

**MINUTES  
APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
NORTHERN PALM BEACH COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
September 14, 2011**

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The Appointment Committee was called to order at approximately 8:04 a.m. on September 14, 2011 in the Northern Administrative Complex, 359 Hiatt Drive, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

**1. ROLL CALL**

The full membership of the Committee comprised of Board Supervisor Ronald M. Ash, P.E. and Adrian M. Salee was present.

Also present were Executive Director O’Neal Bardin, Jr.; Deputy Director C. Danvers Beatty; Finance Director Katie Brunk; and Executive Assistant Susan Scheff.

**2. ESTABLISH A QUORUM**

Mr. Salee announced that a quorum was present and that it was in order to consider any business to come before the Committee.

**3. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Mr. Bardin reported that there were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 24, 2011**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Ash, seconded by Mr. Salee and unanimously passed approving the August 24, 2011 Committee meeting minutes as presented.

**5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Mr. Salee called for any comments from the public for items not on the Agenda to which there was no response.

**6. REGULAR AGENDA**

**• Interview Potential Board Member Candidates**

**Tom DeRita**

Prior to the interview, the Committee received Dr. DeRita's biography in their materials for review. Dr. DeRita was asked to join the meeting.

Dr. DeRita provided the Committee with another copy of his biography and a copy of a newsletter that his company has produced.

Mr. Salee asked Dr. DeRita what he could bring to the Board and Dr. DeRita responded that he has been in Florida for 27 years and currently lives in Steeplechase. He explained that he has a vast, diverse business background. He provided information on his background as well as the Committees he has served upon and is currently serving upon.

Mr. Salee asked Dr. DeRita how his connections could impact ethics issues. Dr. DeRita stated that he has never had an ethics complaint brought against him and he has been vetted by several groups before serving on their Committees. He also explained that his contract with Palm Beach Gardens has ended and he will not respond to their Request for Proposals if selected to serve on Northern's Board.

Mr. Ash explained the sub-committee structure and asked Dr. DeRita what Committees he might be interested in serving on. Dr. DeRita replied that any Committee dealing with government or personnel would be of interest to him.

Mr. Ash asked Dr. DeRita what the perception of Northern is at Steeplechase. Dr. DeRita stated that he has never heard any disparaging remarks with regard to Northern. A general

discussion followed with regard to community involvement and how few people attend council meetings.

A discussion followed with regard to Palm Beach County issues. Mr. Salee also discussed the L8 reservoir experiment with Lake Okeechobee.

Mr. Ash complimented Northern Staff and explained Northern's shift from construction to maintenance.

Mr. Ash thanked Dr. DeRita for his interest in serving and asked if he had any questions for the Committee. Dr. DeRita asked the Committee about their backgrounds and Mr. Ash and Mr. Salee informed him of their engineering backgrounds.

Dr. DeRita also asked if meetings are monthly and Mr. Salee explained the Board and Committee meeting scheduling.

Dr. DeRita was thanked for his time and was told that a decision should be made at the September 28, 2011 Board Meeting.

**Bob Nichols**

Prior to the interview, the Committee received Mr. Nichols' biography in their materials for review. Mr. Nichols was asked to join the meeting.

Mr. Salee asked Mr. Nichols what he could bring to the Board and Mr. Nichols responded that he has a wealth of experience in Palm Beach County and is currently a resident of PGA National. He reviewed his broadcast background as well as his involvement with the initial planning and permitting of the properties that now make up Ibis.

Mr. Ash reviewed the sub-committee structure and how the Committee recommendations are brought to the Board for approval. Mr. Ash then asked Mr. Nichols what Committee he believed he could best serve on and he stated that Finance or Personnel would be the best fit.

Mr. Ash complimented Northern Staff and explained Northern's shift from construction to maintenance.

Mr. Salee asked Mr. Nichols if he is aware of any potential ethics conflicts. Mr. Nichols said he currently isn't working for anyone, as the non-profit for Grassy Waters Preserve which he managed is being dissolved, and the Preserve is now being run by the City of West Palm Beach. Mr. Ash commended Mr. Nichols for the work he did on behalf of the Preserve.

Mr. Ash asked Mr. Nichols if he had any questions for the Committee and Mr. Nichols explained that he had a lengthy meeting with Mr. Bardin which answered his questions about Northern.

A discussion followed with regard to Public Relations.

Mr. Ash asked if Mr. Nichols was serving on any County Boards and he said that he currently is not.

Mr. Nichols was thanked for his time and was told that a decision should be made at the September 28, 2011 Board Meeting.

The Committee then held a discussion with regard to all four candidates. The Committee decided they would recommend one candidate to the Board along with one backup candidate should the first choice candidate not be able to serve.

It was the consensus of the Committee to recommend Board appointment of Garo Artinian as their first choice and name Bob Nichols as their second choice.

**7. RECEIVE AND FILE**

The meeting notice was received and filed.

**8. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

There were no comments from the Committee.

**9. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Appointment Committee, the meeting adjourned.