forman.

Motion duly made and seconded to recommend Austin Forman as Distinguished Citizen 2021. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Honored Founder

Acting Chair Ellis opened the floor for discussion of the 2021 Honored Founder nominees. The following name was offered for consideration: Michael Weymouth.

Motion duly made and seconded, to recommend Michael Weymouth as Honored Founder 2021. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Exemplary Former Employee

Acting Chair Ellis opened the floor for discussion of the 2021 Exemplary Former Employee nominees. The following names were offered for consideration: Rabbi Moshe Meir Lipszyc and Hal Barnes.

Motion duly made and seconded, to recommend Hal Barnes as Exemplary Former Employee 2021. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

The following names will be recommended to the City Commission for its approval:

- Citizen of the Year – Bill Rotella
- Distinguished Citizen – Austin Forman
- Honored Founder – Michael Weymouth
- Exemplary Former Employee – Hal Barnes

IV. Old or New Business

- Upcoming Award Ceremony – July 5, 2022

Ms. Ali indicated she would try to get the 2019/2020 votes on the July agenda. She will attempt to hold the 2021 ceremony at the end of this year and launch 2022 nominations in October and hold that ceremony the first quarter of 2023.

A Committee Member suggested Richard Capello would be a good Citizen of the Year at that time.

Acting Chair Ellis thought it might be worthwhile to reach out to whoever made the recommendation and ask them to resubmit it.

Ms. Ali advised that the Commission requested everything be on an application form every year.

A Committee Member asked if the next meeting should be scheduled, and it was suggested they wait for Chair Seiler.

Ms. Ali indicated 2022 nominations would be in October and the Committee could meet in November to choose 2022 awards. She will send an email reflecting this information.

V. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

[Minutes prepared by C. Guifarro, Prototype, Inc.]

Minutes changes are to be made only by Prototype. Please make all staff edits at one time via redlining or in an email and return to your minutes writer for our approval and acceptance. We will then create a 2nd draft. We will also make final changes after Board approval. Contact Lisa with any questions.