

Nature Centers Commission

Term Length (Year)	Term Limit	# of Members	Mandate	Board Liaison	Board Liaison Email
3	none	12	Code 1960, § 2-113; Ord. No. 3088, § 3, 12-17-84	Linda Demetropoulos	demetropls@cityofgainesville.org

Board Liaison Phone Number
352-393-8445

Member First Name	Member Last Name	Term Start	Term End
Richard	Bennett	04 Nov 2021	01 Nov 2024
Madilena	Campbell	03 Jun 2021	01 Nov 2023
Michael	Hill	05 Nov 2020	01 Nov 2023
Dr. Susan	Jacobson	13 Jan 2022	13 Jan 2025
Marylin	Prado	16 Jan 2020	01 Nov 2022
Jonathan	Stephens	05 May 2022	30 Sep 2022
Penny	Weber	05 Nov 2020	01 Nov 2023

Board Description

The Nature Centers Commission (NCC) assists the City Commission through recommendations and advice given in respect to developing programs, ordinances, use regulations and resource management policies as required to protect the natural systems and other values to the Nature Centers of the City of Gainesville. The NCC was created by Ordinance 2062 (07/21/75); amended by Ordinances 2592 (04/27/81) and 3088 (12/17/84)

Name: Stephens, Jonathan

Address: 4000 SW 37 Blvd Apt. 0317-A, Gainesville, FL, 32608

Email: jonathan.stephens3215@gmail.com

Board Name: Nature Centers Commission

In what city district do you live?: District 3

Employer: Publix Supermarkets

Phone Number: (407) 868-0898

Occupation: Deli Clerk In-Charge

Why are you interested in serving on this board? (Please answer separately for each board you are applying to.): Having served on the board previously, I believe that I have been able to (1) acquire a stronger appreciation for Nature Centers across the Gainesville area and (2) learn more about the operations that help to keep these facilities up-to-code. I hope that through serving on the Nature Centers Commission for a permanent seat, that I can help to continue these endeavors and particularly look into ways to optimize the educational experience that the PRCA conducts from time to time. Additionally, I would love to see with the next budget how the Nature Centers Commission can help support our restoration projects and secure grants for those entities.

How many terms have you served on this board previously? : 1 Student Term

Disclaimer: Under Florida law, all information, including e-mail, written letters, documents and phone messages, sent to the Gainesville City Commission are subject to Public Records law. This includes the sender's e-mail address, home address or phone number if shown in the message, the content of the message and any associated attachments to the mail. Do you claim any exemption to public record disclosure pursuant to FLA. STAT. Section 119?: No

Have you been removed from any advisory board for attendance, behaviour or another reason?: No

Disclaimer: Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts. Optional: Gender:

Male

Optional: Ethnicity:

African American

Are you a City of Gainesville Employee?: No

Are you a City of Gainesville Intern?: No

Are you currently on a City Advisory Board/Committee?: Yes

If yes, which City Advisory Board/Committee?: Nature Centers Commission - Student Term

Some of the boards and committees appointed by the City Commission are required to comply with Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, the Financial Disclosure Law. If applicable, would you be willing to file the required financial statement?:
Yes

Do you affirm that your personal and business (if applicable) affairs within the City of Gainesville and Alachua County are in substantial compliance with all city and county regulatory and taxing authorities rules and regulations? *: Yes

Do you agree with the following statement? Appointees to advisory board/committees are required to attend scheduled meetings as specified in the "Advisory Board Handbook.” *: Yes

Do you agree with the following statement? I understand that this completed application is the property of the City of Gainesville, is subject to public record requests and I hereby certify that the statements made on this application are true and correct. : Yes

Attachments:

- COMMISSONER - APPLICANT RESUME - JCS.pdf

JONATHAN C. STEPHENS

COMMISSIONER

CONTACT INFO

PHONE NUMBER:

(407) 868-0898

EMAIL:

jonathan.stephens3215@gmail.com

ADDRESS:

1122 Priory Drive
Winter Garden, FL
34787

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Negotiation/Compromise Strategies
- Data Analysis/Organization
- Digital Programming Design
- Strategic Events/Logistics Planning
- General Equipment Maintenance/Troubleshooting
- Educational Curriculum Writing
- Agricultural Industry/Systems
- Cohort Facilitation

CERTIFICATIONS

- AEST Agritechology Specialist (2017)
- AEST Agriculture Associates (2018)
- AEST Agriculture Systems Associates (2019)
- Florida Food Handlers Certification (2020)
- Boar's Head Certified Deli Professional (2022)

AWARDS/HONORS

- Florida FFA Agricultural Education CDE Champion (2020)
- Southern Hill Farms W.H.I.S.T.L.E. of the Week Award (2020)
- Publix Super Markets Store #0881 Employee of the Month (2021)
- American FFA Degree Recipient (2021)
- University of Florida CALS Dean's List (Fall 2021)

CAREER OBJECTIVE

Current college academic pursuing a career dedicated to the advancement of global food systems through serving agricultural education/facilitation programs, advocating for provisions through governing institutions, and contributing to the advancement of science academia/literature.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Intern

University of Florida Department of Food and Resource Economics | 06/2022 - Present

- Worked under Dr. Lai in the Department of Food and Resource Economics to prepare three articles for emerging research within the department.
- Worked with advanced software services such as the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences' EDIS article systems in order to optimize and provide consistent verbiage quality and visual brand.
- Employed audience-based targeting strategies to ensure that materials were directed towards correct groups.
- Communicated complex research methods such as Mixed Logit Analysis in more accessible language and examples.

Deli Clerk

Publix | 06/2021 - Present

- Communicates aspects within production practices including the nutritional content of products, product production specifications, optimal food flavor pairings, and health condition concern alleviation.
- Supports newfound associates through hands-on training/education within the department, training over 15 associates on proper equipment maintenance/safety, customer communication practices, and many other interrelated associations.
- Enforces food waste preventative practices through correcting First-In, First Out (FIFO) practices, evaluating associates under internal and state-level standard operating procedures, and recording waste production on digital filing systems.

Social Media Assistant

Marston Science Library - UF Smathers Libraries | 11/2021 - Present

- Applies knowledge of relevant trends, social media platforms, and their respective audiences to tailor content for optimal performance, increasing engagement by at least 5% on most platforms during the latter half of the year.
- Develops social media-specific content and branding innovation through numerous software engines, including Canva, Audacity, Adobe Photoshop, and InShot.
- Coordinates with numerous committees and offices to produce content and events such as the "Owls at Marston" and "Blind Date with a Book" to best engage and support campus-wide success within STEM fields, increasing activity and participation within the library.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Area IV State Vice-President

Florida FFA Association | 06/2020 - 06/2021

- Served as a prominent ambassador for agriculture-related efforts by representing over 30,000 students in national delegate forums and engaging crucial stakeholders such as BASF and the Florida State Fair.
- Coordinated with Florida FFA State Officer teammates, State Staff, and the Board of Directors to plan and manage leadership event continuum, competitive events, business/industry visits, financial budget allocations, etc.
- Developed facilitation workshops/leadership programs entailing industry advocacy and leadership competency development, delivered in both virtual and in-person environments.

Internal Vice-President

UF Pride Student Union | 06/2022 - Present

- Developed programming which educated queer youth on emerging issues and history topics including Medical Obstacles for Queer People and Queer Art, Literature, and Performance Showcases.
- Planned special events to showcase queer identities and performances, including the annual PSU Welcome Assembly.
- Led internal training and human relation practices focused on high morale and transparency within the organization.
- Managed a Cabinet that accomplished development within General Body Meetings, Social Events, and Internal Engagement.

Commissioner

Nature Centers Commission - City of Gainesville | 04/2022 - Present

- Supported educational programming and nature center operational systems in order to showcase and preserve the City of Gainesville's Nature Centers.
- Served on the Policy Committee, helping to reinsure that all by-laws and work plans were in accordance to accrediting agencies like the CAPRA Accreditation.
- Served on the Finance Committee to allocate over \$5000 in resources for Environmental Education programs, Restoration Equipment, Park Safety Equipment, and other necessary resources.

EDUCATION

University of Florida

Double Major Degree in Food Science and Agricultural Education and Communications

- Expected Graduation: May 2024
- 3.49 GPA

Windermere High School

High School Diploma

- Completed Program: May 2020

Name: Prado, Marilyn

Address: 2701 NW 23rd Blvd Apt F52, Gainesville, FL, 32605

Email: pradomarilyn@outlook.com

Board Name: Nature Centers Commission

In what city district do you live?: District 2

Employer: Belk

Phone Number: 3525020094

Occupation: Sales Team Manager

Why are you interested in serving on this board? (Please answer separately for each board you are applying to.): I have a passion for serving my local community and advocating for Florida's natural history and culture.

How many terms have you served on this board previously? : 1

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If yes, it is required that you submit a detailed explanation of exemption. : N/A

Have you been removed from any advisory board for attendance, behaviour or another reason?: No

If you answered yes to the question above, please explain: N/A

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Female

If you have chosen to self-describe in the question above, you can add your information here: N/A

Optional: Ethnicity:

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

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Are you a City of Gainesville Intern?: No

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If yes, which City Advisory Board/Committee?: Nature Centers Commission

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Yes

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Do you agree with the following statement? I understand that this completed

application is the property of the City of Gainesville, is subject to public record requests and I hereby certify that the statements made on this application are true and correct. : Yes

Attachments:

- Resume.pdf

MARILYN PRADO

Gainesville FL 32605 | 352.502.0094 | pradomarilyn@outlook.com

Skills

- Provide first-class guest service and team leadership
- Meet and exceed sales objectives
- Proficient in marketing and merchandising initiatives

Experience

Belk, Gainesville FL

Assistant Store Manager, 2021-2022

- Recognized as Best in Belk for a perfect score card throughout fiscal year
- Drove walk-out, ship-to-home, and in-store pick-up productivity to exceed plan
- Led and motivated a team of 30-50 sales, fulfillment, and support associates at a time

Gainesville Health and Fitness, Gainesville FL

Sales and Marketing Manager, 2015-2021

- Recognized as one of Forbes' Top 25 Small Businesses in America for highest retention in industry
- Targeted new markets and initiated new sales through strategic marketing plans
- Streamlined sales and recruiting processes for member acquisition and staff onboarding

Coach, Gainesville FL

Visual Merchandising Manager, 2013-2015

- Presented displays according to visual guidelines
- Submitted store productivity reports with sales figures and written summaries
- Created relationships with store teams to build brand loyalty and support

Education

The University of Texas, Edinburg TX

Master of Arts in History, 2009-2013

Affiliations

City of Gainesville Advisory Board, Gainesville FL

Vice-chair of Nature Centers Commission, 2019-2022