

Application to Serve

Committee Choice

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission: Submitted

Qualifications required for the MPO SUP Advisory Committee Position.

Question applies to multiple boards

Of Committees Marked How Many Meetings Have You Attended?

Regularly for the past two years.

Question applies to multiple boards

New Member

☐ Yes ☒ No

Question applies to multiple boards

Returning Member

☒ Yes ☐ No

Profile

Laura

Debruce

First Name

Middle Initial

Last Name

2275 Starfish Lane

Suite or Apt

Street Address

Sanibel

FL

33957

City

State

Postal Code

Mobile: (202) 368-3467

Alternate Phone

Primary Phone

ldebruce@icloud.com

Email Address

NUMBER OF MONTHS RESIDING ON SANIBEL ANNUALLY

12

Year Round Resident

☒ Yes ☐ No

DeBruce Blackman, Inc.
Employer

Laywer/Consultant
Occupation

BACKGROUND: (EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE)

Required Information

Please see resume.

[DeBruce_Laura_Resume.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Required Information

Member, Board of Directors of SCCF; Member, Board of Directors, Community Housing & Resources; Member Zonta Club /Zonta Foundation of SW Florida (former Board member); Member, Sanibel-Captiva Business Women's Association (former Board Member and Founding Member). I have also served as the co-chair of CHR's annual fundraiser and a committee member for F.I.S.H.'s fundraiser in 2019.

WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS APPOINTMENT?

Required Information

I have enjoyed being an engaged member of the Planning Commission. It has been an honor, and it has been fascinating, as a lawyer, to research the various relevant code provisions as well as the history of those provisions when needed. If the City believes that my continued service would be useful during this time of recovery during Hurricane Ian, I would be happy to serve the City. I intend to stay in the area during our rebuilding phase.

MPO Application to submit for your respective Advisory Committee

Please be certain you have completed the "Background: (Education & Experience)", "Community Involvement", and "Why Are You Interested In This Appointment?" text box fields before submitting your application. Thank you.

Please Enter In Today's Date

11/01/2022

Name of Applicant

Laura J. DeBruce

LAURA J. DeBRUCE

2275 Starfish Lane
Sanibel, Florida 33957

T: (202) 368 3467
E: ldebruce@icloud.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DEBRUCE BLACKMAN LTD

GRANDVIEW CASTLE ENTERTAINMENT, LLC
Co-Founder & Managing Member

U.S. Locations (2003-Present)
Paris, France (July 2001 – July 2003)
Prague, Czech Republic (May 1999 – July 2001)
Amsterdam, Netherlands (April 1998 – May 1999)

- Co-own and operate international business consulting firm with a focus on intellectual property and media rights.
- Acquire and distribute rights to theatrical and television motion pictures for Central and Eastern Europe from leading independent film studios.
- Represent media groups doing business in Central and Eastern Europe.
- Represented DreamWorks, Paramount, Lucasfilm, HBO, Showtime, and others in Central and Eastern Europe and Russia/CIS.

Sanibel Carts, LLC

Co-Founder & Managing Director

Fort Myers, FL (August 2018 – Present)

- Co-own and operate business that rents and delivers electric, street-legal golf carts.

Hunt Avenue Productions

Co-Founder & Managing Member

U.S. Locations (2008-Present)

- Co-own and operate film production company. Credits include PINK STATE POLITICS: A New Virginia, 2009 (nominated for a local Emmy Award); SPEEDSKATE, 2013; and other films.

CENTRAL EUROPEAN MEDIA ENTERPRISES (CME)

1993-2000

CME Programming Services (CMEPS)
Director of Business Affairs

Amsterdam, Netherlands
March 1997 – August 2000

- Oversight responsibility for program license agreements entered into by CMEPS and CME's television stations throughout Central and Eastern Europe
- Negotiated multi-territory license and format agreements on behalf of CMEPS with U.S. major studios and other international companies
- Negotiating and resolved legal disputes between CMEPS or CME's television stations and international program distributors
- Negotiated and drafted agreements with television writers and producers on behalf of CMEPS.

Director of Legal Affairs

London, U.K.
November 1995 – March 1997

- Oversight responsibility for the legal affairs of CME, a publicly traded company, and its subsidiary companies and television stations throughout Central and Eastern Europe
- Established and staffed CME's legal department at headquarters and at the local stations
- Negotiated and finalized joint venture and/or operating agreements with CME's partners in eight different countries
- Responsible for trouble-shooting legal problems throughout CME's operations in conjunction with external and local counsel
- Prepared SEC filings in conjunction with CME's Chief Financial Officer and external counsel.

TV NOVA

Director, International Legal & Business Affairs

Prague, Czech Republic

November 1993 – November 1995

- Negotiated and finalized all international programming agreements entered into by TV Nova, the first nationwide private television station in the former Soviet bloc
- Responsible for corporate governance in cooperation with TV Nova's General Counsel, and for liaising with TV Nova's foreign investor, CME.

BAKER & MCKENZIE

Associate

Prague, Czech Republic

December 1992 – November 1993

- General responsibility for negotiating and documenting joint venture agreements on behalf of several international clients.

CIVIC EDUCATION PROJECT

CHARLES UNIVERSITY

PALACKY UNIVERSITY

Lecturer

Prague, Czechoslovakia

Olomouc, Czechoslovakia

September 1992 – June 1994

- Taught university courses in U.S. Constitutional Law & Politics.

EDUCATION**BOSTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL**

Juris Doctor (*cum laude*), May 1991, Boston, Massachusetts

Teacher's Assistant, Department of Journalism, First Amendment Law

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

BS, Communications, December 1984, Gainesville, Florida

Reporter, Producer, WUFT TV & WUFT FM 1981 - 1984

PROFESSIONAL

Member, Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Community Housing & Resources, Sanibel, FL

Member, Board of Directors, Zonta Foundation, Sanibel, FL

Member, Board of Directors, Sanibel-Captiva Business Women's Association, Sanibel, FL

Member, Nominating Committee, Island Water Association, Sanibel, FL

Member in good standing of the Bar of the State of California

Application pending to the Bar of the State of Florida. Membership anticipated in Spring 2021