

## **Recreation And Open Space Advisory Committee**

### **Applicant Package - Citizen at Large**

Recreation And Open Space Advisory Committee - Citizen at Large

**Term** 30 Sep 2023 - 29 Sep 2027

**Positions Available** 2

**Number of applicants in this package** 4

- Brunnig, Sarah
- Kurian, Allen
- Luzar, E. Jane
- Rodriguez, Stephen

**Name:** Brunnig, Sarah

**Address:** 1928 SW 48th Ave, Gainesville, 32608

**Email:** skbrunnig@hotmail.com

**Board Name:** Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

**Primary Phone:**

386-748-0175

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

Doctorate in Clinical Nutrition

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

none

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

I am thoughtful and interested in improving the experiences of the citizens of Alachua.

**Please Agree with the following statements:**

**I understand this application is the property of Alachua County and subject to public records laws. I hereby certify that the statements made on this application are true and correct. I understand that Appointees to advisory board/committees are required to attend scheduled meetings as specified in the "Guidelines for Citizen Advisory Boards and Committees". I understand that some boards and committees require Financial Disclosure (Chapter 112, Florida Statutes) and I am willing to file if required. I affirm that my personal and business (if applicable) affairs within Alachua County are in substantial compliance with all county regulatory and taxing authorities rules and regulations?:**

Yes

**Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :**

No

**Time of Submission:** 12/15/23 8:43:07 PM

**Attachments**

- Application to Alachua Committee .pdf

## Application for Alachua County Recreation and Open Space Committee

My name is Sarah Brunnig, and I have lived in Alachua for three years. I teach at UF in Food Science and Human Nutrition Department. I appreciate the outdoors and regularly take walks at Sweetwater and around my neighborhood. I ride a bike some and mean to do more. I like Orienteering which is where you wander the woods looking for designated controls – it is a lot of fun. I find swimming at the public pools to be great exercise.

Having sufficient outdoor spaces is important for all members of society and efforts should be made to preserve and protect a variety of natural spaces. In addition, it is very important to provide a variety of recreational activities so that all Alachuans have access to ways to recreate whether that is a park, pool, or indoor facility. As a teacher of nutrition, I know that being physically active is a very big part of health.

Thank you,

Sarah Brunnig

**Name:** Kurian, Allen

**Address:** 12701 SW 14th Ave, Newberry, FL, 32669

**Email:** allenjkurian@gmail.com

**Board Name:** Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

**Primary Phone:**

3522461847

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

University of Florida Student Government: College of Engineering Senator Candidate (Legislative Campaign Spring 2023), Director of Accountability (Legislative Campaign Fall 2023); Cabinet Director of Innovation Academy Affairs (Fall 2023), Florida Blue Key Keystone Cohort 4 Member; University of Florida Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers: Director of Fundraising; AIPAC Political Leadership Conference (Washington D.C.); Net Impact Up to Us Leadership Bootcamp (Washington D.C.); NextEra Energy - Nuclear Cybersecurity Intern (Summer 2023); Slice Engineering - Operations Technician

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

N/A

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

positive growth. In my professional journey, my experience as a Marketing Consultant at TeamSlide involved conducting market research and optimizing digital advertising campaigns, contributing to an improvement in click-through rates and enhanced customer loyalty. Additionally, my role as a Nuclear Cybersecurity Intern at NextEra Energy showcased my ability to identify inefficiencies and implement solutions, resulting in improved cybersecurity and more successful inspections. As an Operations Technician at Slice Engineering, I executed proactive maintenance routines, authored technical procedures, and implemented stringent quality control measures, achieving a reduction in downtime and a defect reduction. Currently serving as one of twenty-four Cabinet Directors as the Innovation Academy Cabinet Director in the University of Florida Student Government, I lead a dynamic team in planning and executing events that foster an innovative culture. My role involves advocacy for the unique needs of IA students, resulting in the implementation of new resources and services tailored to their educational experiences. I am a Six Sigma Yellow Belt certified professional, demonstrating my commitment to process improvement and data-driven problem-solving methodologies. Additionally, I have earned a position on the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering's Dean's List, reflecting my dedication to academic excellence. If selected for the Alachua County's Advisory Boards, I bring a commitment to leveraging my technical skills, strategic mindset, and community-centric approach to contribute effectively. Drawing on my experience attending community political conferences in Washington, DC, I understand the importance of collaborative decision-making and the impact of effective advisory boards on local governance. I am excited about the opportunity to actively contribute to the growth and development of Gainesville and Alachua County. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of serving on the Alachua County's Advisory Boards.

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Yes

**Note: This question is for the Gainesville-Alachua County Airport Authority Board**

**Do you currently hold any publicly elected office in the State of Florida?:**

No

**Note: This question is for the Gainesville-Alachua County Airport Authority Board**

**Have you, as yourself or as an employee, agent or consultant for another person or legal entity, transacted business with the authority within the last 3 years?:**

No

**Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :**

No

**Time of Submission:** 01/12/24 5:23:23 PM

**Attachments**

**Name:** Luzar, E. Jane

**Address:** 7203 NW 41st Lane, Gainesville, FL, 32606

**Email:** ejluzar@gmail.com

**Board Name:** Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

**Primary Phone:**

352.281.7480

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

See attached Bio

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

Member, Wild Spaces Public Places Advisory Board 2018-2020

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

Knowledge of outdoor recreation and open spaces, knowledge of county parks, familiarity with county properties

**Please Agree with the following statements:**

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Yes

**Note: This question is for the Gainesville-Alachua County Airport Authority Board**

**Do you currently hold any publicly elected office in the State of Florida?:**

No

**Note: This question is for the Gainesville-Alachua County Airport Authority Board**

**Have you, as yourself or as an employee, agent or consultant for another person or legal entity, transacted business with the authority within the last 3 years?:**

No

**Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :**

Yes

**If yes, please list board(s):**

Wild Spaces Public Places Advisory Board 2028-2020

**Time of Submission:** 01/23/24 12:50:51 PM

**Attachments**

- Luzar Bio 2024.pdf

## **E. Jane Luzar**

### **Biography**

Dr. E. Jane Luzar serves as Vice-President of the Friends of Cuscowilla, a 501©3 nonprofit organization. She has responsibilities for communications and oversees the Butterfly Garden at Cuscowilla Nature and Retreat Center. She also serves as the volunteer “Parktographer” for Alachua County Parks and Open Spaces.

Dr. Luzar served as the Founding Dean of the IUPUI Honors College and Professor of Environmental Economics and Policy (2009-2018). As Founding Dean of the vibrant IUPUI Honors College, she led the effort to establish an Honors College that provides a dynamic academic experience to high ability students seeking unique opportunities in an urban research environment. By design, the IUPUI Honors College links students to world class faculty engaged in cutting edge and translational research, creating a community of scholars that will make a difference.

She joined IUPUI from the University of Florida (UF) in 2009, where she served as Associate Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for ten years. Dr. Luzar is an experienced administrator with expertise in academic administration, enrollment management, curriculum development, and student success. While at UF, she completed the American Council of Education (ACE) Fellows Program and worked as a Provost Fellow.

Dr. Luzar was employed at Louisiana State University (LSU) as a Professor of Natural Resource Economics for 12 years prior to her employment at Florida. At LSU, she was recognized nationally for excellence in teaching, research, and graduate mentoring. Her research interests include the economics of sustainability, environmental policy, and the economic role of incentives in environmental management.

She holds a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Oregon, a Master’s Degree in Natural Resource Economics from the University of Kentucky, and a Ph.D. in Natural Resource Economics from Virginia Tech. She is a former Peace Corps Volunteer, serving three years in Liberia, West Africa. Dr. Luzar is originally from Indiana and lives in Gainesville, Florida.

**Name:** Rodriguez, Stephen

**Address:** 1406 NW 132nd Circle, Newberry, Florida, 32669

**Email:** svrodriguez73@gmail.com

**Board Name:** Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

**Primary Phone:**

8503200401

**Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment::**

I have worked for over 25 years in the area of sport and recreation. Throughout my career, I have worked closely with Park and Recreation agencies throughout the state of Florida and nationwide. While with the Florida Sports Foundation, I partnered closely with the Florida Recreation and Park Association (FRPA) and collaborated on a number of projects, including the creation of the Excellence in Sport Tourism award recognizing the contributions of Parks and Recreation agencies to the local economy. In addition, having attended the FRPA Annual Conference for many years, I have presented and organized presentations for educational sessions at the FRPA Annual Conference, as well as have written for their journal. I have developed many recreational programs for all ages. For 18 years, I developed and oversaw the Florida Senior Games qualifying series, working with many local agencies to develop ongoing senior sport and recreation programming. In addition, I served on the National Senior Games Association board of directors for 13 years, working with agencies nationwide committed to senior program. I have managed a public park, which was an active event venue, passive park, offered local recreation programming, and was part of the area's water system. I am currently a Certified Park and Recreation Executive (CPRE) through the National Recreation and Park Association.

**Please list any current/previous Advisory Board appointments:**

I have served on numerous governing and advisory boards including the sport management program advisory board for St. Leo University, the YMCA of the Suncoast Marketing advisory board, the Gene Witt Elementary School Advisory Committee (SAC), the Palm Beach High School 5-star Magnet program advisory board, the National Senior Games Association board of directors, the National Congress of State Games board of directors, and more. I currently have no appointments in Alachua County as we have just moved to the community.

**What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?:**

In December, my family moved to Alachua County. I have returned after leaving the area in 1997, and I am interested in getting more involved in the community. I believe my knowledge and experience in the field of parks and recreation as well as park management would contribute to the committee. I am a father of three children, that are recent Alachua County residents and can provide a family perspective, in addition to the perspective of a new resident. Having resided in and worked closely with communities throughout Florida, I can bring knowledge of best practices from beyond Alachua County. I have always felt it is our duty as residents to give back to the community through volunteerism and service. I am interested in contributing to and engaging with my new (and hometown) community, Alachua County. Having served on numerous boards and committees and understand the role of an advisory board to support administration and to serve as a resource.

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Yes

**Are you currently serving, or have you ever served, on an Alachua County advisory board? :**

No

**Time of Submission:** 02/21/24 1:11:05 PM