



**NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OFFICE**

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Building A-219, Viera, FL 32940

**Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee  
Volunteer Application**

**Due: October 1, 2016**

**Name:** Dr. Stephany Eley

**Mailing Address:** 2446 Crystal Oaks Lane

**City:** West Melbourne **State:** Florida

**Zip Code:** 32904

**Phone:** 321-724-0168 **Cell Phone:** 321-243-8710

**Email:** stephanyeley@gmail.com

**Basic Requirements and Duties of Oversight Committee Members**

Applicants must commit to serving the public interest by providing stewardship of Lagoon Trust Funds, especially in relation to restoring health to the Indian River Lagoon, and must demonstrate expertise and experience in one or more of the following fields: science, technology, economics/finance, real estate, education/outreach, tourism, or lagoon advocacy. Knowledge of the water quality issues and the major sources of pollution affecting the lagoon are highly desirable.

Members will oversee progress and make recommendations to the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on spending an estimated \$303 million from sales tax revenue to **Reduce** pollution sources to the lagoon, **Remove** legacy pollution from the lagoon bottom, **Restore** natural systems within the lagoon, and **Respond** to new information by recommending annual amendments to the Save our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan (SOIRLPP). Duties will include participation in meetings to evaluate data to measure progress towards plan implementation and lagoon health, review technology and alternative project proposals for reducing pollutants and improving water quality, assess the cost-effectiveness of the projects, and recommend plan revisions accordingly. The Committee shall address questions, concerns, and ideas from the public to improve the SOIRLPP. Applicants must be willing to ensure that the SOIRLPP reflects the most effective, timely and responsible means to restore the Indian River Lagoon and that the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Trust Fund is managed in the best interest of the public.

Please complete the following questions and statements.

1. Do you reside in Brevard County? Yes  No

Number of years 50+

2. Are you willing to serve on the Committee for a minimum of two (2) years and be available to attend multiple weekday meetings annually, as needed? Yes  No

3. Please check next to one or more of the following that best match(es) your expertise:

Science

Economics/Finance

Education/Outreach

Lagoon Advocacy

Technology

Real Estate

Tourism

**FOR THE QUESTIONS BELOW, RESPONSES MAY BE UP TO ½ PAGE EACH**

Please list one or more reasons why you are personally interested in applying to serve as a member of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Oversight Committee. Having been involved with the formation and implementation of the joint IRL Compact between the Space Coast League of Cities and the Indian River Regional League of Cities, I have a vested interest in the outcome of the IRL restoration proposal. I do not represent any special interest groups and believe I could be unbiased in my review of potential projects and evaluation of the outcomes. As a fiscal conservative, I will be diligent in reviewing spending and requiring adherence to the proposals approved by the committee. As a trained scientist, I have the ability to evaluate the scientific benefit of the submitted proposals. I believe my unique skill sets will be an asset to the oversight committee.

4. Please provide a brief overview of your background and experience (education, professional experience, and community volunteer experience) as it relates to your understanding of the SOIRLPP and the restoration needs of the Indian River Lagoon. As an ecology teacher at Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy, I was involved with monitoring of the IRL at the beginning of the decade. My students acquired and tested samples of the lagoon and submitted their results to Brevard County and Florida Institute of Technology. I proposed a restrictive fertilizer ordinance for the City of West Melbourne and worked to influence the rest of my council members to pass the ordinance. I was the driving force behind the Space Coast League of Cities (SCLOC) and the Indian River Regional League of Cities Indian River Lagoon Compact working with Dr. Duane De Freese to determine language and advocating for passage between the two leagues. I organized the first IRL Summit hosted at Florida Institute of Technology and featuring Virginia Barker, Dr. De Freese, Dr. Leesa Souto, and Dr. John Windsor as our resident experts and facilitators. I currently represent the SCLOC on the Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Advisory Board. I believe I could function as a liaison between these entities and the oversight committee. My undergraduate degree is in microbiology and I understand the science behind the IRL restoration proposal. I am also a board member of the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast and have contacts within the business community which could prove to be beneficial.

5. Please describe what character, judgment, analytical, communication, and group consensus building strengths you would contribute to the purposes and duties of Save Our Indian River Lagoon Oversight Committee? I have been trained in Facilitative Leadership and have participated as a presenter of these concepts to members of Brevard Public Schools. I have served as Chairman of the Florida League of Cities Energy and Environment Committee and helped to facilitate the selection of our legislative proposals for the past legislative session. This required navigating the sometimes opposing opinions of the members and maintaining order in potentially contentious discussions. I have served as treasurer of the SCLOC and serve as a member of the West Melbourne City Council and have been faithful and responsible in handling their financial affairs. I have strong communication skills both orally and written having completed a doctoral dissertation. I also have been trained to think critically and analyze scientifically.
  
6. Please describe the importance of committee members putting public interests first and avoiding real or perceived conflicts of interest in making recommendations for expenditure of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Trust Funds. As an elected official I have been involved in weighing the interests of various parties and determining what I believe to be in the best interests of the public. Since my involvement with the city council, I have chosen to be involved in the community at large and believe we need to look at the interests of the whole community and not just our own municipality. As I stated before, I do not represent any special interest group and I believe it is critical to be unbiased in determining the best proposals to fund with public monies. I understand the importance of being transparent and responsive to public inquiry as we have been given an awesome responsibility to manage public funds.

#### **Additional Requirements**

In addition to this application, a resume/CV and at least one letter of recommendation are required. The letter of recommendation can be a personal recommendation from a professional in the same field and/or an endorsement by a reputable nonprofit organization.

**Send your application, resume, and letter(s) of reference to:**

Marie Winkler, Administrative Assistant to the Director

[Marie.Winkler@brevardfl.gov](mailto:Marie.Winkler@brevardfl.gov)

**Phone: 321-633-2016, Fax: 321-633-2029**

**Dr. Stephany E. Eley**  
**2446 Crystal Oaks Lane**  
**W. Melbourne, Florida 32904**  
**Telephone (321)724-0168**

## **Education**

Liberty University  
Doctor of Education, Ed.D.  
Education Specialist (Ed.S.)  
in Curriculum and Instruction

Florida Institute of Technology  
Master of Science in Educational Administration

Florida State University  
Bachelor of Arts in Microbiology

## **Florida Certifications**

Administration  
  
Mathematics 6-12  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Gifted Endorsement

## **Teaching Experience**

### **Hospital/Homebound-Viera, Florida (2005-Present)**

- Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Integrated Science I, Integrated Science II, Integrated Science III, Algebra 2, and Geometry
- Teacher of the Year 2007-2008
- Curriculum Contact and Math Department Chair

### **West Shore Junior Senior High School-Melbourne, Florida**

- Algebra 1 Honors and Geometry
- Mu Alpha Theta Sponsor
- Florida Math League Competition Sponsor

### **Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy-Melbourne, Florida**

- Pre- Algebra, Algebra 1 Honors, Algebra 1, Geometry Honors, Geometry, Ecology, Earth Science, Life Management and Personal Fitness.
- Chairman of the Math Department-Liaison to the Faculty Council from the Math Department and accountable for Administrative Responsibilities for the Department.
- Swim Team Sponsor

## **Non-Teaching Experience**

### **City of West Melbourne-West Melbourne, Florida (2007-Present)**

- Deputy Mayor
- City Council Member
- Set policy for the city through ordinances and resolutions.
- Provide oversight to Charter employees (i.e. City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk)
- Responsible to evaluate and approve an approximately \$ 23,000,000 budget.

- Understand local, county, and state funding mechanisms and restricted funding sources and accounts.

#### **State of Florida**

- Legislative Assistant III for local State Representative
- Responsible for supervising District Office, public relations and public appearances in lieu of the Representative, bill drafting and promoting bill's during legislative session, produced two District Newsletters, drafted correspondence, made constituent contacts, and handled constituent issues.

#### **Junior League of South Brevard-Melbourne, Florida**

- Chairman- Projects Research and Development-Researched and won League approval to establish The Haven for Children (a non-profit shelter for abused and abandoned children)
- Vice-President of Personnel-Chairman of the Personnel Council and responsible for advising and coordinating the personnel needs of the League

References available on request.

### **Current and Past Board Assignments**

#### **St. John's Episcopal Church**

- Junior Warden of the Vestry (The vestry is the board of trustees for the Episcopal Church and the Junior Warden is responsible for the facilities of the church.)
- Vestry member

#### **The Haven for Children**

- Board Member

#### **West Melbourne Library Board**

- Chairman of the Board
- Vice-Chairman of the Board
- Board Member

#### **Spacecoast League of Cities**

- President
- First Vice President
- Second Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Board Member

#### **Florida League of Cities**

- Board of Directors
- Energy and Environment State Legislative Committee Member
- Chairman Energy and Environment State Legislative Committee

#### **Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast**

- Board Member
- Voting Member of Ad Valorem Tax Abatement Committee

#### **Transportation Planning Office (TPO)**

- Secretary of the Executive Council
- Board Member

### **Honor America**

- President
- First Vice-President
- Second Vice-President

## **Leadership Activities**

Professional Development facilitator/co-trainer for Analyzing Rubrics, CET Training, Peer Coaching, and Facilitative Leadership Training

B.E.S.T. Facilitator and Trainer, Fall 2010 and Winter 2011

Leadership Awareness Training I and Teacher Leadership Training

Completed Budget Essentials for Administrators Training Fall 2010

FTCE (Florida Teacher Certification Exam) for Physics Exam:

- Wrote items for the Physics Teacher Certification Exam for the State of Florida

FTCE for Chemistry Exam:

- Correlated Florida state standards to test objectives for the Chemistry Teacher Certification Exam for the State of Florida.
- Validated the standards for the Chemistry Exam.
- Wrote test items for the Chemistry Exam.

Attended Basic, Advanced IEMO, and IEMO III (Institute for Elected Municipal Officials)

Teacher of the Year 2008-2009 for the Hospital/Homebound Program

Elected to a two year term as President and served a two year term as Vice-President in Charge of Programs for Delta Kappa Gamma, a professional honorary for female educators

Selected to attend the Leadership Growth Seminar for Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG) and then to become a member of the Leadership Growth Development Committee for Florida

Awarded a \$6,000 International Scholarship and a \$2,500 State Scholarship to complete doctorate degree in education by DKG

Served on the Health/Human Sexuality Curriculum Committee for the Brevard County School Board

- Made recommendations on the human sexuality curriculum to the superintendent and the school board

Florida Math League sponsor for West Shore Junior/Senior High School

- The team placed first in Brevard County



Marine Resources Council, Inc.  
3275 Dixie Highway, N.E.  
Palm Bay, FL 32905  
321-725-7775

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September 30, 16

Marie Winkler, Administrative Assistant to the Director  
Brevard County Natural Resources Management  
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera FL 32940

Letter of Recommendation for Dr. Stephany Eley  
Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Submitted via email to: [Marie.Winkler@brevardfl.gov](mailto:Marie.Winkler@brevardfl.gov)

Dear Marie;

I am pleased to provide this letter of recommendation for Dr. Stephany Eley to serve Brevard County on the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee. Dr. Eley and I met when MRC and our partners were working to educate local representatives about better residential fertilizer controls. As a West Melbourne City Councilwoman, Dr. Eley asked the hard questions about the science to support the ordinances and then brought the item forward for her Council's consideration. She impressed me from the start as someone who is smart, capable, and proficient. She speaks well and is an excellent meeting chairperson. More recently, Dr. Eley has been a voice for lagoon action at the Space Coast League of Cities and was instrumental in organizing the Indian River Lagoon Summit that facilitated nearly local elected officials in lagoon problem-solving discourse. She is committed to sound science as a means to prioritize projects and collaboration as the way to get the work done. I highly recommend her for this committee.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Leesa Souto'.

Leesa Souto, Ph.D.  
Executive Director