



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

DRAFT

**CITIZENS COMMITTEE OF RECOGNITION
MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, July 10, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
Fort Lauderdale City Hall, 100 North Andrews Avenue
City Commission Conference Room**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Former Mayors:

Mayor James Naugle

Mayor Jack Seiler (arrived at 10:57 a.m.)

Committee Members:

Mary Fertig

Ina Lee

Michael Albetta

NOT PRESENT

Former Commissioner John Rodstrom

STAFF

Chaz Adams, Strategic Communications Manager

Monique J. Damiano, Senior Strategic Communications Specialist

Safeea Ali, Strategic Communications Specialist/Staff Liaison

I. Call to Order

In the absence of Former Mayor Jack Seiler, Ms. Fertig was asked to chair the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 10:14 a.m.

II. Approval of February 7, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Albetta, seconded by Ms. Lee, to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2019, meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

III. 2019 Award Nominations

Ms. Lee verified that an applicant could be moved from the Distinguished Citizen category to Citizen of the Year, but the Committee would have to vote on the change. Also, if an

application comes in after the deadline, it is up to the Committee to decide if they wish to consider the nomination.

Ms. Lee was concerned that some nominees had no backup information/application. If the official policy is that a nomination has to be accompanied by an application, she felt the Committee should honor that.

Discussion ensued on the procedure to be followed, with Ms. Ali advising that the Committee procedure is loosely organized and staff forwards the information on to the Committee to handle.

- *Citizen of the Year*

A/Chair Fertig asked for any further nominations.

Ms. Lee asked that James Donnelly be moved from the *Distinguished Citizens Category* to *Citizen of the Year* category. She recounted the work he has done with the homeless during the year, and thought it was more fitting to honor someone who has done a lot of work during the year instead of over time.

Motion made by Ms. Lee, seconded by Mr. Naugle, to move James Donnelly from the *Distinguished Citizens Category* to *Citizen of the Year* category. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Motion made by Mr. Albetta, seconded by Mr. Naugle to close the nominations for Citizen of the Year. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Citizen of the Year:

- ✓ Marcia Pinder
- ✓ Barbara Markley
- ✓ James Donnelly
- ✓ Julian Siegel
- ✓ Dr. Allen Zeman

A/Chair Fertig said she nominated Marcia Pinder because she is the good model of what a citizen should be. Ms. Lee advocated for refining the application, since it emphasizes what a person has done in the current year. It was noted that what Ms. Pinder had done in the current year would have qualified her.

Mr. Albetta said he was acquainted with Barbara Markley and described her work as an advocate for gun safety.

Ms. Lee spoke about James Donnelly, who spearheaded bringing businesses and the public sector together to deal with the homeless camp.

Mr. Naugle spoke about Julian Siegal's accomplishments as a local business person who supports a lot of organizations with sponsorships.

A/Chair Fertig relayed that Dr. Allen Zeman has been energizing the EAB to be more involved in local schools.

It was noted that there was one nomination for Marcia Pinder that was submitted in time, and one that was late.

Discussion ensued about the relative merits of the different candidates, with emphasis on their contribution to the City itself.

Motion made by former Mayor Naugle, seconded by Mr. Albetta, to select Marcia Pinder as the Citizen of the Year for 2019. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

- *Distinguished Citizen*

- ✓ The Late Arnold Abbott (no backup material)
- ✓ Maestro James Brooks-Bruzzese
- ✓ Gail Butler
- ✓ Michael Cuniff
- ✓ James Donnelly (moved to *Citizen of the Year*)
- ✓ Tam English
- ✓ Hadny E. Fayyaz
- ✓ Sharon Ramos
- ✓ Julian Siegel
- ✓ Gaylord Ashlyn Wood, Jr.

Ms. Lee pointed out that there was no application for Mr. Abbott, and requested that any nomination be accompanied by an application. It is the Committee's responsibility to follow up to obtain an application from the person who made the nomination.

There was Committee consensus to eliminate nominees that do not have applications. Mr. Albetta will follow up on obtaining an application for Mr. Abbott for next year.

Ms. Fertig stated she submitted an application for Art Kennedy, noting she has known him for many years. He is very devoted to education and advocated for "the right thing" for classrooms, educators, etc.

Ms. Lee spoke about Gail Butler and her outstanding work, particularly with people who are less fortunate. Ms. Lee also pointed out they have never honored a musician, and she thought music is a very important part of life in Fort Lauderdale.

It was noted that a nominee's accomplishments do not necessarily stem from their work/position.

There was discussion about whether to have two people recognized in this category in order to honor someone in the arts. Ms. Lee said she could not choose between the two (Ms. Butler and Maestro Brooks).

Mr. Albetta spoke about Maestro Brooks and Gail Butler and wanted to elect both of them.

There was Committee consensus to allow the two nominees to win.

Motion made by Ms. Lee to nominate Gail Butler for Distinguished Citizen. Mr. Albetta seconded the motion, which prevailed by unanimous voice vote (5-0).

Motion made by Ms. Lee to nominate Maestro Brooks for Distinguished Citizen. Mr. Albetta seconded the motion, which prevailed by unanimous voice vote (5-0).

- *Exemplary Former City Employee*

- ✓ Clara Bennett
- ✓ George Gretsas
- ✓ Jimmy Koeth
- ✓ Jack Lokeinsky
- ✓ Bruce Roberts

Ms. Lee disclosed that her husband is the Construction Manager for the City of Homestead and works for George Gretsas. Therefore, she would not be able to vote.

Ms. Lee asked if they were also including former Mayors, City Commissioners, and City Managers in this category. It was noted that all could be included, but it was not necessarily recommended to award managers two years in a row.

Motion made by Mr. Naugle, seconded by Mr. Albetta, to nominate two individuals for this award.

Ms. Fertig spoke about George Gretsas and his support for education and his work as City Manager. She also praised Jack Lokeinsky's contributions to the community.

In a voice vote, the **motion** to nominate two individuals for the award passed (4-0), with Ms. Lee abstaining.

Motion made by Mr. Albetta, seconded by Mr. Naugle, to nominate Jack Lokeinsky for the award. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously (5-0).

Motion made by Mr. Naugle, seconded by Mr. Albetta, to nominate George Gretsas for the award. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed (4-0) Ms. Lee abstaining.

- *Honored Founder*
 - ✓ The Late Arnold Abbott
 - ✓ M. Austin Forman
 - ✓ The Late Sister Marie Schramko
 - ✓ Frank Stranahan

Ms. Fertig nominated Frank Stranahan because he is considered the “Father of the City.”

Motion made by Ms. Lee, seconded by Mr. Albetta, to nominate Frank Stranahan for the Award. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Albetta requested that the Committee invite the Chief of the Seminole Indians to the ceremony when Mr. Stranahan is honored.

IV. Old or New Business

- *Date of Award Ceremony*

A/Chair Fertig noted that the nominations will go to the City Commission in September for approval. Committee consensus was to target November mainly due to the nicer weather. Staff will keep the Committee members posted of details and inform them of a date, which would be on a day that the City Commission meets so they could easily attend.

The Committee wished to have an honor guard and the Stranahan and Dillard bands at the event.

Ms. Fertig suggested adding a category for next year to honor a Public Official. She hoped to bring a draft of the category qualifications to a meeting in several months' time. There was Committee consensus to go forward with that idea.

Former Mayor Seiler arrived, and a recap was given for him.

Residency requirements for the categories were reviewed as follows:

- Citizen of the Year – Fort Lauderdale resident (per City Attorney)
- Distinguished Citizen – Fort Lauderdale resident (per City Attorney)
- Exemplary Former City Employee – Non-resident
- Honored Founder - need clarification

Motion made by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Ms. Lee, that the categories that the City Attorney already made reference to that we incorporate that into the requirements so that the Honored Founder and Distinguished Citizen at some point in their lifetime had been a resident of the City of Fort Lauderdale, and Citizen of the Year is a current resident.

Ms. Ali read an excerpt from the letter from the City Attorney regarding residency requirements, which agreed with the motion made by Mr. Seiler.

In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously (5-0).

Regarding the suggested category of "Public Official," alternate suggestions were made for the name: "Elected Official" or "Public Servant." After discussion, the title "Public Servant" was adopted, with the stipulation that they must have been an elected official at some point. They must also be a City resident.

Motion made by Mr. Seiler, seconded by Ms. Lee, that the Committee add a category of "Former Public Servant," one of the requirements being that it is an elected official position, and the other requirement being that they are a resident of the City of Fort Lauderdale. The person cannot have run for office or been in office in the last five years. The Committee authorizes Ms. Fertig to write this up and send it in a memorandum to the City Commission. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mayor Seiler requested that his vote be counted as "Yes" for all motions put forth.

A/Chair Fertig advised that typically at the last meeting of each year, the Committee elects a new Chair. It was suggested that the election take place at the first meeting of the next year, so that person would preside over the entire year, and also because the Committee might need another meeting this year.

Mr. Seiler requested that the date for the Award Ceremony be established as soon as possible so that all the honorees can be notified. Staff will try to get the item on the City Commission's agenda in August. Nobody is officially notified until after Commission approval.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

[Minutes transcribed by J. Rubin, Prototype, Inc.]

FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME <u>Lee Ida</u>	NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE <u>City Recognition</u>
MAILING ADDRESS <u>837 NE 20 Ave</u>	THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF:
CITY <u>FT Lauderdale</u> COUNTY <u>Broward</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CITY <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED <u>7/10/19</u>	NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION:
	MY POSITION IS: <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPOINTIVE

WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filing the form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office **MUST ABSTAIN** from voting on a measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also **MUST ABSTAIN** from knowingly voting on a measure which would inure to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of a principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; *and*

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112.3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

- You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, Jo, hereby disclose that on 7/10, 20 19:

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

- ☐ inured to my special private gain or loss;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, _____;
- ☒ inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, _____;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of _____, by whom I am retained; or
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

Voting for George Getson
as City Employee of Year
My husband Gary Foster
works for him

If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

Date Filed

7/12/19

Signature

[Signature]

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.