

News Release – For Immediate Release
January 28, 2014
City of Sanibel
Contact: City Manager’s Office (239) 472-3700

**Sanibel City Council Accepting Applications for
a Citizen to Serve on the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization’s Citizen
Advisory Committee (CAC)**

The Sanibel City Council is accepting applications for a citizen to be appointed for the City of Sanibel representative to the Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) pending final appointment by Lee County Board of Commissioners.

The Lee County MPO's vision is to have a multi-jurisdictional, integrated multi-modal transportation system that safely and efficiently moves people and goods to, through, and within our area, and which enables Lee County and the surrounding areas to flourish in the global marketplace.

The purpose of CAC is to assist the MPO in conducting effective public information and participation programs, and to act as a representative panel for the purpose of advising MPO on public opinion regarding policy issues. The functions include the following:

- Advise MPO staff on the development, refinement and implementation of the Public Involvement Plan
- Assisting to identify transportation needs and issues; formulating goals and objectives for the transportation process and in setting priorities
- Provide opportunities for public input

The committee By-laws can be obtained at Sanibel City Hall, 800 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, Florida 33957 or by [clicking here](#)

An application can be obtained by [clicking here](#) or at Sanibel City Hall, 800 Dunlop Road, Sanibel, Florida 33957. Submit application by mail to City of Sanibel, 800 Dunlop, Sanibel, Florida 33957, attention City Clerk, by email [click here](#), or by fax (239) 472-3065.

January 29, 2014

Judith Ann Zimomra
Manager,
City of Sanibel
800 Dunlop Road
Sanibel, FL 33957

Dear Ms. Zimomra:

Enclosed please find my application to serve on the CAC.

As you'll note from the mini-bio, I have a long history of working on public policy matters and would appreciate the opportunity to serve our wonderful community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen Avakian".

Stephen Avakian

9445 Beverly Lane
Sanibel, FL 33957

Stephen Avakian

Biography

Sanibel resident Steve Avakian has served communities in a wide variety of ways during a diverse career.

A native of New York City, Avakian graduated from The College of Wooster (Ohio) and holds a Master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University's Medill School. He was a reporter at the Cleveland Press and served as an administrative assistant to the Cuyahoga County (Cleveland) Commissioners as their liaison to appointive boards.

Steve's interest in journalism and public policy merged when he was selected by United States Senator John Glenn to be Glenn's press secretary during his first term on Capitol Hill and then, in 1980, Avakian managed Senator Glenn's first re-election campaign.

As a strong believer in entrepreneurial ventures, Avakian launched an Ohio-based consulting practice and, for 31 years, was the Buckeye State's leading advisor to school districts needing assistance in passing tax levy campaigns. During the course of his private sector career, Avakian clients were successful in receiving voter support for more than \$3 billion in capital and operating ballot issues.

Prior to moving to Sanibel, Steve and his wife, Laura, lived on Boston's South Shore, where they still summer. He was elected twice as Chairman of his town's School Committee and was appointed by the Town Manager to sit on a panel developing a capital plan for the community. Laura maintains a consulting practice building on her experience as Vice President for Human Resources at Boston's Beth Israel Hospital and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Steve and Laura reside at 9445 Beverly Lane in Gumbo Limbo, the home formerly occupied by the late Dick Walsh and his family.

APPLICATION TO SERVE
SANIBEL VOLUNTEER COMMITTEES



Authorizing Legislation which outlines Committee duties is available on the City Website www.mysanibel.com - City Forms\City Clerk Forms\Advisory Committee Application

Check the Committee(s) for which you are applying: (may attach letter & résumé)

_____ **Contractor Licensing Board** (Monthly meetings; 1st Thursday 4:00 p.m.)

_____ **Historical Preservation Committee** (Monthly meetings; 1st Thurs. 9:00 a.m. and Museum duties required) (NOTE: Must have "special knowledge, skills or interest in historic preservation.")

_____ **Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee** (Monthly meetings; 4th Thursday 8:00 a.m.)

_____ **Vegetation Committee** (Monthly meetings; 1st Thursday at 1:30 p.m. and inspection duties required) (NOTE: Must have passed the Sanibel Vegetation Exam prior to appointment.)

_____ **General Employee Pension Board of Trustees** (Meets quarterly)

_____ **Planning Commission** (Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month 9:00 a.m.)

_____ **Sanibel Police Pension Board of Trustees** (Meets quarterly)

_____ **Recreation Financial Assistance Committee** (NOTE: Must be a Sanibel resident and attend 75% of Committee meetings per adopted meeting schedule.)

_____ *****CAC Other** (Lee Co Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC); Lee Co Human Services Council)

Of Committees Marked How Many Meetings Have You Attended? none

New Member XXXX Returning Member _____

NAME: Stephen (Steve) Avakian PHONE: Home: 395-1363 Cell: 937-272-0022

ADDRESS: 9445 Beverly Lane, Sanibel 33957

E-MAIL: savakian@aol.com

YEAR ROUND SANIBEL RESIDENT: XXX YES _____ NO

NUMBER OF MONTHS RESIDING ON SANIBEL ANNUALLY: 9

OCCUPATION/ EMPLOYER: Retired

BACKGROUND: (EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE)

Please see attached biography.

-OVER-

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Donor to wide range of Sanibel organizations, including C.R.O.W., Ding Darling Wildlife Society, SCCF, Barrier Island Group for the Arts, F.I.S.H. of Sanibel.

WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS APPOINTMENT?

I believe that as our county grows, transportation issues will play a significant role in quality of life and economic development. I believe that the CAC affords us the opportunity to engage Sanibel citizens in a dialogue where divergent views are welcome. Public engagement has been my stock in trade and I would appreciate putting that experience to work for our community, especially on an issue (transportation) that is of pivotal importance.



Signature of Applicant

As a Florida governmental entity, all information including your address, phone number and e-mail address are subject to public records requests.

472-3065

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- Other** (Lee Co Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC); Lee Co Human Services Council)

Of Committees Marked How Many Meetings Have You Attended? NONE

New Member X Returning Member _____

NAME: JOSEPH J MONDELLI PHONE: Home: _____ Cell: 239-292-7083

ADDRESS: 1204 ISABEL DRIVE, SANIBEL, FL

E-MAIL: JOE@SANIBELMARKETPLACE.COM

YEAR ROUND SANIBEL RESIDENT: X YES _____ NO

NUMBER OF MONTHS RESIDING ON SANIBEL ANNUALLY: _____

OCCUPATION/ EMPLOYER: OWNER, PRESIDENT OF JOHN R WOOD ISLAND REAL ESTATE, INC

BACKGROUND: (EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE)

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, CLASS OF 1974, BA BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION & MARKETING

1979-2001 ESTABLISHED AND MANAGED AN INDEPENDENT, FINE DINING RESTAURANT, BANQUET, & CONFERENCE FACILITY IN MEDFORD, NEW JERSEY

2000-2001 SOLD NEW JERSEY BUSINESS INTEREST, MOVED TO SANIBEL

2001-2005 PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF COASTAL PROPERTIES IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA & SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

(CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

1981-2000 FOUNDED LOCAL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IN MEDFORD, NEW JERSEY

2002-2006 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEER CANTERBURY SCHOOL IN FORT MYERS, FL

2000-2014 ACTIVELY INVOLVED WITH FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR THE GOLISANO CHILDRENS HOSPITAL

THROUGH SAN CAP CARES

2008-2014 ACTIVE MEMBER SANIBEL CAPTIVA KIWANIS CLUB

2008-2014 MEMBER CAPTIVA ISLAND YACHT CLUB, SERVED ON COMMITTEES & BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

CURRENT 2014 POSITION REAR COMMODORE

CURRENTLY ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS SANIBEL HARBOURS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

MEMBER SANIBEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS APPOINTMENT?

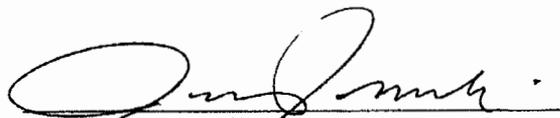
TO JOIN OTHERS WHO SEEK TO BE BETTER INFORMED ABOUT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF

SOLUTIONS TO ENHANCE THE LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

GAINING THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE CHALLENGES AND POTENTIAL REMEDIES WILL FACILITATE THE

GATHERING OF INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC AND MEMBERS OF THE DIFFERENT BUSINESS AND SOCIAL

ORGANIZATIONS I AM ENGAGED WITH HERE IN LEE COUNTY.


Signature of Applicant

As a Florida governmental entity, all information including your address, phone number and e-mail address are subject to public records requests.



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
CITY MANAGER	Joe Mondelli
COMPANY:	SENDER'S OFFICE NUMBER:
	(239) 472-2411
FAX NUMBER	SENDER'S FAX NUMBER:
	(239) 472-1898
TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:	DATE:
4	2-1-2014

NOTES/COMMENTS:

APPLICATION

RECEIVED BY
 14 JAN 31 AM 10: 08
 CITY OF SANIBEL
 ADMIN./LEGIS.

If there is a problem with the transmission of this fax, please call us immediately and we will re-fax the information to you. Please Call: 239-472-2411