



Memorandum

TO: Rules Committee

FROM: Councilmember Constant

SUBJECT: Senior Citizens
Appointment

DATE: November 24, 2009

Approved

Date 11-24-09

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that the City Council appoint the following individuals to Senior Citizens Commission:

Joyce Rabourn
Judith Marie Heyter
Nancy Williamson
Milton Cadena
Chaitanya Vaidya

BACKGROUND

Joyce Rabourn has been a resident of San José for over 40 years and resides in District 6. Ms. Robourn is very knowledgeable about the issues facing San José's older adult community, such as housing foreclosures and the need for accessible transportation and senior recreation activities. She has shown excellent leadership skills by chairing many local committees and organizations. Ms. Rabourn has received two Volunteer of the Year for her community service.

Judith Marie Heyter, a District 2 resident, has experience in leadership roles that will help her serve the City of San José on the Senior Citizens Commission. Ms. Heyter served on the City of Berkeley's Child Care Commission, is currently the Vice President of the Southside Senior Boutique and is on the nomination committee for her condo association's election. Ms. Heyter has an accounting background which will serve her well as the commission makes recommendations in tough budget times.

Nancy Williamson resides in District 10. Ms Williamson currently teaches a citizenship class at the Center for Employment Training in San José. This experience has increased her knowledge of the issues that elderly immigrants face in our city. She has volunteered at Senior Legal Services in Sacramento, as a mediator. She is also the primary caregiver for her mother, giving her firsthand experience with the needs of caregivers and depended seniors.

Milton Cadena, of District 3, is bilingual in Spanish and English and has extensive leadership experience, working on senior issues. As the Director of Eastside Neighborhood Center of Catholic Charities, Mr. Cadena has worked with low-income seniors seeking help on a variety of issues, ranging from legal aid to recreation and health services. He has attended two National and many local conferences on aging. Mr. Cadena also completed a one-year fellowship with "New Ventures in Leadership" (American Society on Aging) where he networked with professionals in the field of aging, and participated in workshops lectures and study groups.

Rules Committee Agenda:

Item:

Chaitanya Vaidya, from District 4, has lived in San José for over 26 years. Mr. Vaidya has demonstrated a commitment to community involvement by volunteering for numerous projects with the City of San José. His experience as a Project Manger has given him the leadership skills needed to excel on the Senior Commission. He has volunteered for the Federation of Indo-American Associates, Senior Citizens division. He has received numerous awards in recognition of his commitment, dedication and contributions.