



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item 15(D)1

TO: Honorable Chairperson Dennis C. Moss, and
Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: November 16, 2010

FROM: Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Circuit and County Courts

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

Diane Collins, Acting Division Chief
Clerk of the Board Division.

Diane Collins

Please select one nominee from each group listed on the attached ballot to fill two (2) regular membership vacancies on the Land Acquisition Selection Committee (LASC).

The LASC has seven regular members and one alternate. There are currently two (2) vacancies on the Committee as a result of term limits. In accordance with Chapter 24-50 of the Code, the County Manager shall submit to the Board of County Commissioners a list of qualified nominees from which a replacement can be selected to fill each vacancy. The nominees are presented as follows:

Vacancy #1: 1. Emilie Young
2. Patricia L. Phares

Vacancy #2: 1. Dr. Kevin Whelan
2. Gladys E. Scott

The ballot, from which the two vacancies will be filled, County Manager George Burgess' memorandum dated November 4, 2010, and the resumes and letters of recommendation for all nominees have been attached for your review.

DC:llc
Attachments

COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD BALLOT

Miami-Dade County, Florida

November 16, 2010

LAND ACQUISITION SELECTION COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| VACANCY #1 Vote (✓) for One (1) | |
| Emilie Young | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Patricia L. Phares | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| VACANCY #2 Vote (✓) for One (1) | |
| Dr. Kevin Whelan | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Gladys E. Scott | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Commissioner: _____

(Please sign ballot)

Commission District Number: _____

Memorandum



Date: November 4, 2010

To: Honorable Harvey Ruvin
Clerk, Circuit and County Clerk

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager 

Subject: Land Acquisition Selection Committee Appointments

The County Advisory Board, the Land Acquisition Selection Committee (LASC), has seven regular members and one alternate. Term limits have resulted in vacancies on the board. As required by Chapter 24-50, I am hereby submitting two nominees per vacancy for appointment by the County Commission. The nominees are:

Regular Member Vacancy #1

1. Emilie Young, 9013 SW 62 Terrace, Miami.
2. Patricia L. Phares, 17615 SW 119 Avenue, Miami.

Regular Member Vacancy #2

1. Dr. Kevin Whelan, 10031 Bahama Drive, Cutler Bay.
2. Gladys E. Scott, 17010 SW 77 Avenue, Palmetto Bay.

Chapter 24-50.6 also provides that preference be given to candidates who have a record of service in environmental or civic affairs in Dade County and who have been recommended by one or more bona fide environmental, civic or professional organizations. Ms. Young is recommended by the Urban Environment League. Ms. Phares is recommended by the Florida Native Plant Society. Dr. Whelan is recommended by the Department of Earth and Environment at Florida International University. Ms. Scott is recommended by the Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.

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

c: Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Susanne M. Torriente, Sustainability Director
Carlos Espinosa, Director, DERM

Emilie M. Young
9013 SW 62 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33173
(305) 279-2380

Professional Experience:

Miami-Dade County DERM: Director, Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) Program, 1990 until retirement in 2008.

Directed acquisition and management of approximately 18,000 acres of environmentally endangered lands with voter-approved tax revenues totaling \$130 million from two referenda. Prepared and administered ordinance to implement voter mandate. Leveraged additional \$60 million in grants, joint acquisitions, and land management services from State Conservation and Recreation Lands Program, Florida Communities Trust, Inholdings Fund and the South Florida Water Management District among others. Initiated scientific monitoring of endangered species and endemic plants by Fairchild Tropical Garden researchers and preparation of habitat-management plans in cooperation with Fairchild. Collaborated with the South Florida Water Management District on the acquisition and management of the South Dade Wetlands.

EEL Program received awards received from International Council of Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and The Nature Conservancy.

Miami-Dade County Planning Department: Principal Planner, 1978 -1990

Major projects included Comprehensive Development Master Plan, Agricultural Land Use Plan, and the East Everglades Resources Plan. Charter member of American Planning Association and American Institute of Certified Planners.

Previous Experience 1965-78 : Analyst, National Security Agency; Secondary School teacher; Data Coordinator, Florida Department of Environmental Regulation

Education:

MS, Urban and Regional Planning, Florida State University
BA, Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

Awards:

Dan Beard Public Service Award, Tropical Audubon Society, 2008
In the Company of Women, Outstanding Woman in Science & Technology, 2008

Affiliations:

Tropical Audubon Society, Urban Environment League, Fairchild Tropical Garden

Patricia L. Phares
17615 SW 119 Ave
Miami FL 33177

Environmental and Civic Involvement

Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society

Member, volunteer for most chapter projects and events, regular attendee of monthly meetings and field trips, 1981-present
Newsletter editor, most years 1986-present
Field trip planning committee, 2000-present
Native Plant Day committee, 1991-2008 (annual public educational event)
Everglades National Park Coe Visitors Center Landscaping Project steering committee, 2001-present (ongoing planning of the work to be done and coordinating the bi-monthly workdays)
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 Conservation Program volunteer

Rare Plant S.W.A.T. ("So-long, Weeds and Trash") Team - removing invasive exotics from rare fern habitat, 2004-2005.
Occasional outplantings of rare plants, seed collecting, 2002-present.

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida

Member, 1986-present
Board member, 2006-present
Annual Everglades Outing (for underserved children) committee and lunch coordinator, 2009-2010

Tropical Audubon Society

Member, 1990-present; volunteer (docent, grounds) 2008-present

Friends of the Gifford Arboretum (University of Miami)

Member 2000-present; volunteer (publicity) 2009-present

Friends of The Institute for Regional Conservation

Member 2004-present; volunteer (conservation workdays, nursery assistant) 2008-2009

Trees for Dade (predecessor of TREEmendous Miami)

Board of Directors, 1991-1999
Cool Communities planting volunteer, 1997-1999

Miami Bridge

Volunteer at youth shelter 1985-1986

Other organizations

North American Butterfly Association, Miami Blue Chapter member, 2004-present;
volunteer

The Nature Conservancy member, 1987-present

Miami-Dade College Community Chorus member, 1985-present

Dade County Native Plant Workshop attendee, 2008-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 beginning August 2007)

Volunteer at NOAA Fisheries, Miami, March 2007-August 2007

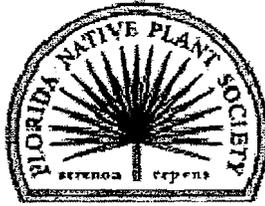
Statistician, NOAA Fisheries (Galveston, TX, and Miami), 1977-February 2007

Graduate student assistant, Department of Statistics, University of Florida, 1975-1977

Peace Corps Volunteer, Western Samoa (math and social studies teacher, junior high school), 1973-1974

Graduate student assistant, Department of Mathematics, University of Florida, 1970-1972

Student assistant, Department of Mathematics, Hanover College, 1976-1970



22 March 2010

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,

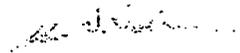
It has been brought to my attention that once again there are openings for the Miami-Dade County Land Acquisition Selection Committee (LASC). I can think of no better person to be a part of this committee than Patty Phares.

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 it would be foolish to pass up the opportunity to work with her, 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, Vice President for Finance
Florida Native Plant Society
8025 SW 102 Ave.
Miami, FL 33173
stevewoodmansee@bellsouth.net
786.488.3101

The purpose of the Florida Native Plant Society is to promote preservation, conservation, and restoration of the native plants and native plant communities of Florida.

Kevin R. T. Whelan
10031 Bahama Drive
Miami, Florida 33189

Community Ecologist

Research Interest:

I have over 15 years of experience as a field biologist working mainly in South Florida, with additional research experience in Costa Rican tropical rainforest, cloud forest, dry forest, and seasonally flooded wetlands; Mexican cloud forest, and Alaskan high arctic tundra. Research topics have included population dynamics of flora and fauna, hurricane and lightning disturbance, global warming, and restoration ecology.

My professional goals are to continue to study disturbance ecology with emphasis on the effects of restoration across multiple scales from individual populations, to communities, and ecosystem. The South Florida experiences instill that everything is affected by regional dynamics crossing both political and natural boundaries.

Education:

Ph.D. Florida International University, 2005, Biological Sciences

Dissertation: The successional dynamics of lightning-initiated canopy gaps in the mangrove forests of Shark River, Everglades National Park, USA.

M.Sc. Florida International University, 1997, Biological Sciences

Thesis: Short Term Response of Two Cypress Communities (*Taxodium distichum* var. *imbricarium* (Nuttall) Croom) within Everglades National Park to the Effects of Hurricane Andrew.

B.Sc. Florida International University, 1993, Biological Science, Magna Cum Laude,
Minor in Chemistry

Employment:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| August 2007 – Present | National Park Service – Community Ecologist |
| August 2005 – August 2007 | National Park Service – Aquatic Ecologist |
| January 2002- August 2005 | U.S. Geological Survey – Ecologist Student Career Experience Program |
| May 2001 - January 2002 | Research Biologist II, Johnson Controls |
| January 1998 - April 2001 | Research Biologist II, ASci Corporation |
| January 1997- December 1997 | Research Biologist, Southeast Environmental Research Program: Florida International University |
| September 1993 – December 1996 | Graduate Research Associate and Project Manager Biological Sciences Department, Florida International University. |

1. Published manuscripts:

- Whelan, K. R.T., T. J. Smith III, G. H. Anderson, and M. L. Ouellette.** 2009 Hurricane Wilma's impact on overall soil elevation and zones within the soil profile in a mangrove forest. *Wetlands*, 29:16–23
- T. J. Smith III, G. H. Anderson, K. Balentine, G. Tiling, G. A. Ward, and **K. R. T. Whelan** 2009. Cumulative impacts of hurricanes on Florida mangrove ecosystems: sediment deposition, storm surges and vegetation. *Wetlands*, 29:24–34
- Zhang, K., M. Simard, M. Ross, V. H. Rivera-Monroy, P. Houle, P. Ruiz, R. R. Twilley, and **K. R. T. Whelan**. 2008. Airborne Laser Scanning Quantification of Disturbances from Hurricanes and Lightning Strikes to Mangrove Forests in Everglades National Park, USA. *Sensors* 8:2262-2292.
- Woody, K., A. Atkinson, R. Clark, C. Jeffery, I. Lundgren, J. Miller, M. Monaco, E. Miller, M. Patterson, C. Rodgers, T. Smith, T. Spitzak, R. Warra, **K. R. T. Whelan**, B. Witcher, and A. Wright 2008 Coral Bleaching in the U.S. Virgin Islands in 2005 and 2006 pages 68-72. in Wilinson, C., Souter, D. Status of Caribbean coral reefs after bleaching and hurricanes in 2005. Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, and Reef and Rainforest Research Centre, Townsville, Australia, 152p.
- Whelan, K. R.T., J. Miller, O Sanchez, and M. Patterson.** 2007 **Impact of the 2005 coral bleaching event on *Porites porites* and *Colpophyllia natans* at Tektite Reef, US Virgin Islands.** *Coral Reefs* 26:689-693
- Ward, G.A., T.J. Smith III, **K.R.T. Whelan**, and T.W. Doyle. 2006 Regional processes in mangrove ecosystems: spatial scaling relationships, biomass, and turnover rates following catastrophic disturbance. *Hydrobiologia* 569:517-527
- Smith, T.J. III and **K.R.T. Whelan**. 2006 Development of allometric relations for three mangrove species in South Florida for use in the Greater Everglades Ecosystem Restoration. *Wetlands Ecology and Management* 14:409-419
- Whelan, K. R.T., T.J. Smith III, D.R. Cahoon, J.C. Lynch, and G. H. Anderson.** 2005. Groundwater control of mangrove surface elevation: shrink-swell varies with soil depth. *Estuaries* 28:833-843.
- Krauss, K.W., T.W. Doyle, R.R. Twilley, T.J. Smith III, **K.R.T. Whelan**, and J.K. Sullivan. 2005. Woody debris in the mangrove forests of South Florida. *Biotropica* 37:9-15.

Oberbauer, S.F., K. von Kleist III, **K.R.T. Whelan**, and S. Koptur. 1996. Effects of Hurricane Andrew on epiphyte communities within cypress domes of Everglades National Park. *Ecology*, 77(3), 964-967.

2. Educational Experiences and Outreach:

Invited resource person for the Organization of Tropical Studies Summer 2002 graduate field course in Tropical Biology. Instructed for 3 weeks on the course at the Palo Verde, Monteverde, and La Selva field stations in Costa Rica.

Supervised 15 undergraduate independent study students from both the Environmental Studies and the Biology departments. This entailed approximately 1,600 hours of field and lab work with undergraduate students.

Mentor to one ESRIP (Environmental Science Research Internship Program) student Matthew Warren (Light environments in mangrove forest canopy gaps) and one REU-LTER student (Research Experience for Undergraduates) Robert Muxo (Successional dynamics of roots in a mangrove forest following lightning strikes).

3. Skills: Languages: Spanish (Passable)

Biological and Technical Skills: Forest structure sampling, crab sampling, woody debris surveys, soil sampling (strength, bulk density, elevation, and accretion). Experience with mark-recapture small mammal, amphibians, alligators and bird mist netting. Proficient with GPS, hemispherical photography, light spectral sampling, Campbell CR10X instrumentation, and LI-COR photosynthesis measuring equipment. Identify West Indian plants and wetland plants to family and species. Over 2000 hours small marine boat operations.

4. Pertinent Professional Certification :

Airboat Operation Certification Course (Non- DOI) May 2000

Department of Interior Basic Aviation Safety Course (B-3) -1997, 2000

Red Card - Department of Interior Basic Fire fighting - S130, S190 - January 1998

Tennessee Valley Authority - Computer Training

Word 7.0, Excel 7.0, Power point 7.0 Access Database 7.0

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Coastal Navigation Course - December 1997

Department of Interior Boating and Safety Course - October 1997.

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Boating Skills and Seamanship Course - February 1997.

American Red Cross Basic Canoeing

Hunter Education Program - Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission -June 1980.

Dr Kevin Whelan of the US Park Service has asked me to write a quick note in support of his consideration as an advisor for the Miami-Dade County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) program's Land Acquisition Selection Committee. This is to confirm that I have known Kevin for quite a few years (i.e. since he was a graduate student here), and I have a very high regard for him. This is precisely the kind of person that the County should have advising the EEL Committee. He is very knowledgeable of local ecosystems, and his current position within the South FL and Caribbean Monitoring unit for the Park Service gives him almost unique access to the conservation problems and issues that we face locally.

One of my most recent papers (currently under review) looks at EEL from a policy standpoint, and two of its conclusions were that 1) we need to keep the program moving forward and 2) that we need the best scientific advice for the Committee to assure that we are getting the best conservation properties prioritized for its purposes. In light of this, I can think of no one better than Kevin, and so I hope you will permit him to serve. You (and We, interested in local conservation issues) really do need him in this capacity.

You or other interested people may feel free to contact me if you have any further questions about this, but I do feel strongly about this. We are losing too much and EEL represents the best chance of saving some it. Kevin will be a great asset for the Committee.

Dr. Joel Heinen, Professor
Department of Earth and Environment, ECS 345
Florida International University, 11200 SW 8th Street, Miami, FL, 33199
Phone: 305-348-3732; Fax: 305-348-6137; email: heinenj@fiu.edu
website: www.fiu.edu/~envstud

GWLADYS E. SCOTT
17010 S.W. 77TH AVENUE
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33157

EMPLOYMENT

1992 - 1999 INSPECTOR II Miami - Dade County DERM, Miami, Florida (retired 1999)

Solid Waste Section, Waste Regulation Division
Managed inspections, permitting, enforcement and clean ups of all public and private
Dade
County solid waste disposal and transfer sites. Supervised two Inspectors I. Created
maps,
Worked with State DEP on shared permitted Solid Waste sites.

1998 - 1992 INSPECTOR I Miami -Dade County DERM, Miami, Florida

Hazardous Facilities Section, Enforcement Division
Conducted field inspections of hazardous waste generating facilities for compliance
with, or the need of, an IW-5 permit. Identified, sampled and document pollution.
Initiated enforcement procedures, site cleanup plans and monitored cleanups.

Biological Resources Section, Water Management Division
Prepared Class IV Freshwater wetland Permits. Conducted field inspections for permit
compliance and the identification of violations. Prepared enforcements: Uniform Civil
Violations Notices, Notices of Violation and Orders for Corrective Action and cases for
civil court.

Compliance Section, Enforcement Division
Conducted field inspections and wrote reports of permitted and unpermitted facilities
for the Air and Hazardous Facilities Sections. Responded to citizens' environmental
complaints and emergencies. Identified, sampled and documented pollution. Prepared
enforcement notices, cleanup directives and monitored cleanups. Performed
environmental assessments.

1978 - 1988 SCIENCE TEACHER Junior High School
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN Middle/Junior/Senior
HIGH SCHOOL CHAIRMAN
Atlantis Academy, Miami, Florida

1974 - 1978 SUBSTITUTE TEACHER Cutler Ridge and Palmetto Junior High Schools
REGULAR SUBSTITUTE TEACHER Key Biscayne Environmental Center
Dade County Public Schools, Miami, Florida

EDUCATION

1951 - 1953 Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts
1953 - 1956 University of Miami A.B. Geography major/Geology minor
1966 - 1988 University of Miami, FIU, Miami-Dade Sciences/Education courses

CERTIFICATIONS

Code Enforcement Inspector Badge #603
Visible Emissions Evaluator Certificate #230268
State of Florida Teacher's Certification #369247-Science
Red Cross Water Safety and Small Craft Instructor

ORGANIZATIONS

Sierra Club, Audubon Society, Greenpeace, Nature Conservancy, Wilderness Society, Dade Chapter Florida Native Plant Society (twice on the Board), Florida Association of Science Teachers

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Organize and lead field trips, teach classes and lecture about South Florida plants, plant communities and geology. Help plan, restore and maintain native plant areas on public and private properties.



Dade Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society
6619 South Dixie Highway, #181
Miami, FL 33143-7919

Cynthia Guerra, Program Director
Environmentally Endangered Lands Program
Miami-Dade County - DERM
731 N.W. 1 Ct, 8th Floor
Miami, FL 33136

April 26, 2010

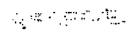
Re: Land Acquisition Selection Committee (LASC)

Dear Cynthia Guerra,

I wish to recommend that Gwladys E. Scott be nominated to serve on the Land Acquisition Selection Committee. Mrs. Scott has been involved in environmental work and issues, professionally and as a volunteer, since the 1960s. She has a good understanding of south Florida ecosystems, geology and topography and a basic knowledge of native (and exotic past) plants. She has served twice on the Dade County Florida Native Plant Society Board of Directors and has been involved in all aspects of the Society. She lectures, gives tours, mans booths and proselytizes the uses of native plants for aesthetic and environmental concerns. Mrs. Scott volunteers many hours to natural areas management of public and private lands.

Sincerely,


Amy Legnard
Board member, past President
Dade County Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society


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